



SLC, 11th october 2023

Buildings Thermal management  
Materials Efficiency, Electrification,  
Decarbonation

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*With contributions from JM.Combes, E.Gouillart, E.Normant*

# Prelude : The Big Picture

# The “Big Picture” (1)

- **Energy sources**

- Solar
- Wind
- Mechanical
- Hydro
- Coal
- Gaz
- Nuclear

- **Energy vectors**

- Electricity
- Hydrogen
- Heat

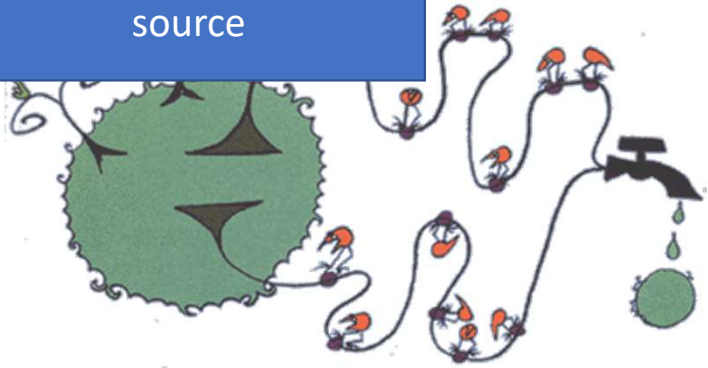
- **Energy usage**

- Industry
- **Housing**
- Transport

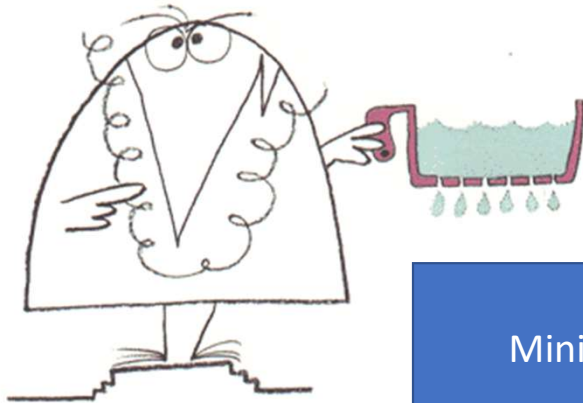
## The “Big Picture” (2)

- In order to produce, transport, and use energy we have to “make stuff”
  - Energy production
  - Cables, pipes
  - Storage devices
  - Manufactured goods
  - **Building and insulation materials**
- In order to “make stuff,” you need:
  - space ,
  - energy
  - raw materials
- In order to “make stuff,” in a sustainable way
  - Sustainability of resources
  - Impact on the environment
  - Contribution to global warming

Decarbonize the heat source



Monitor the heat source



Minimize the heat losses

Minimize the carbon footprint of the « hole fillers »

Decarbonize the heat source

Electrification of heating,  
decarbonization of  
electricity production

Monitor the heat source

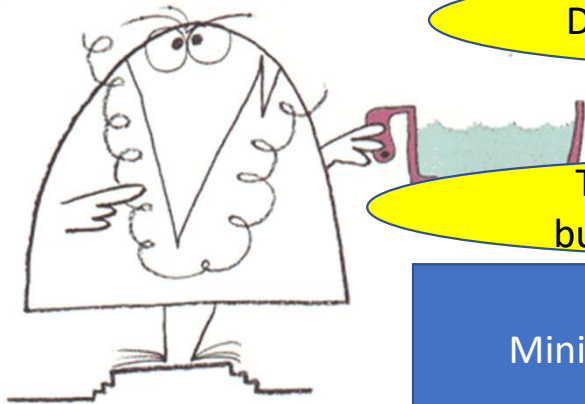
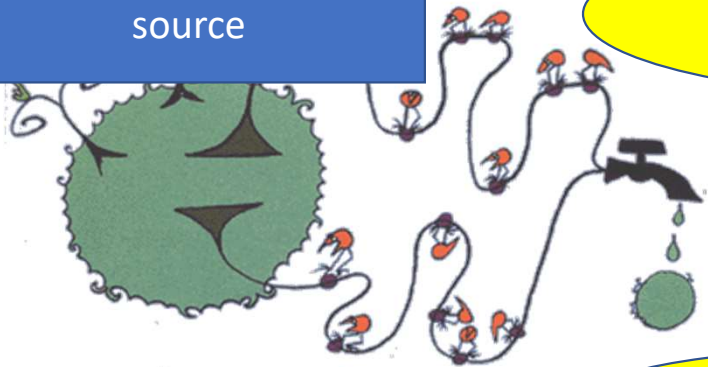
Digitalisation of energy use

Thermally efficient  
buildings/ Renovation

Minimize the heat losses

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CO2 efficient processes



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CO2 efficient processes

- In France , Building represents 44% of energy One can decrease by 80% energy loss in buildings by a proper heat management( thermal insulation and windows)
- If one decreases by 10% the energy consumption, it is equivalent to 7 Nuclear powerplants...it can be done in 10 years, with existing technologies and materials which are locally produced and implemented
- The production of glass, plasterboard, insulation materials, can be at least partially electrified and decarbonized in the coming years

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1

2

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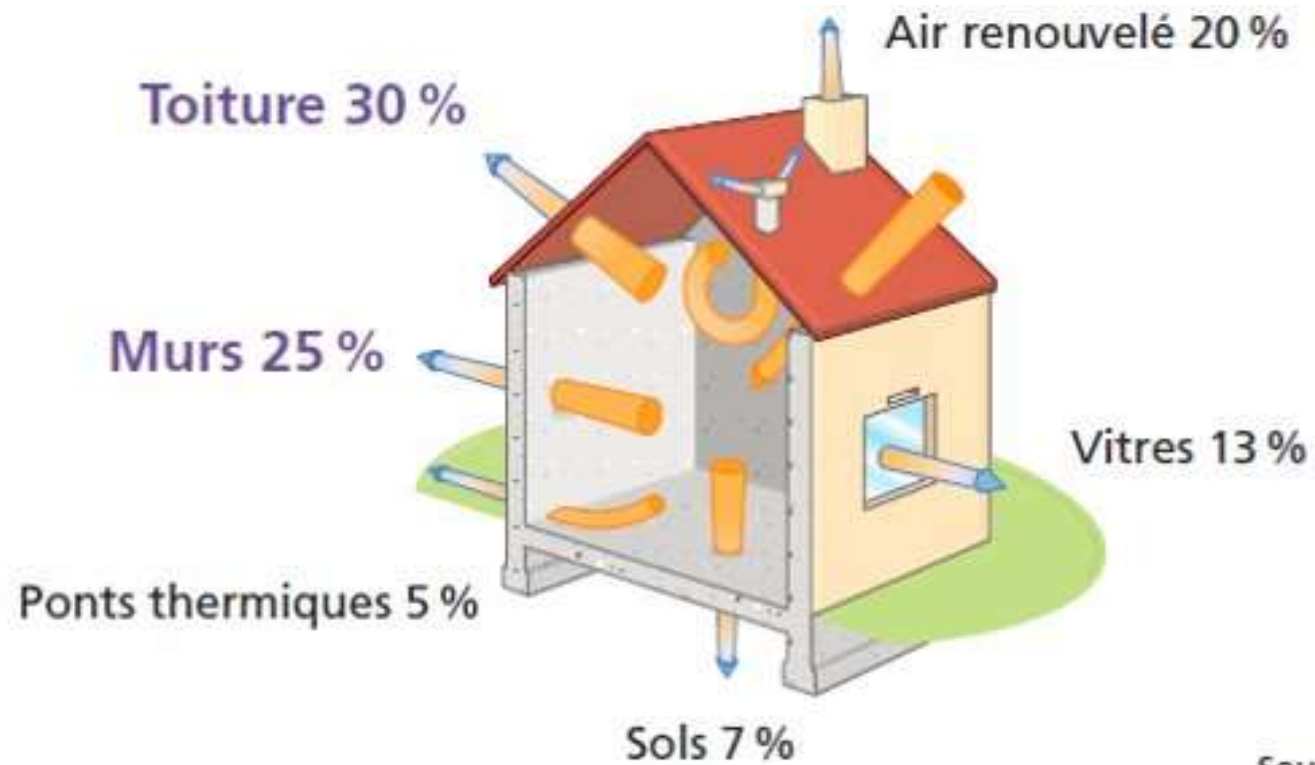


