



Venue host



# Design and Implementation of a Retrofit Solar-Assisted HVAC System for Residential Applications

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# Summary

- Overview of Solar Decathlon Competition
- ‘The Journey to Datong’
- The Team UOW *Illawarra Flame House*
- Photovoltaic Thermal System and Phase Change Energy Storage systems
- Solar Assisted HVAC System
  - Design
  - Modelling
  - Initial results

# THE SOLAR DECATHLON

- A competition for University students to design, build and operate sustainable, net-zero energy, attractive and affordable homes.
- Objective: accelerate the development and adoption of advanced building technologies.
- Since 2002:
  - 8 competitions
  - 5 in US
  - 2 in Europe
  - 1 in China
- Total of 164 teams



SOLAR DECATHLON 2009 – WASHINGTON MALL

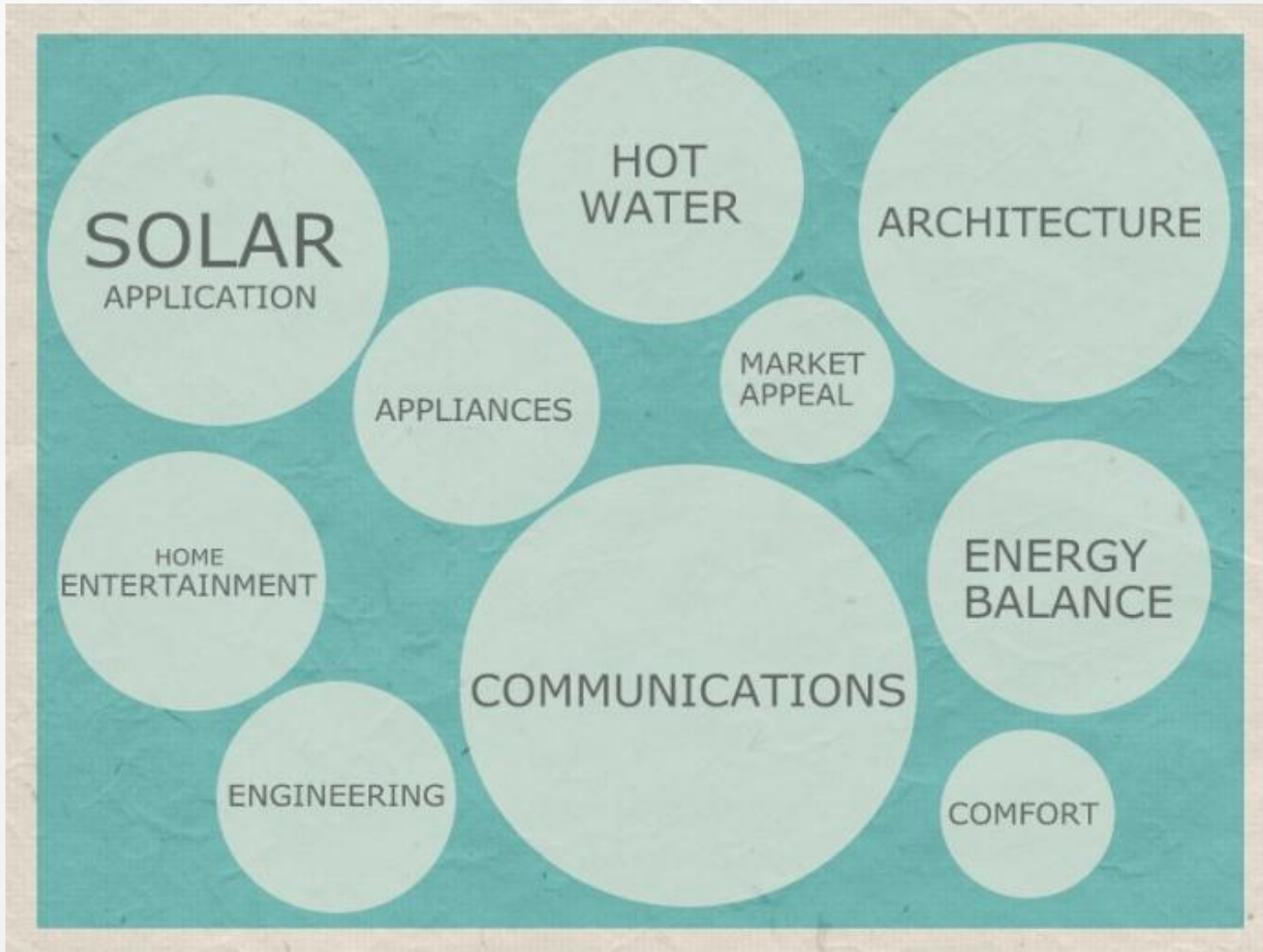
# THE SOLAR DECATHLON CHINA 2013 COMPETITION



SOLAR DECATHLON CHINA 2013 – DATONG

- US Department of Energy and Chinese National Energy Administration held the first SD China in 2013.
- Team UOW was a collaboration between UOW and TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute.
- Team UOW the first ever team from Australia to win entry to a Solar Decathlon.
- 270,000 people attended the competition site.
- 35,000 people were toured through the Illawarra Flame House throughout the competition week – one every 8 seconds!

