

#### **Simulation goals**

- High integrity representation of the dynamic, connected and non-linear physical processes that govern the different performance aspects that impact on the overall acceptability of buildings and their energy supply systems, existing or planned.
- Performance domain conflation to represent the interactions and conflicts that occur between problem parts and give rise to the need for practitioners to make performance trade-offs.
- Design process integration to embed high fidelity tools within work practices in a manner that adds value and, in the long term, supports virtual design through the interactive manipulation of a design hypothesis with performance feedback in real time.



#### Virtual design benefits

Integrated simulation helps practitioners to:

- conform to legislative requirements;
- provide the requisite levels of comfort;
- attain indoor air quality standards;
- embody high levels of new and RE technologies;
- incorporate innovative EE & DSM solutions;
- lessen environmental impact.

Defines a new best practice:

- respects temporal aspects and interactions;
- integrates all technical domains;
- supports co-operative working;
- links life cycle performance to health & environmental impact;
- use set to expand in Europe with the advent of the EPBD.

The approach is rational:

- gradual evolution of the problem description;
- action taken against performance outputs at discrete stages.

#### **Components of an integrated energy simulation program**



Issues: database maintenance; project management; problem abstraction.

#### Simulation in design: behaviour follows description



#### **Incremental model building - effort and reward**







Automatic inclusion of content and plant entities in visualisations and daylight utilisation studies.

### Consideration of comfort and wellbeing.





## Thermal comfort



Smoke extract



Boiler efficiency, combustion chamber temperature and boiler flow/return water temperature corresponding to a typical start-up event – water temperature rises from ~20 C to 80 C, followed by on/off cycling.



Combustion chamber temperature distribution snapshots corresponding to different levels of stoichiometric excess air.



Summer day import/ export for the 4 kW PV array.

Fluctuation of power between the consumer and LV network and significant power export (-ve power) indicates the need for load control.



Supply voltage, 200 dwellings.



Impact on heating load of additional thermal mass for a given temperature set-point (solid line).



Impact of occupant behaviour on room temperature.

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#### **Simulation used for action planning**



#### Simulation used to match supply to demand



#### Simulation-assisted design

Requires changes to work practices and adherence to standard performance assessment methods (PAMs – action in **blue**, knowledge in **yellow**):

- 1. establish initial model for an unconstrained base case design;
- 2. calibrate model using reliable techniques;
- 3. assign boundary conditions of appropriate severity;
- 4. undertake integrated simulations using suitable applications;
- 5. express multi-domain performance in terms of suitable criteria;
- 6. identify problem areas as a function of criteria acceptability;
- 7. analyse results to identify cause of problems;
- 8. postulate remedies by relating parameters to problem causes;
- 9. establish revised model to required resolution for each postulate;
- 10. iterate from step 4 until overall performance is satisfactory;
- 11. repeat from step 3 to establish design replicability.

Issues: PAMs required for all aspects: comfort, health & productivity; operational & embodied energy, emissions & environmental impact, technology options appraisal, demand management, embedded generation, regulations compliance, hybrid systems control, economics, *etc*.



#### **Model calibration**

- □ A systematic adjustment of model parameters to obtain an expected output.
- Input-output pairs for multiple simulation cases are recorded along with corresponding measurements of the outputs and time-matched weather data.
- □ These data are used to construct a 'meta-model' that emulates the simulation tool being used.
- □ The meta-model is used to determine the input parameter values that will cause the tool to best reproduce the measured performance.
- □ The best-fit input parameter values are then imposed on the initial model to yield the calibrated model.



#### **Integrated view of performance**



#### **Better tool integration necessary**



- □ Management of the application process (who does what, when and where).
- □ Implementation of a performance assessment method whereby each step in the process is demarcated and controlled (model definition and quality assurance, calibration, simulation commissioning, results analysis, mapping to design decisions *etc.*).
- □ Formal method to translate simulation outcomes to design modification.

#### **Appropriate data presentation**



# **Internal lighting**



# **Visualisation**





# IAQ & comfort



### **Air flow and emissions**



#### **Integrating renewables: the Lighthouse Building**



evaluating options



micro power system deployment

#### **City action planning**



#### **Smart street concept**

Renewable energy EV charging:

- PV canopy deployed on car park roofs;
- scenario simulations undertaken to assess contribution under progressive charging regimes;
- results used to inform decision on local battery sizing.

Multi-organisation district heating:

- university's new district heating scheme modelled;
- scenario simulations undertaken to assess system extension to GCC headquarters building;
- results used to assess feasibility of shared DH throughout city.

Demand management:

- Glasgow smart street model constructed;
- scenario simulations undertaken to assess impact of alternative demand control regimes;
- results used to inform deployment of local solutions.







# Car safety