# OUTLINE

- Minimizing Heat losses
- Decarbonizing Processes
- Developing process electrification
- Conclusions

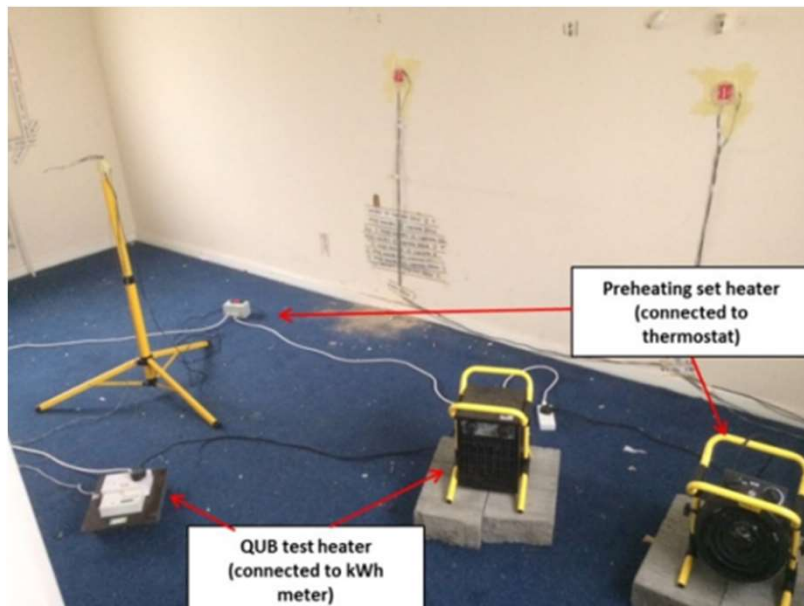
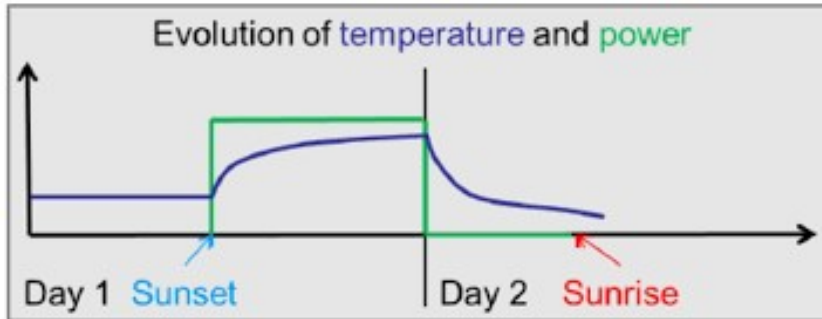
Minimize Heat losses

# Thermal insulation for energy savings



Source : FILMM

# Quantitative diagnosis of building performance

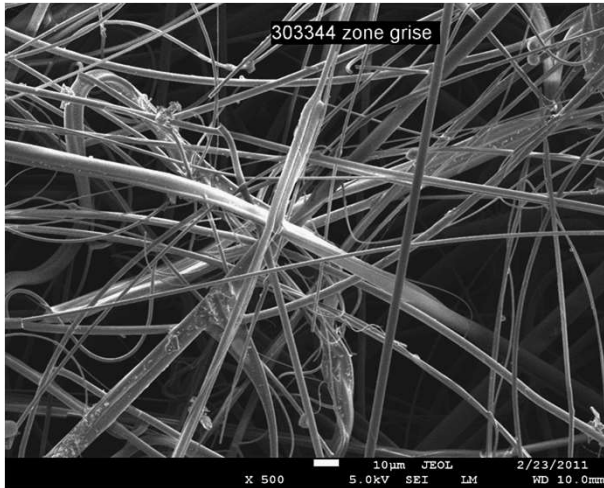


Faster / better in situ diagnosis?  
Also for acoustics, humidity

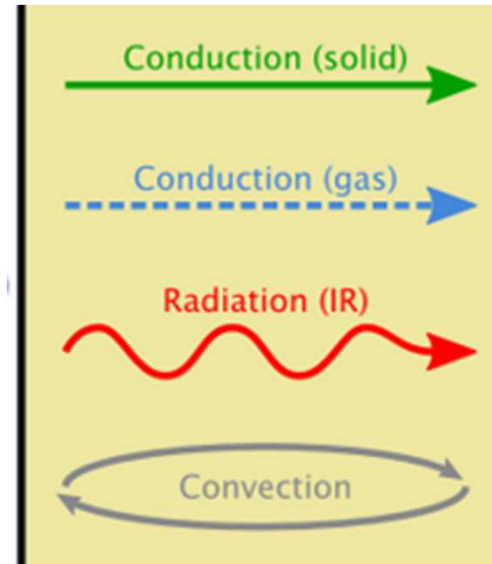
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2020.110540>