# SUB-COMPETITIONS



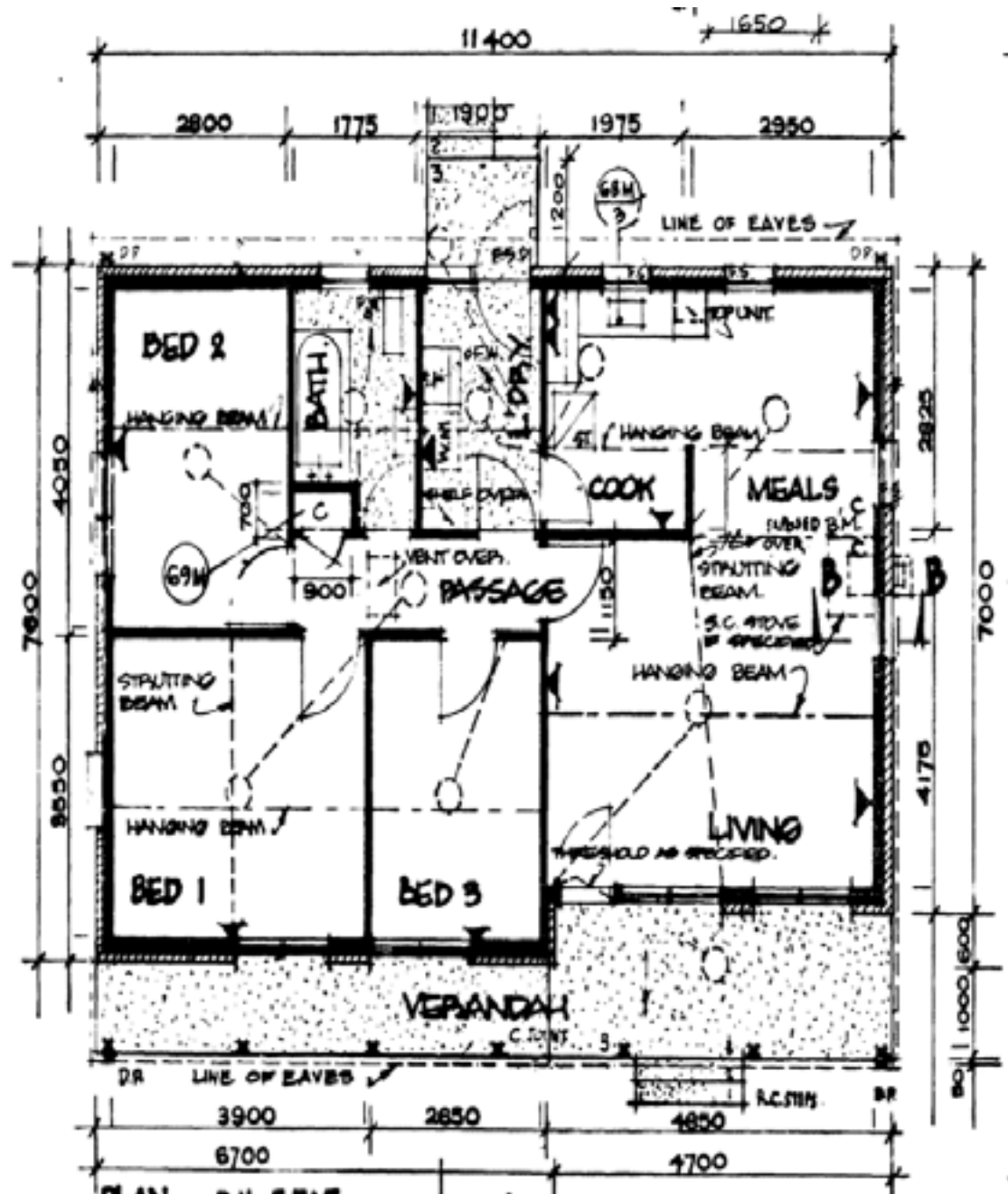
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# TRANSFORMING OUR HOUSES...

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# The Base Plan



# INTO SUSTAINABLE HOMES





# ILLAWARRA FLAME HOUSE FEATURES

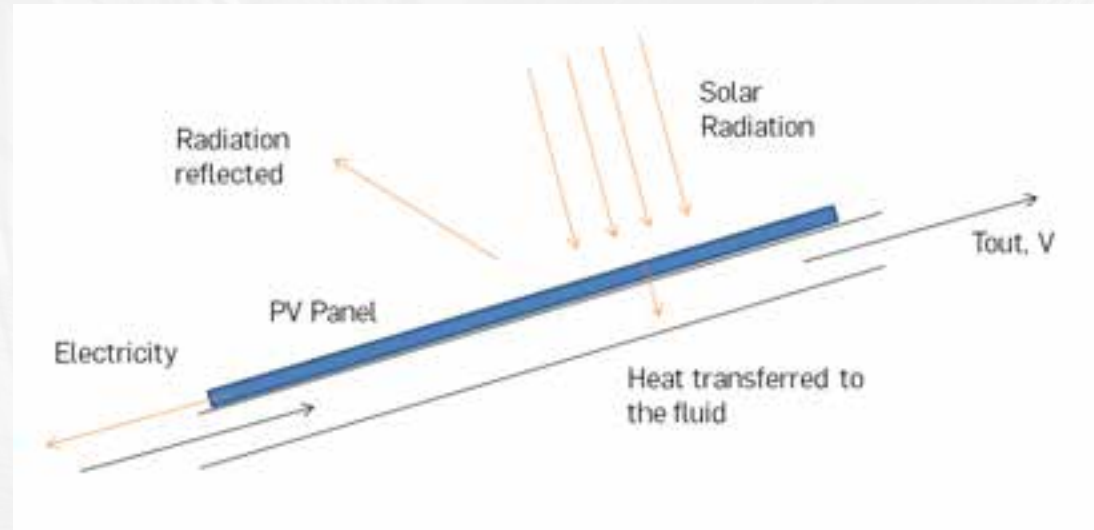
- State of the art photovoltaic panels
- Greywater treatment system
- Natural ventilation and automated high level windows
- Innovative HVAC system featuring
  - Photovoltaic-Thermal solar system and
  - Phase Change Material (PCM) Thermal Store
- Innovative Building Management System