# Principle of thermal insulation: air (or gas) trapping



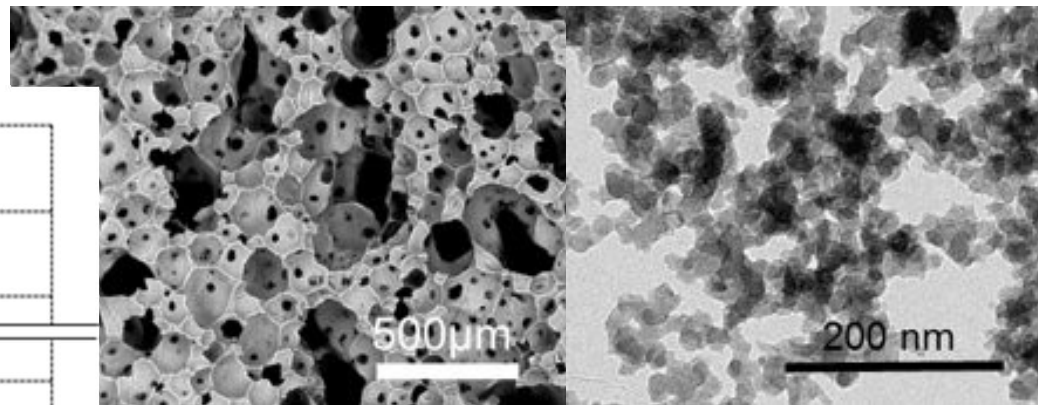
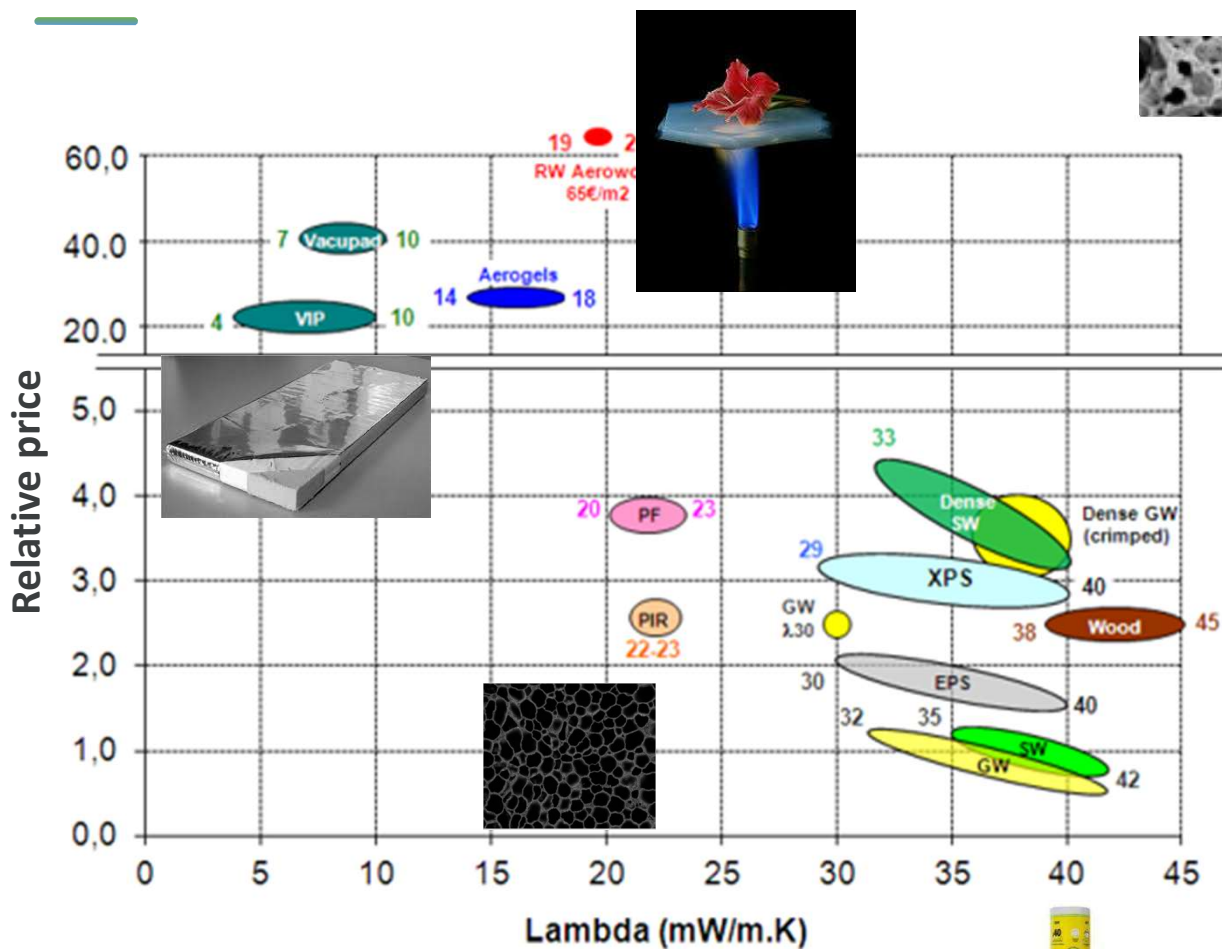
$\lambda \sim 30\text{--}35 \text{ mW}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$



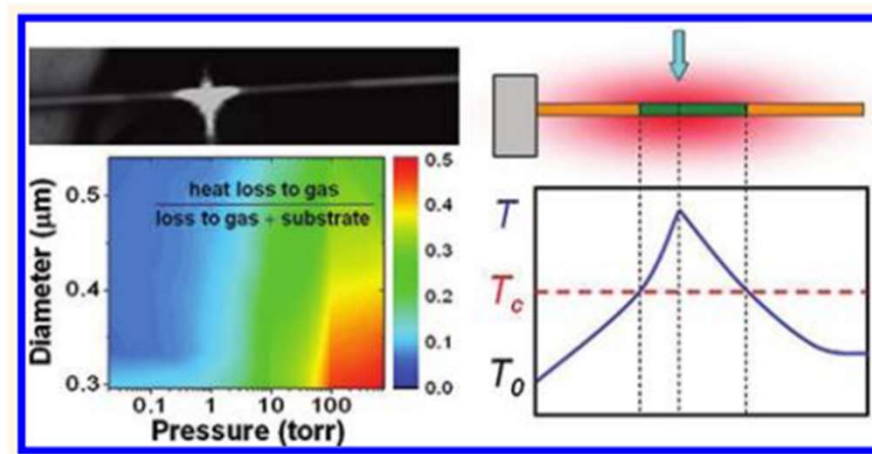
$\lambda$  [ $\text{mW}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ ] at  $10^\circ\text{C}$

Silver	430 000
Aluminium	220 000
Steel	50 000
Ice	2 100
Water	600
Air	25
Argon	17
CO <sub>2</sub>	16
Pentane	13
CFC	10
Krypton	9
Xenon	5

# Super insulating materials at affordable cost?



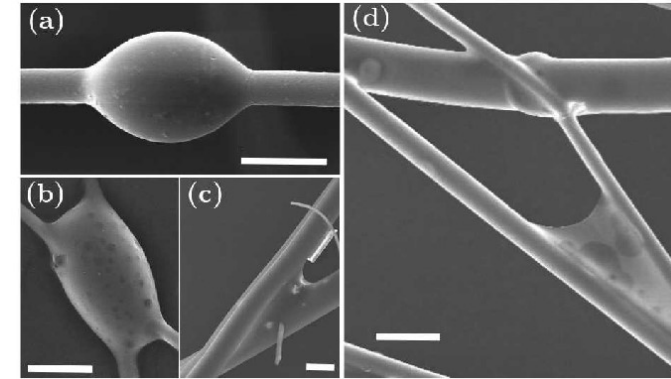
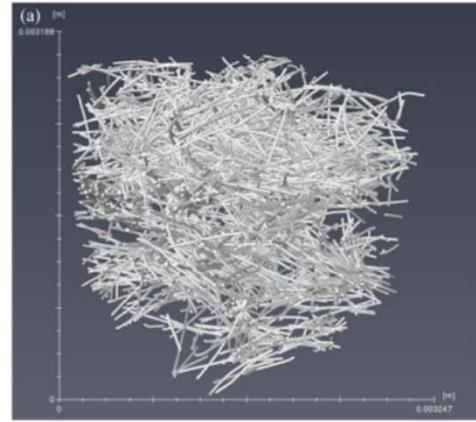
Coll. N. Denkov



Cheng et al., ACS Nano 2011  
<https://doi.org/10.1021/nn204072n>

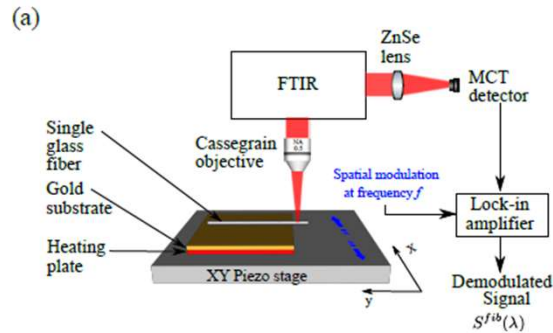


# How to describe multiscale materials?

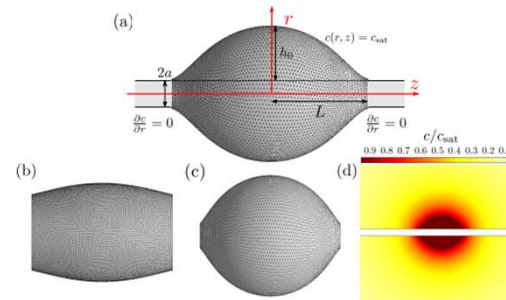


Meftah et al. Mat. Char. 2019

Sauret et al. EPJE 2015



Kallel et al. 2019  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jqsrt.2019.106598>



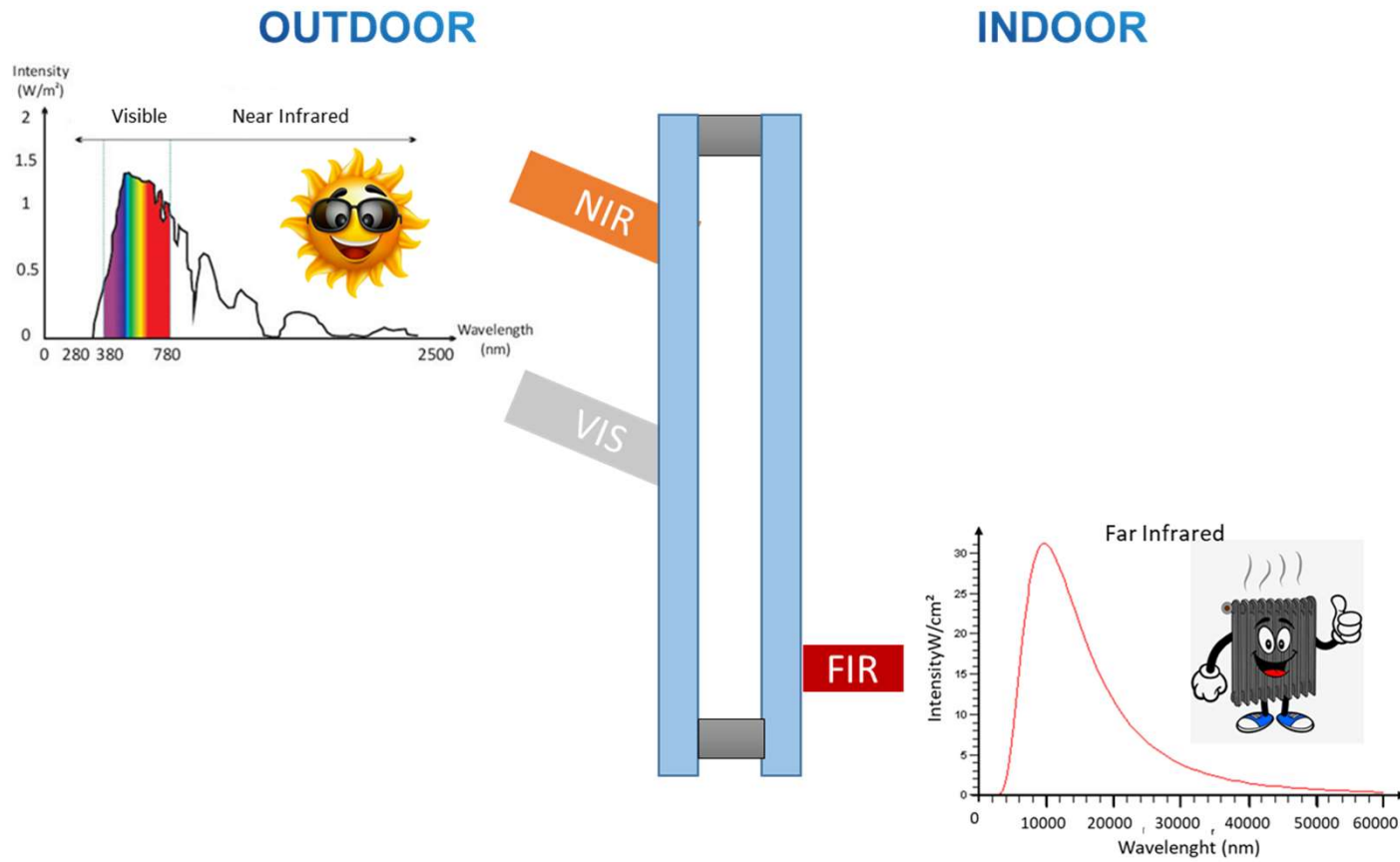
Corpart et al. EPL 2022

Thermal transfers,  
 acoustics, mechanics  
 Link with microstructure  
 and process



# THIN FILMS FOR THERMAL INSULATION

## Radiative exchanged through glazing



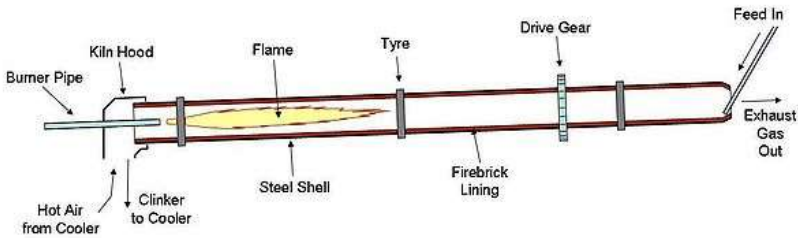
ACTIVE GLAZINGS: HOW TO ACHIEVE MODULARITY?