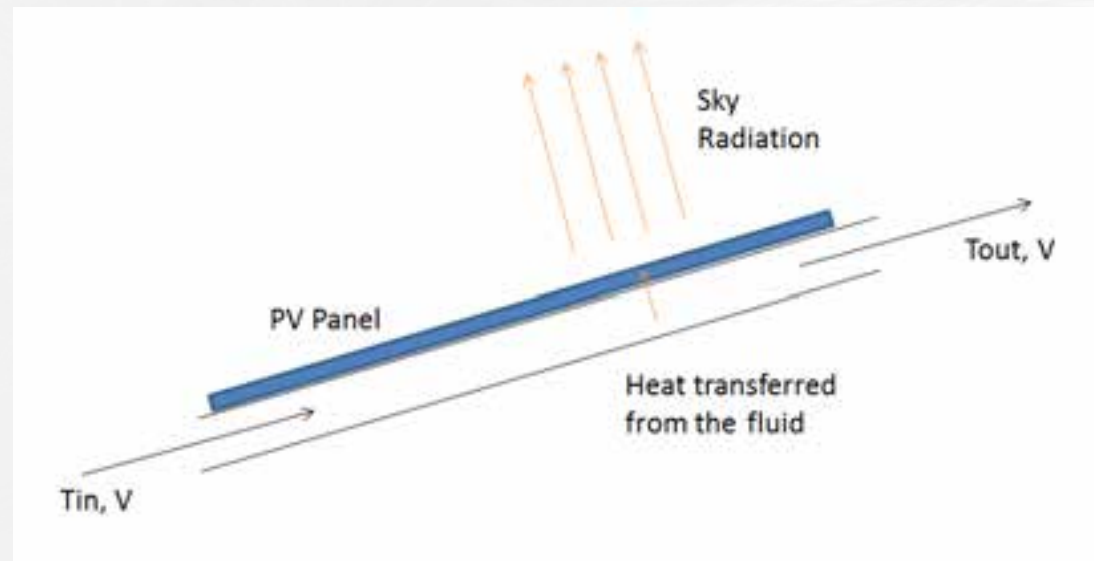
ILLAWARRA FLAME HOUSE IN DATONG 2013

# PHOTOVOLTAIC THERMAL SYSTEM

Daytime  
generation



Night time  
radiant  
cooling



# PVT AND PCM



PVT ROOF



ILLAWARRA FLAME HOUSE – DATONG 2013

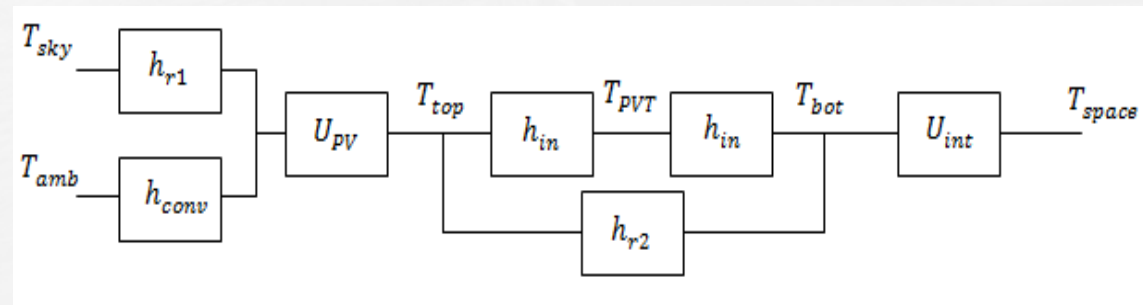


BLUESCOPE LYSAGHT TRIMDEK

# PVT AND PCM

For optimization it was necessary to develop:

- Thermal Model
- Mechanical Model (Fan Consumption)
- Electrical Model (electrical generation efficiency is a function of PV temperature)

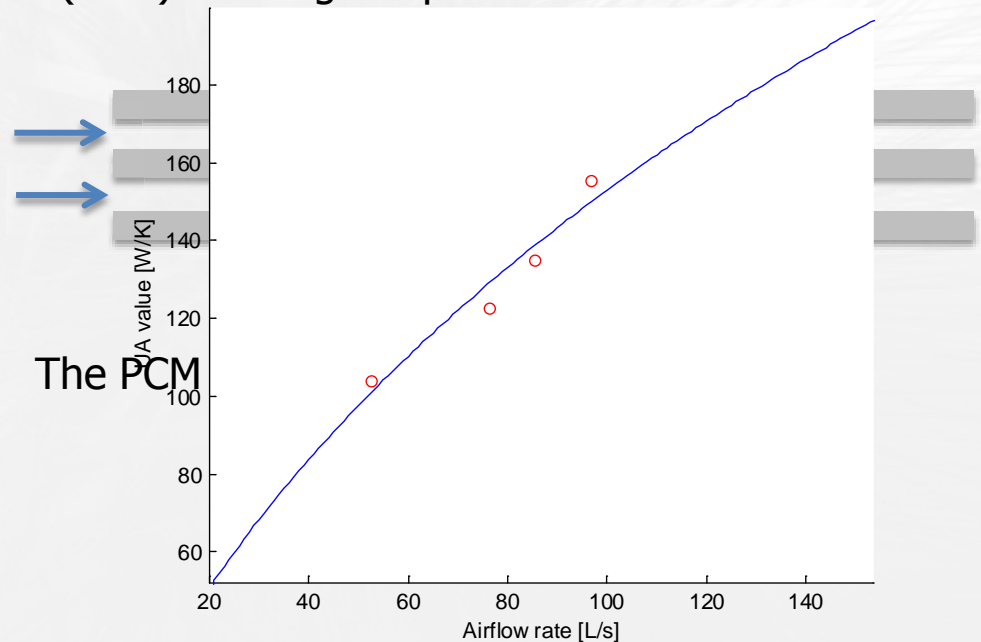
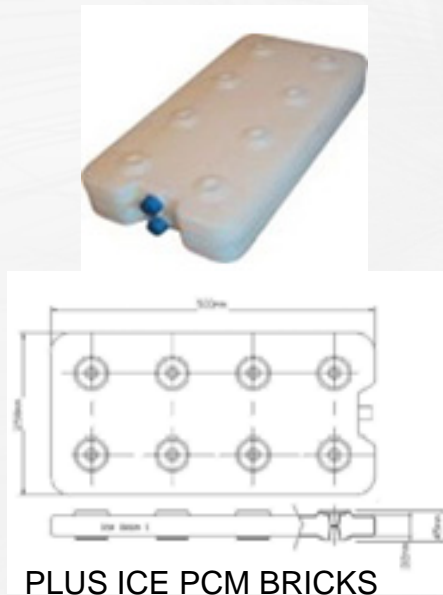