SageGlass®



Decarbonizing products

# High-temperature processes



**0.9 kg CO<sub>2</sub> / kg cement**

**1.8 kg CO<sub>2</sub> / kg steel**

**0.6 kg CO<sub>2</sub> / kg glass**

SAINT-GOBAIN



GLASS

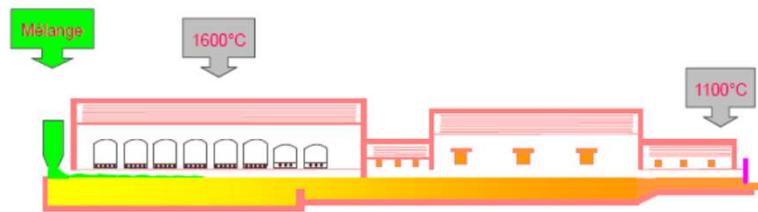


# FLOAT GLASS

## FLAT GLASS PLANT 2020 OVERVIEW: ENERGY & RM CO<sub>2</sub> IMPACT TODAY (SCOPE 1, 2 & 3)

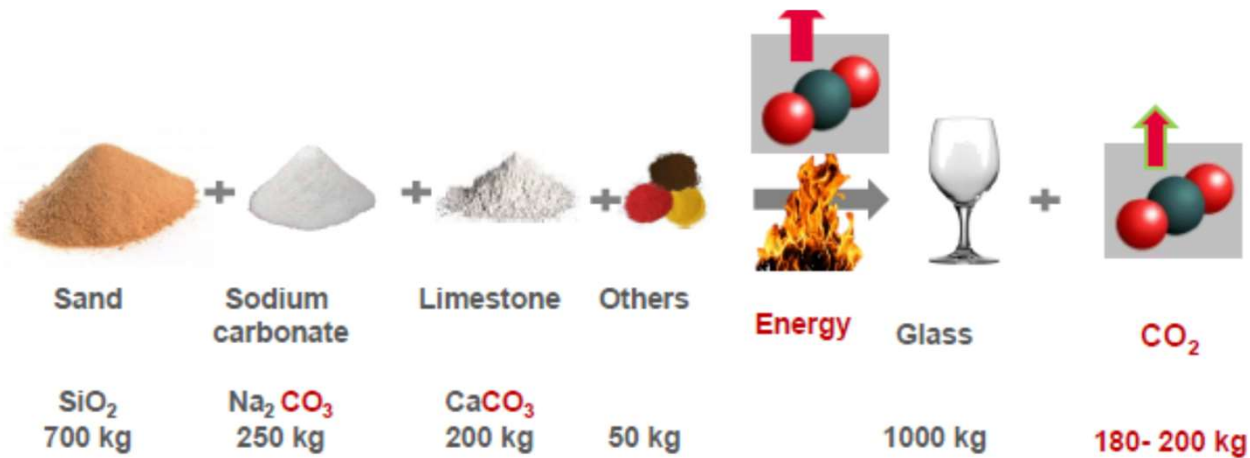


LE FOUR : ELABORATION DU VERRE

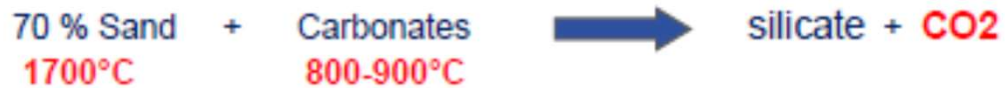


À 2000 Tonnes de verre en fusion

À Une tirée pouvant atteindre 750 t/j



**Chemical Reaction :** corrosion of the sand grains / melted carbonates



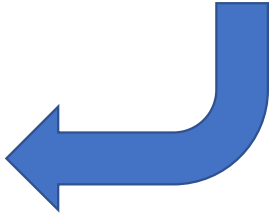
Can we replace carbonates?

Can we heat in a decarbonated manner ?

Can we use recycled glass?

**Decarbonated heating**

**BIO-GAZ**  
Availability and cost

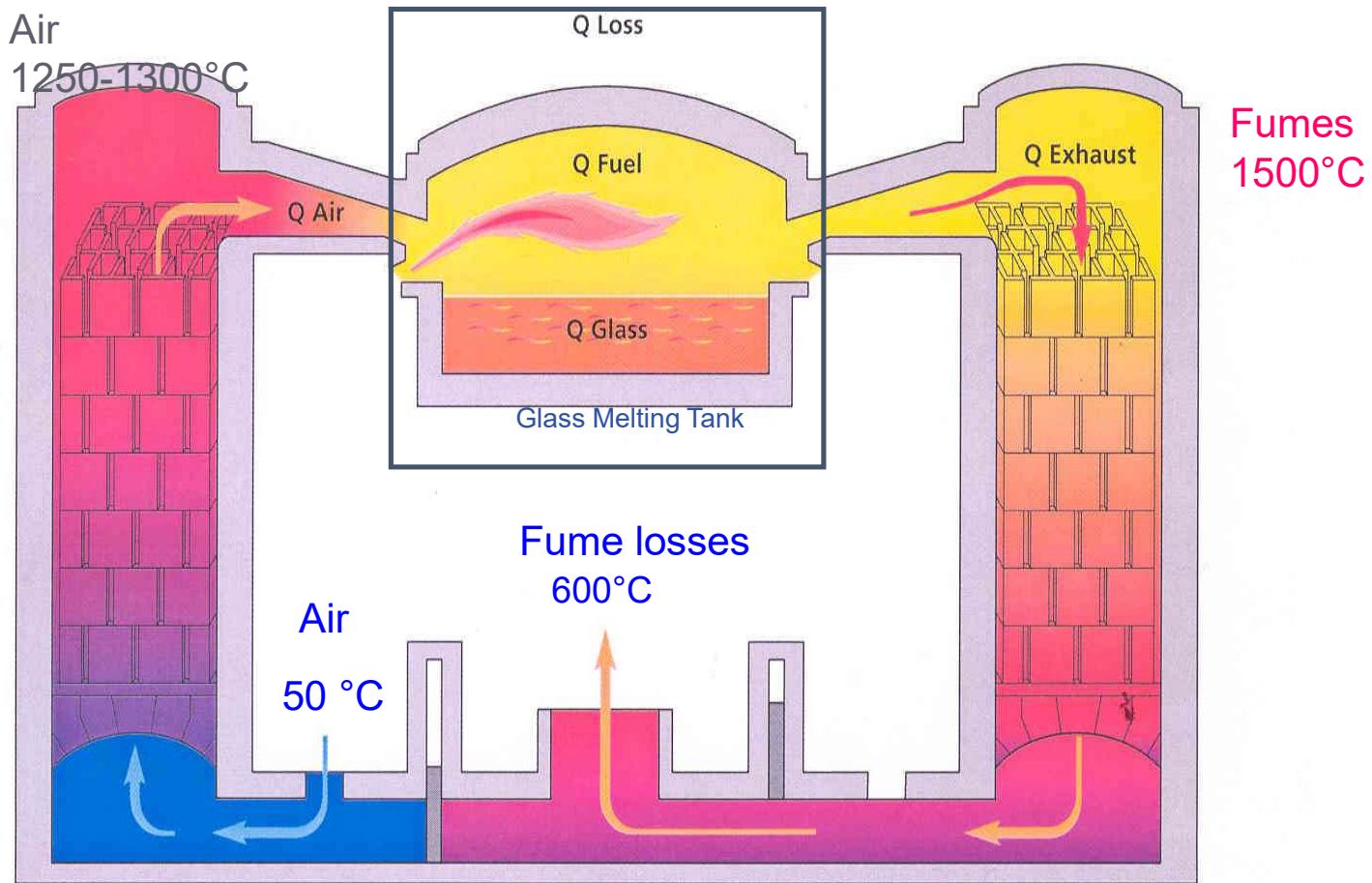


**ELECTRIFICATION**  
Technical issues and glass quality

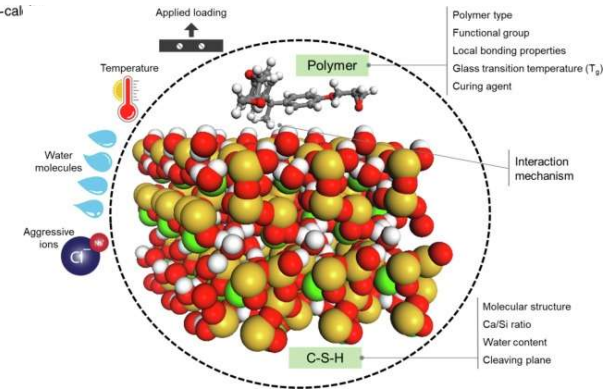
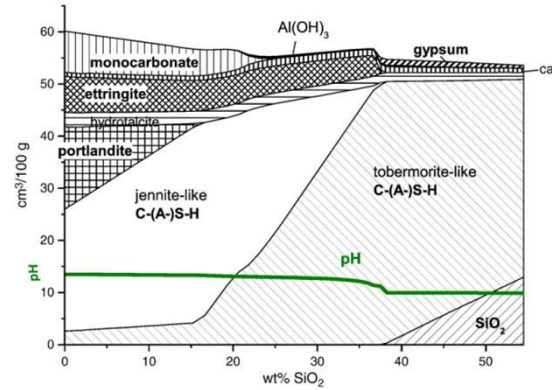
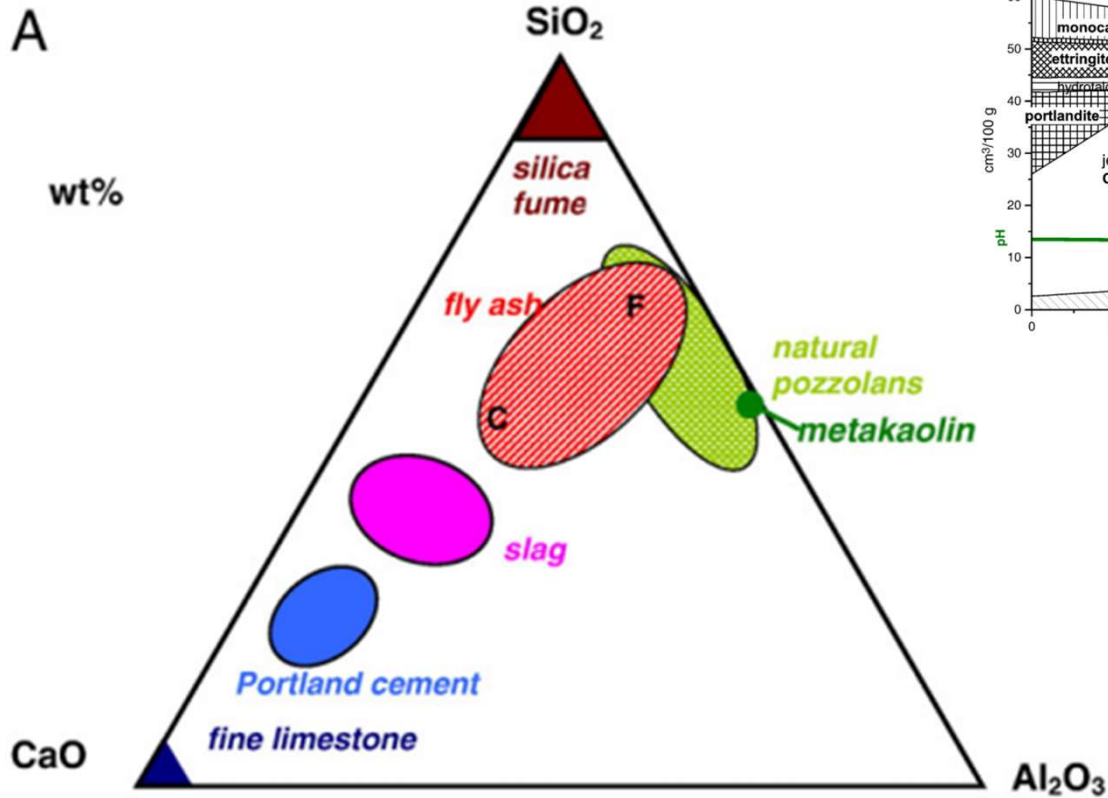
**HYDROGENE**  
Availability and cost  
Technical issues with combustion flame and cladding materials