THERMAL NETWORK MODEL

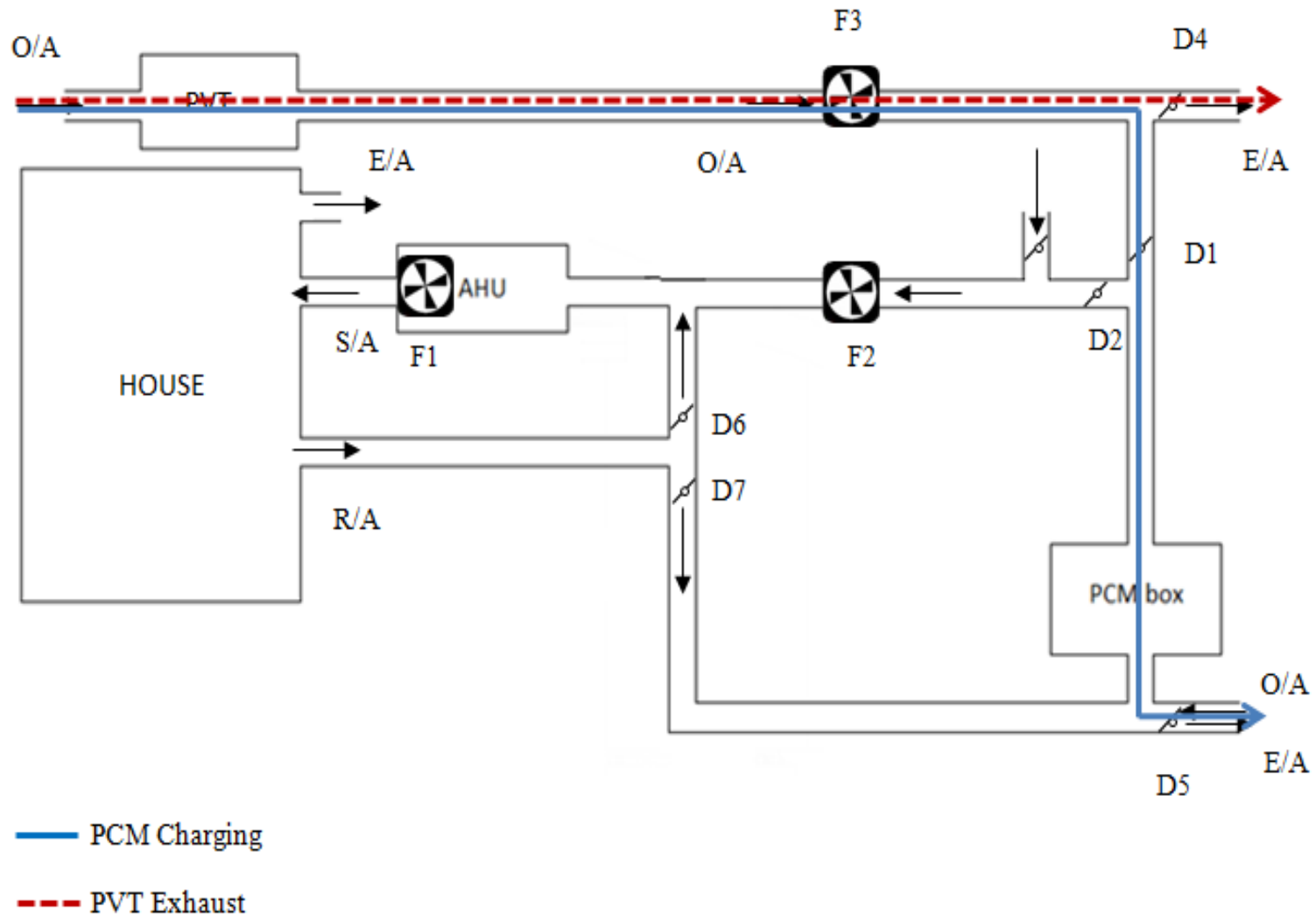
# PHASE CHANGE MATERIAL THERMAL STORE

There is generally a significant offset between the thermal generation and the house demand

Thermal energy storage has been included in the design, through the latent heat of Phase Change Material (PCM). Melting temperature has been identified at 22°C



# SOLAR ASSISTED HVAC SYSTEM



# ILLAWARRA FLAME HOUSE – 4X



First build at TAFE



Dress rehearsal at UOW Innovation Campus



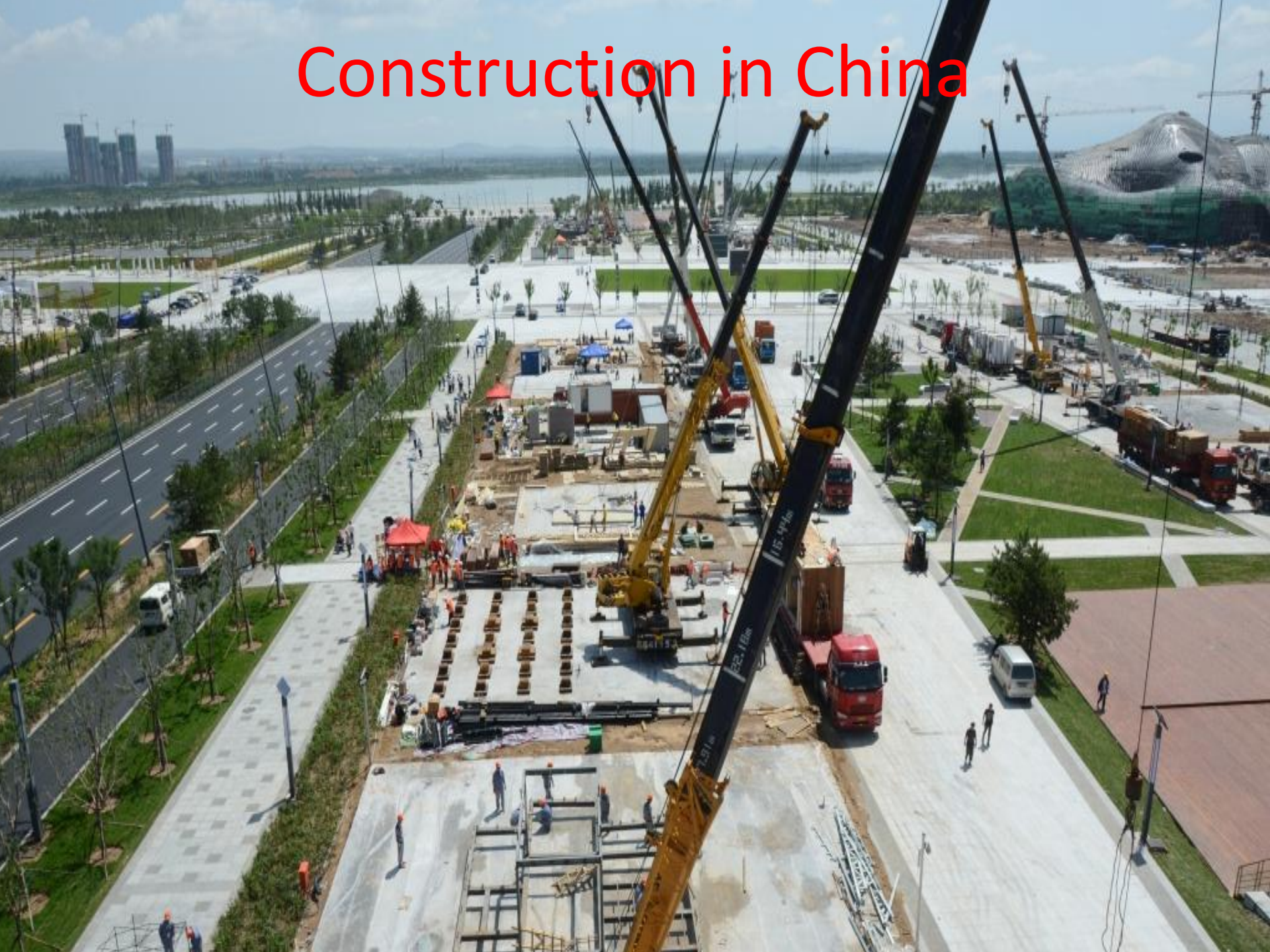
3<sup>rd</sup> build at competition site







# Construction in China







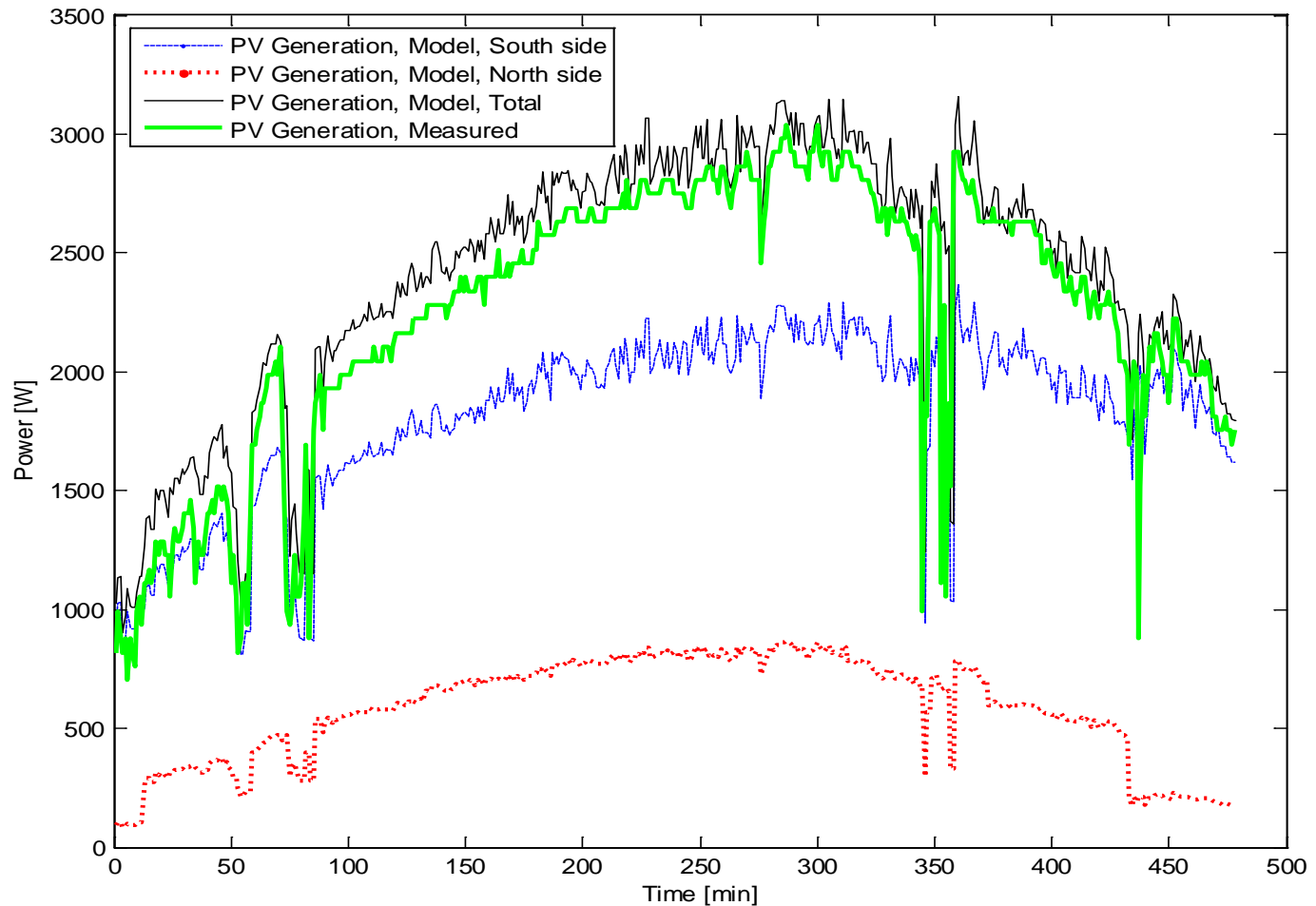






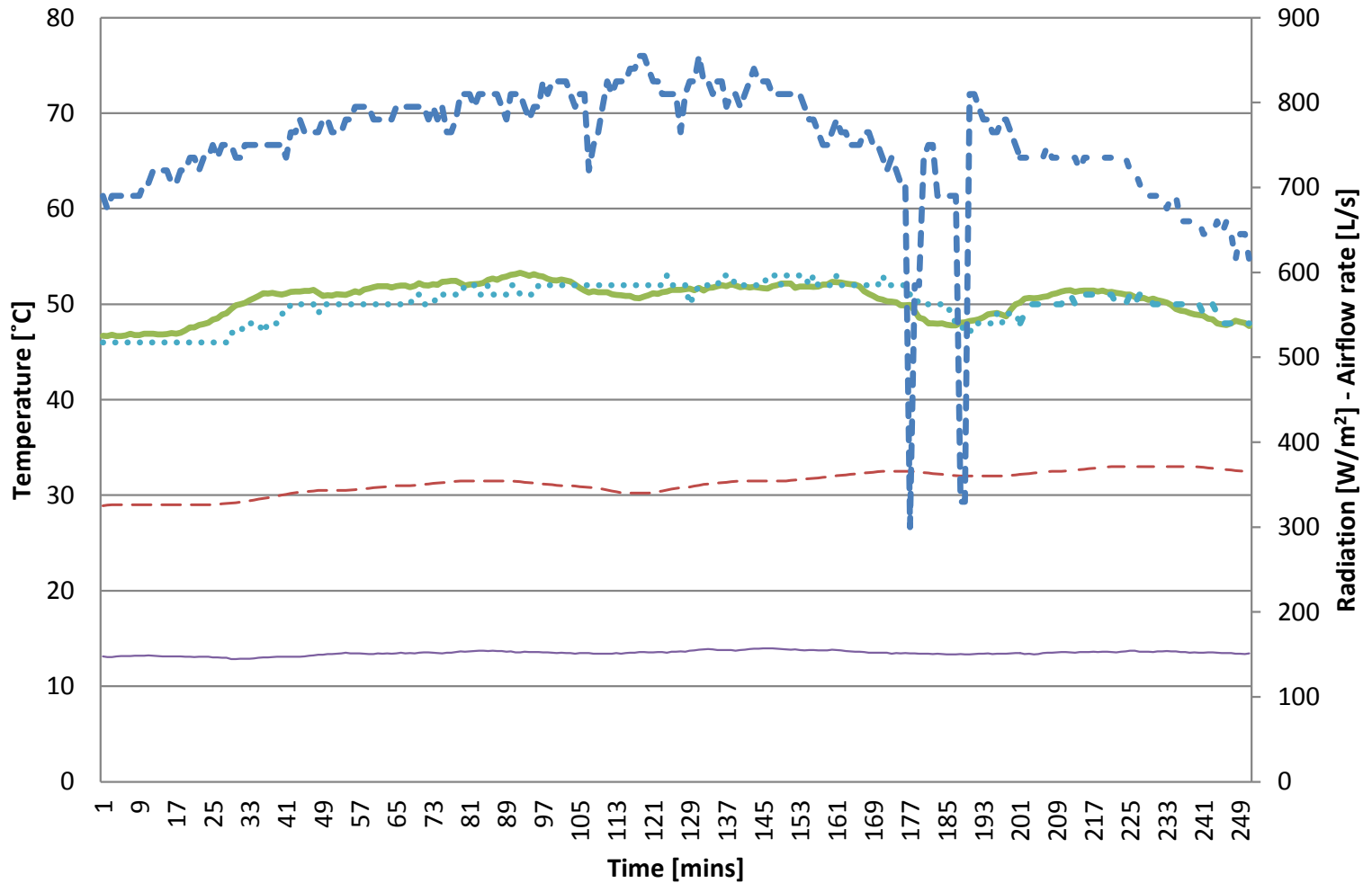
# PVT AND PCM – INITIAL RESULTS

## ELECTRICAL MODEL VALIDATION



# PVT AND PCM

## THERMAL MODEL VALIDATION



--- Tambient [degC]      — TpvT\_Model [degC]      ..... TpvT\_Measured [degC]  
--- Ghr [W/m²]      — Vflow [L/s]



# SOLAR ASSISTED HVAC SYSTEM

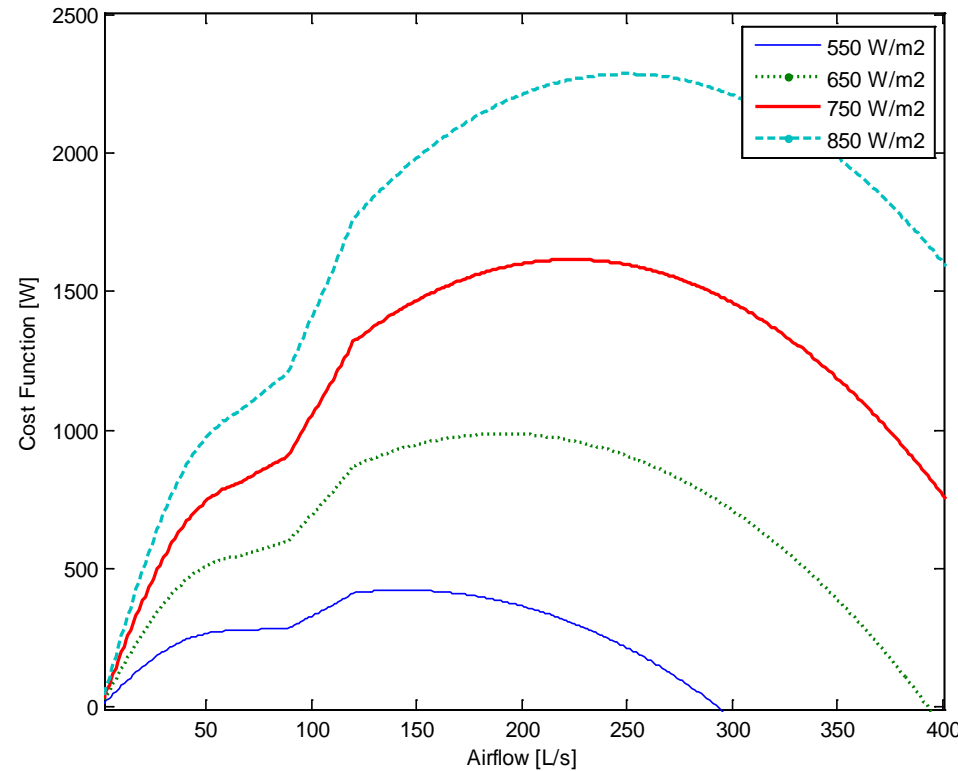
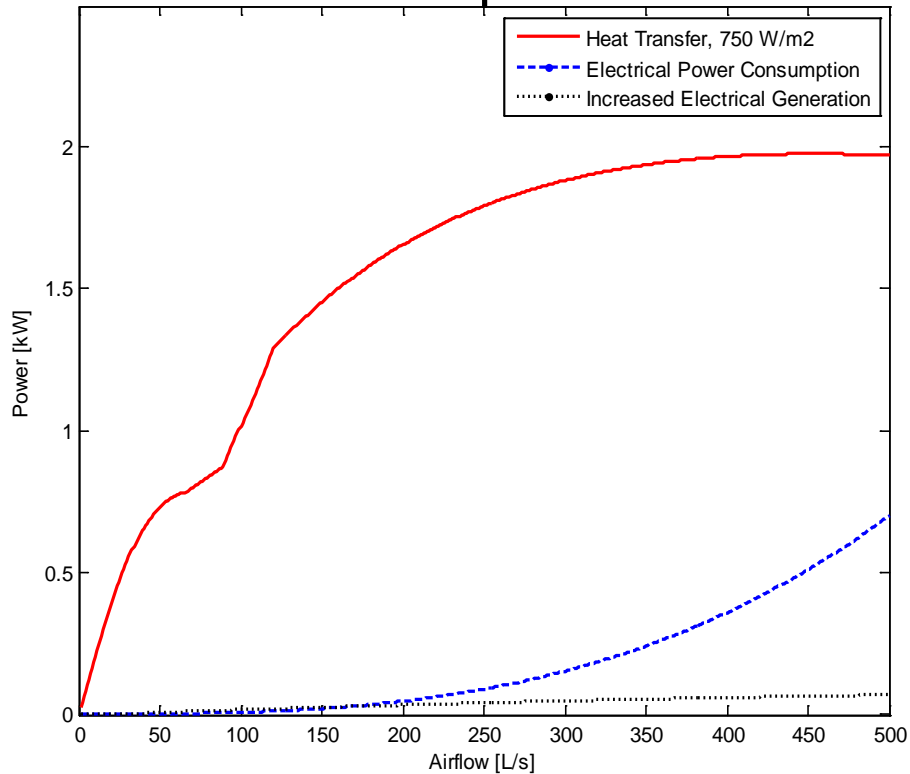
- HVAC System Managed by a Residential type of control system.
- Customized logic and non-standard use of devices to automate the system and control the subcomponents



ILLAWARRA FLAME BMS

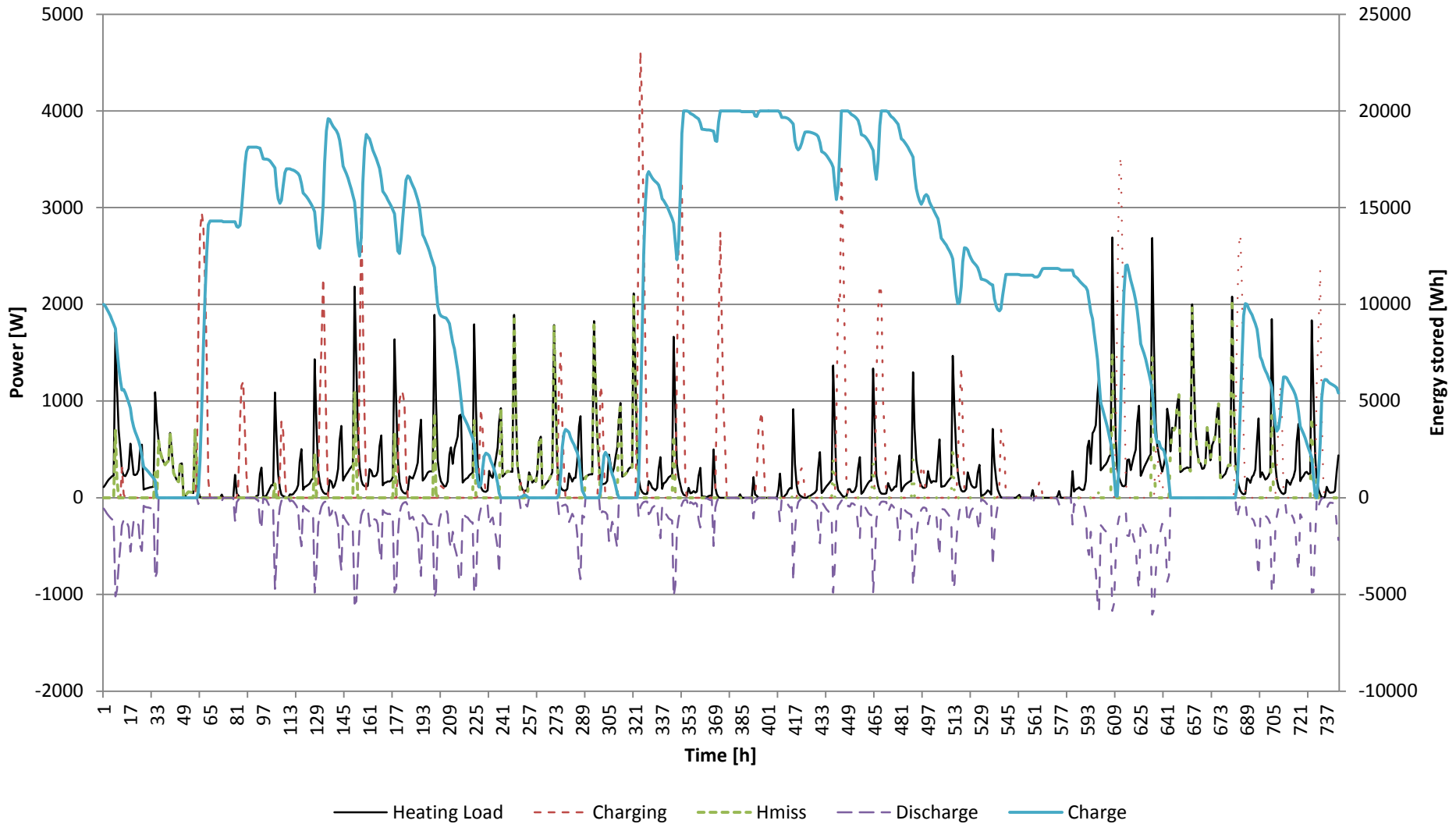
# SOLAR ASSISTED HVAC SYSTEM

## PCM Charging with PVT Optimization Example



$$C = P_{th} + \alpha(\Delta P_{e,gen} - P_{e,cons})$$

# SOLAR ASSISTED HVAC SYSTEM



# SOLAR ASSISTED HVAC SYSTEM

<b>Simulated Performance Results</b>	<b>Winter July (Heating)</b>	<b>Summer February (Cooling)</b>
Total demand, Thermal (kWh)	206	165
Thermal Energy supplied through PV-T/PCM (kWh)	139	116
Electrical Energy for Discharging (kWh)	6.1	9.6
COP Discharging	22.8	12.1
Thermal Energy Charged (kWh)	131.4	163.6
Electrical Energy for Charging (kWh)	5.0	10.1
COP Charging	26.4	16.2
COP Overall	12.3	6.9

# Team UOW Win!

- Overall winner of Solar Decathlon China 2013
- Highest overall score in the history of Solar Decathlon Competitions (957.6/1000)
- Placed first in five out of the 10 competitions:
  - Architecture
  - Engineering
  - Solar Application
  - Hot Water
  - Energy Balances
- Second by one point in:
  - Communications
  - Market Appeal
- >35,000 people toured through house (1 person every 8 seconds!)
- >270,000 members of the public attended competition site



# Illawarra Flame and SBRC at UOW



# Summary

- Team UOW first:
  - Australian Team to win entry to a Solar Decathlon
  - Team ever to demonstrate a retrofit of an existing building
  - Place at SD China 2013, with highest ever overall score
- Air-based PVT system linked with PCM store and conventional heat pump.
- The Team UOW/BlueScope Solar Assisted HVAC system winner of the 2013 Denis Joseph competition.
- Illawarra Flame house now reconstructed and will be a long-term test bed for solar and HVAC technologies at the SBRC@UOW.

# Acknowledgements

- Thank you to all Team UOW members, but especially for key members of the PVT/PCM/HVAC system team:
  - Massimo Fiorentini
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