# Minimizing waste heat



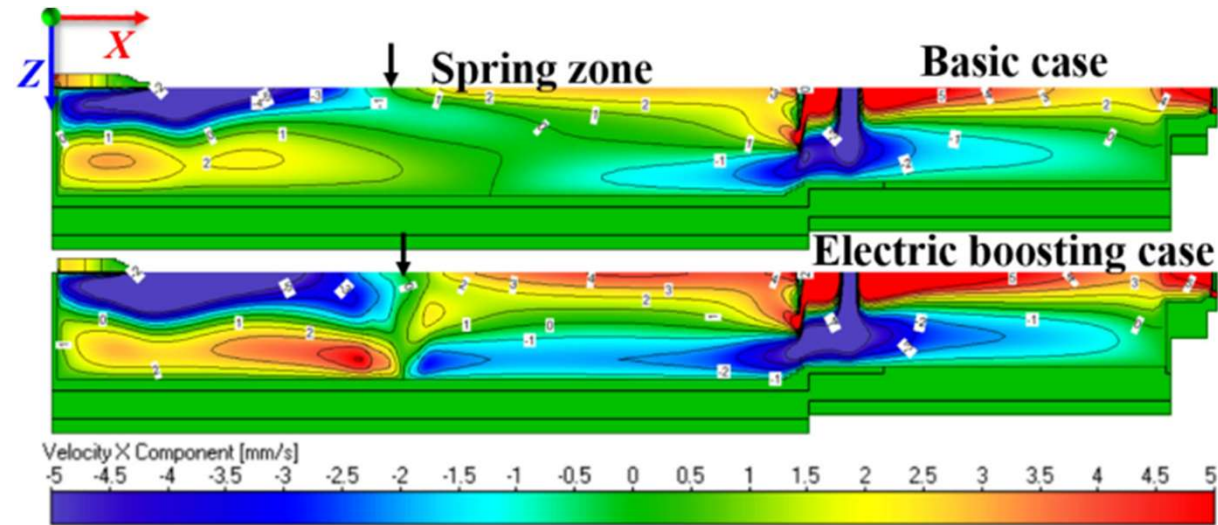
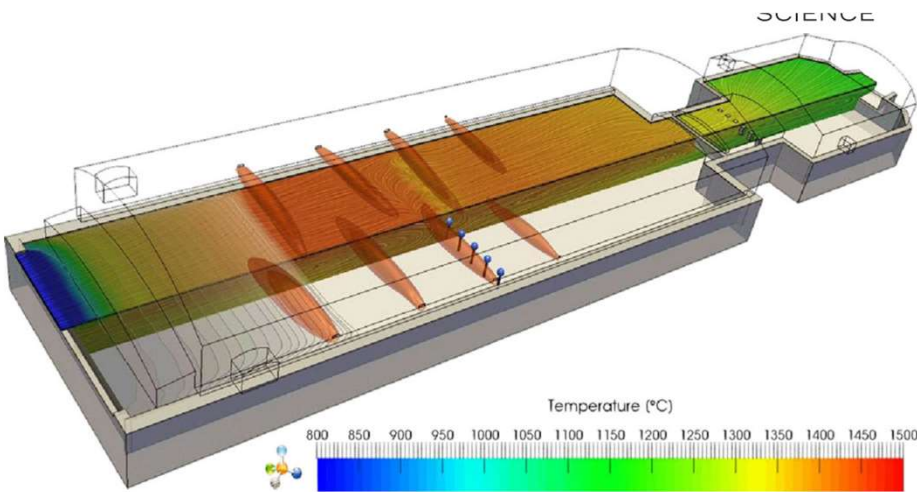
# Alternative raw materials



Thermodynamics,  
Atomistic simulations,  
Materials informatics,  
Characterization

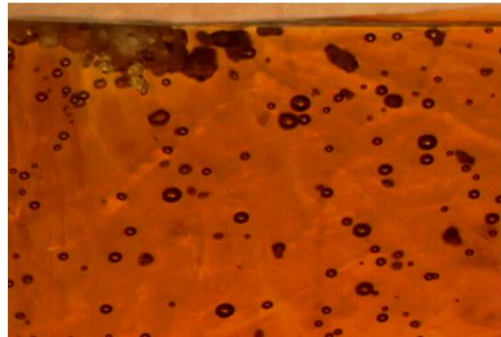
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cemconres.2010.12.001> Lothenbach 2011

# Float glass furnaces: from gas to electricity



[10.2320/matertrans.M2019044](https://doi.org/10.2320/matertrans.M2019044)

[10.1111/ijag.12286](https://doi.org/10.1111/ijag.12286)



Multiphysics: combustion, fluid mechanics, chemical reactions, ...  
Multiscale: bubble size to furnace size

How to accelerate simulations ?  
How to make accurate predictions from approximate models?

# Electrification of processes

# EVOLUTION VERS DES FOURS BAS-CARBONE

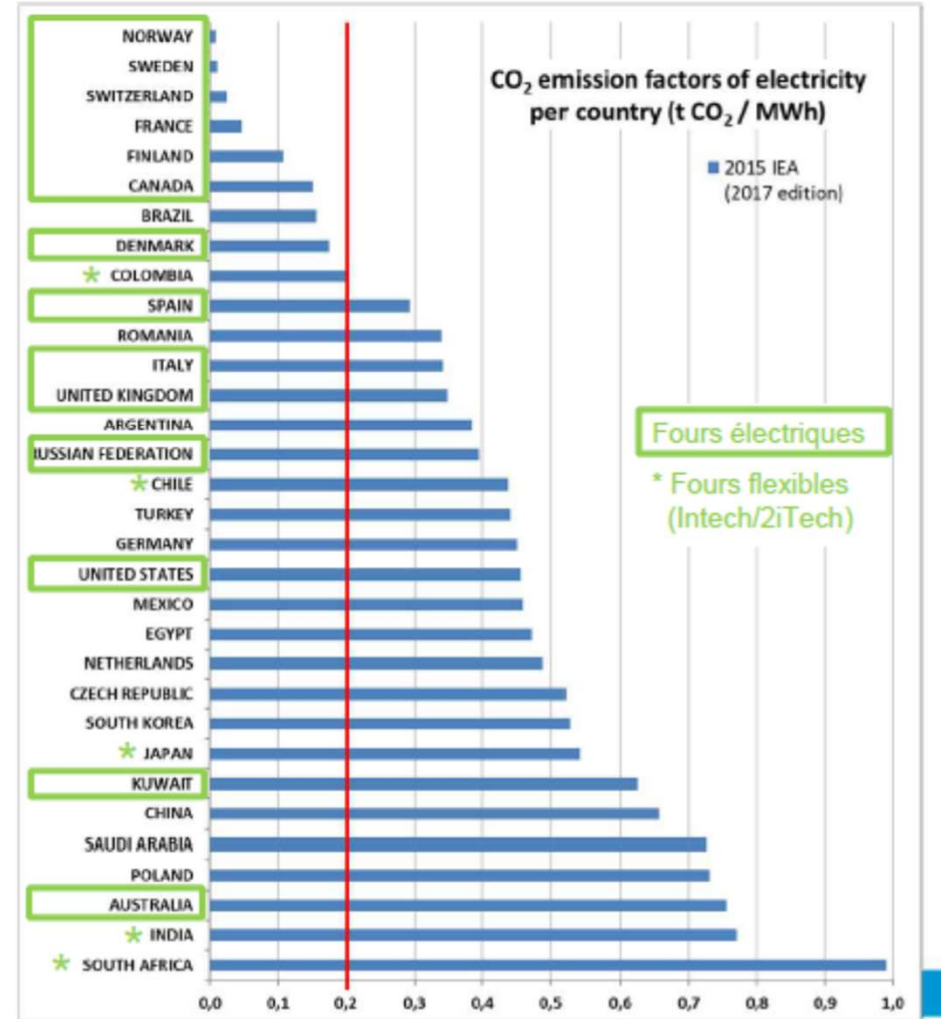
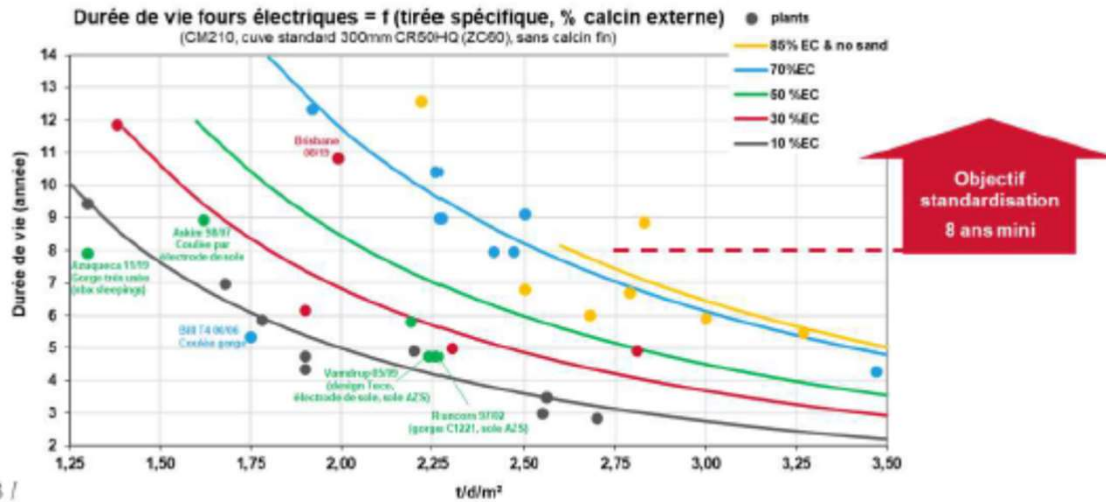
## Fours électriques

Nécessité d'une électricité verte

Emission résiduelle par la composition : hausse du calcin

### Points majeurs

- A terme, 100% des fours à électrodes plongeantes (EHS)
- Duré de vie très sensible à la tirée spécifique et au %calcin

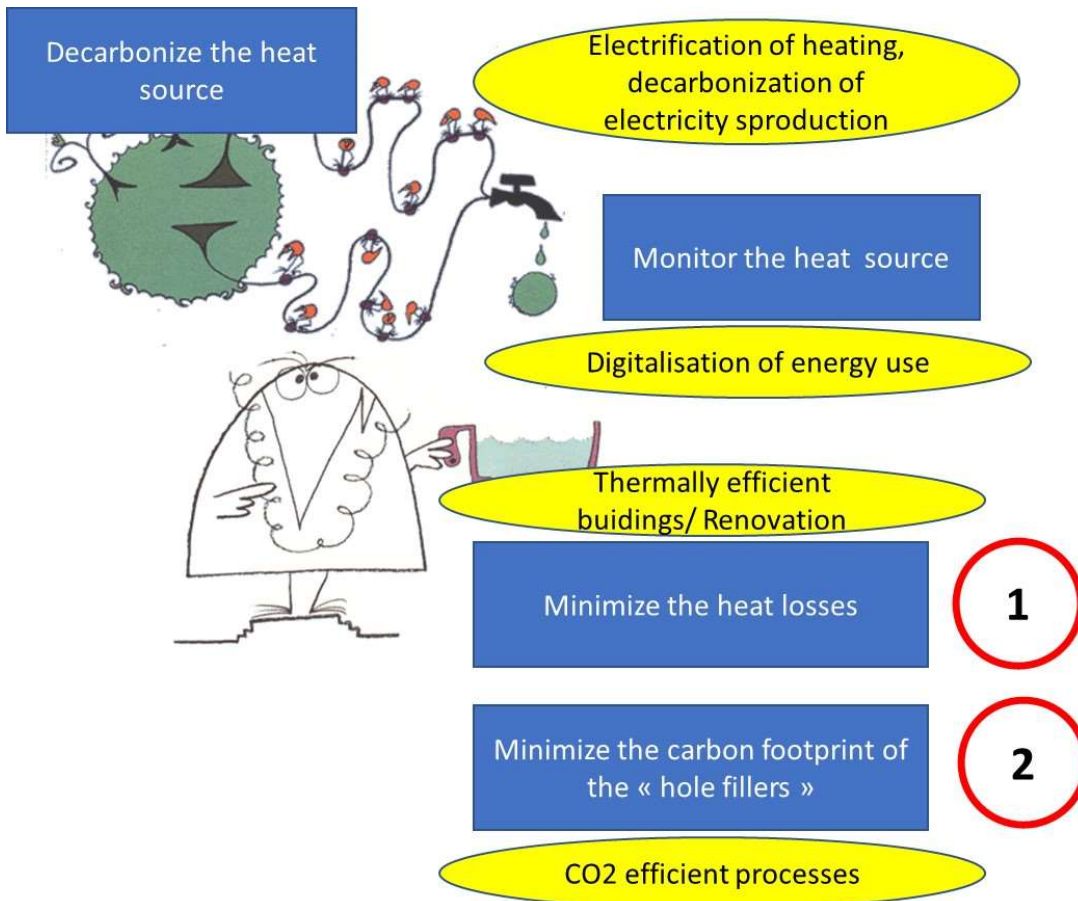




# CAVEAT!!!

- Glass furnaces are Continuous processes h24
- Power breakdown is a major threat
  - => Above a few hours, heating via a safety burner is no longer efficient
- Emergency provision lines will be a problem: availability?  
Dimensioning?
- Electrification may makes sense if
  - Electricity is decarbonated
  - Electricity provision is stable

# Conclusions



- Thermal management of buildings is a major contributor to economy decarbonation
- No matter the way one produces energy , or the cleverness with which it is used , a prerequisite is **NOT TO WASTE IT**
- Building thermal management efficiency is possible with technologies **already available**, and always progressing, which can be produced by national industry. Contribution to Reindustrialisation
- The emphasis should be on **renovation**
- production of glass, plaster, insulation materials, can be at least partially electrified and decarbonized in the coming years
- **DECARBONISED AND STABLE ELECTRICITY IS A PREREQUISITE FOR INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIFICATION**