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Annual Energy Consumption in an Actual Low Energy House in the Cold Region of Japan

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Background and today's topics

We have showed results* of a field test in a low energy house built in the cold region of Japan as a part of Task3 of the Annex32 from Japan.

In this presentation,

- we summarize the results* in terms of the seasonal heating performance and thermal environment.
- the annual electric balance is evaluated.
- further improvement is examined for the second field test as the best practice

Next-Generation Energy Conservation Standard (for residences)

Main points

- Classify all the cities, towns and villages in Japan into 6 climatic zones
- Annual heating and cooling load [MJ/m²]

I	II	III	IV	V	VI
390	390	460	460	350	290

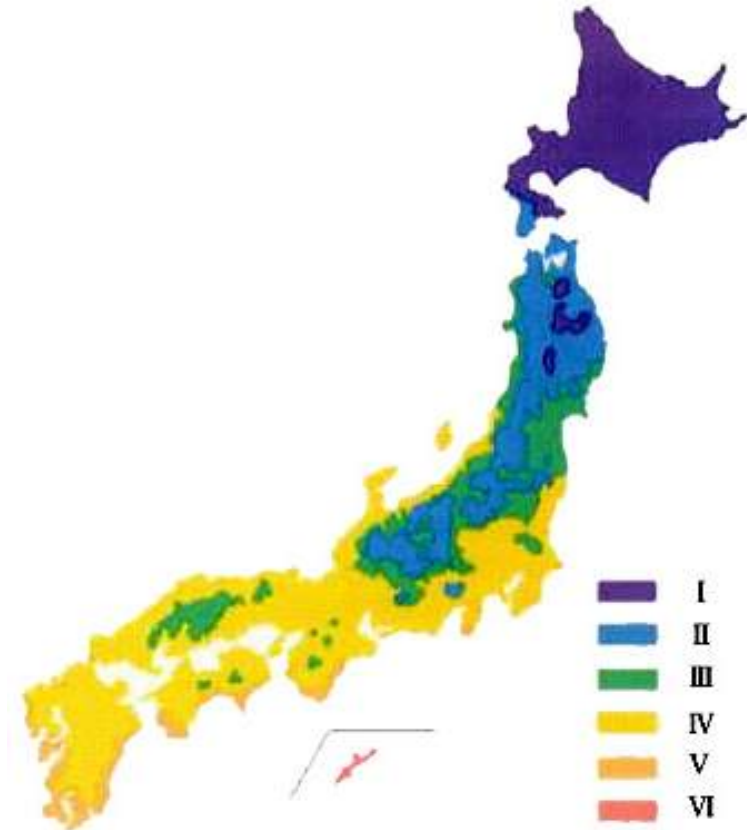
- Insulation:
Heat loss coefficient (Q-value) [W/m²/K]

I	II	III	IV	V	VI
1.6	1.9	2.4	2.7	2.7	3.7

- Airtightness
Equivalent clearance area (C-value) [cm²/m²]

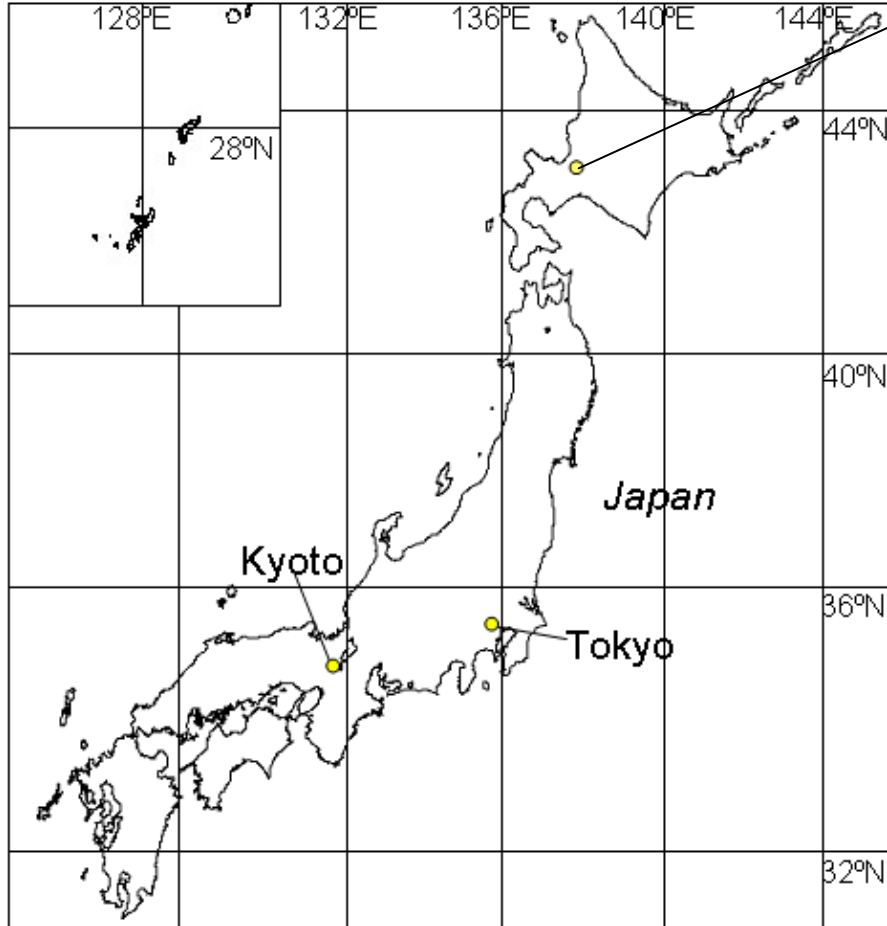
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
2.0		5.0			

- Proper ventilation
Basically more than 0.5 h⁻¹



Source: *Institute for Building Environment and Energy Conservation*

Low energy house in *Naganuma*



Naganuma town

Location:

Lat. 43° N, long. 141° E

40 km southeast from Sapporo

Average temperature: 7.5° C



Building performance



General information

- ▣ 2 story and basement
- ▣ Habitant: 2 people
- ▣ Total floor area: 200 m²
- ▣ Heating area: 178 m²

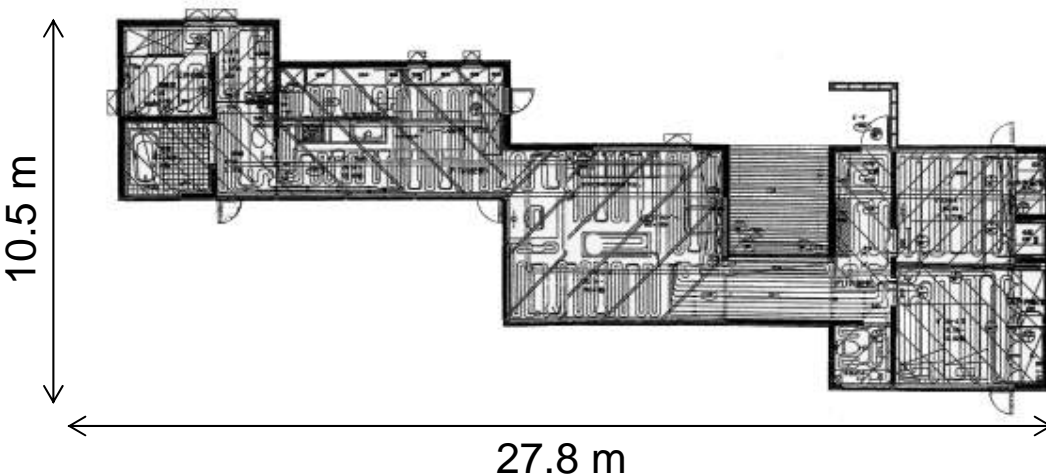
Building envelope

- ▣ Floor slab: 300 mm
- ▣ Ceiling: 264 mm
- ▣ Outer wall: 198 mm
- ▣ Window area: 83 m²
(63% facing south)
- ▣ Window: Low-E Triple filled with Argon gas (K value: 1.3 W/m²/K)

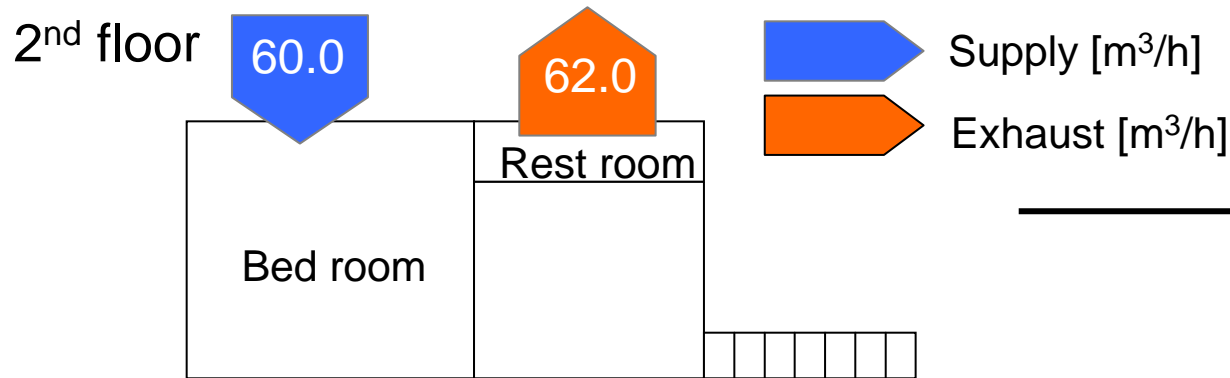
Insulation and airtightness

- ▣ Q value: 0.96 W/m²/K
- ▣ C value: 0.4 cm²/m²

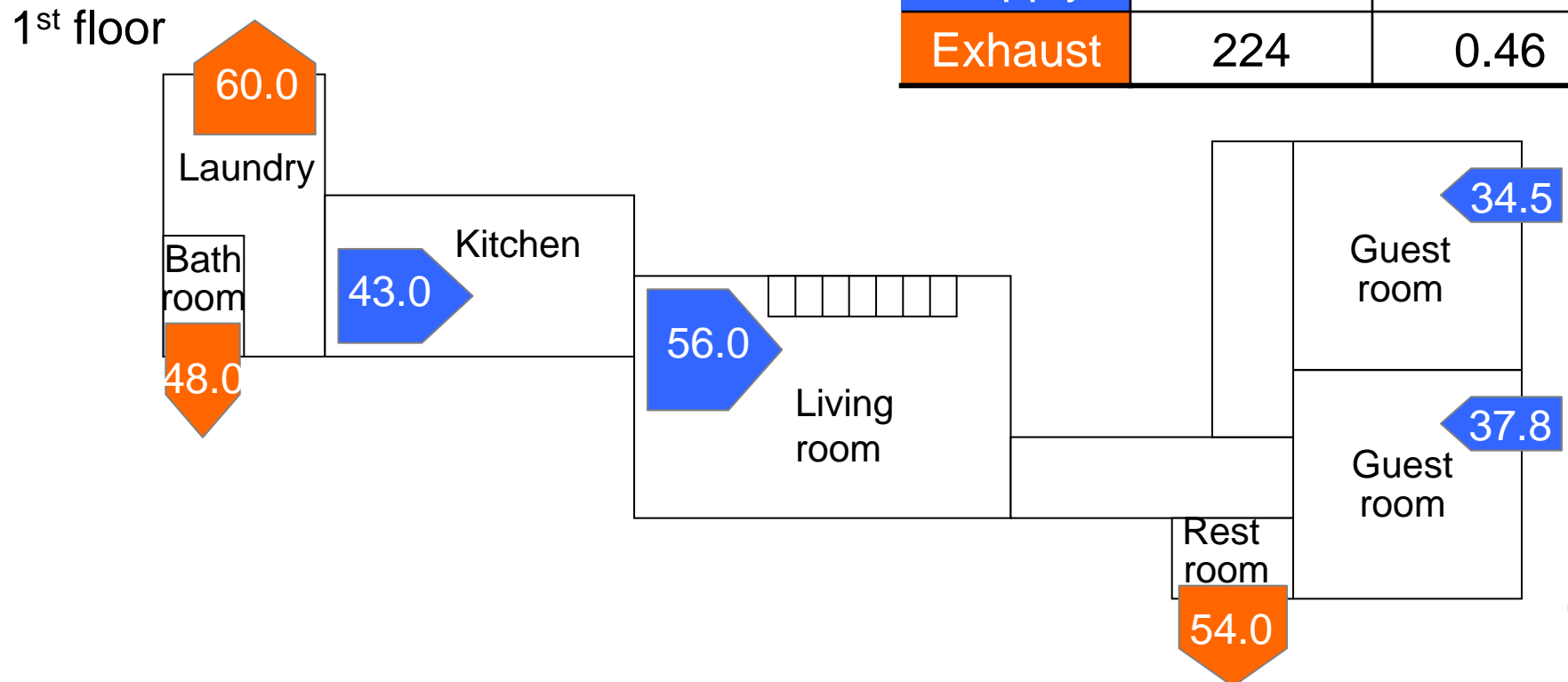
Satisfy the standard values



Ventilation rate



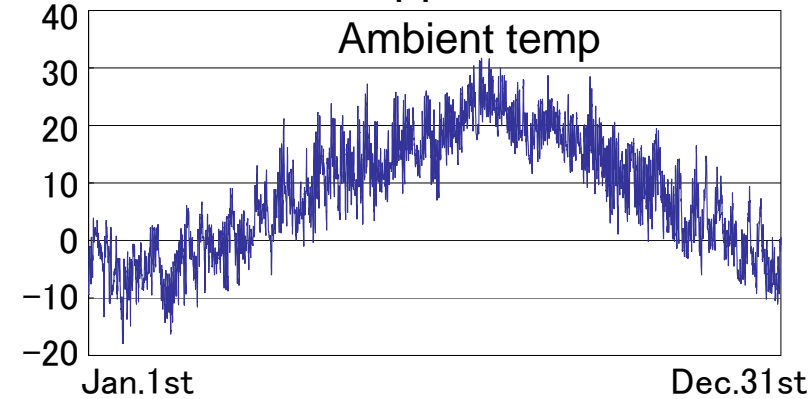
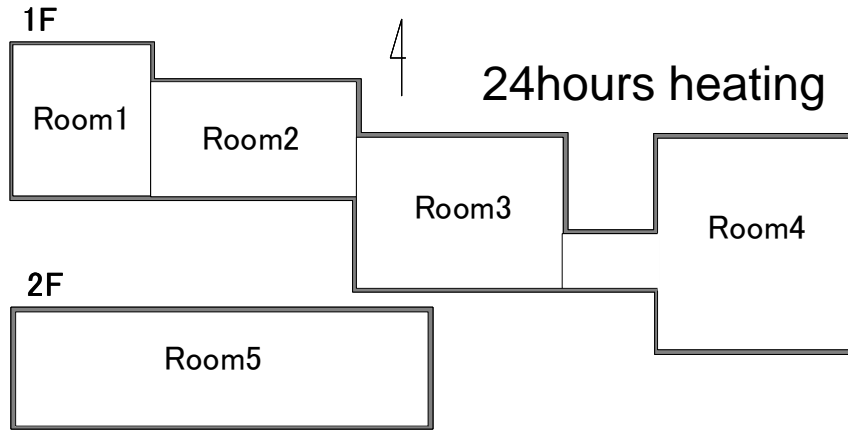
	Air flow volume [m^3/h]	Ventilation rate [1/h]
Supply	231	0.47
Exhaust	224	0.46



How much is the heating load?

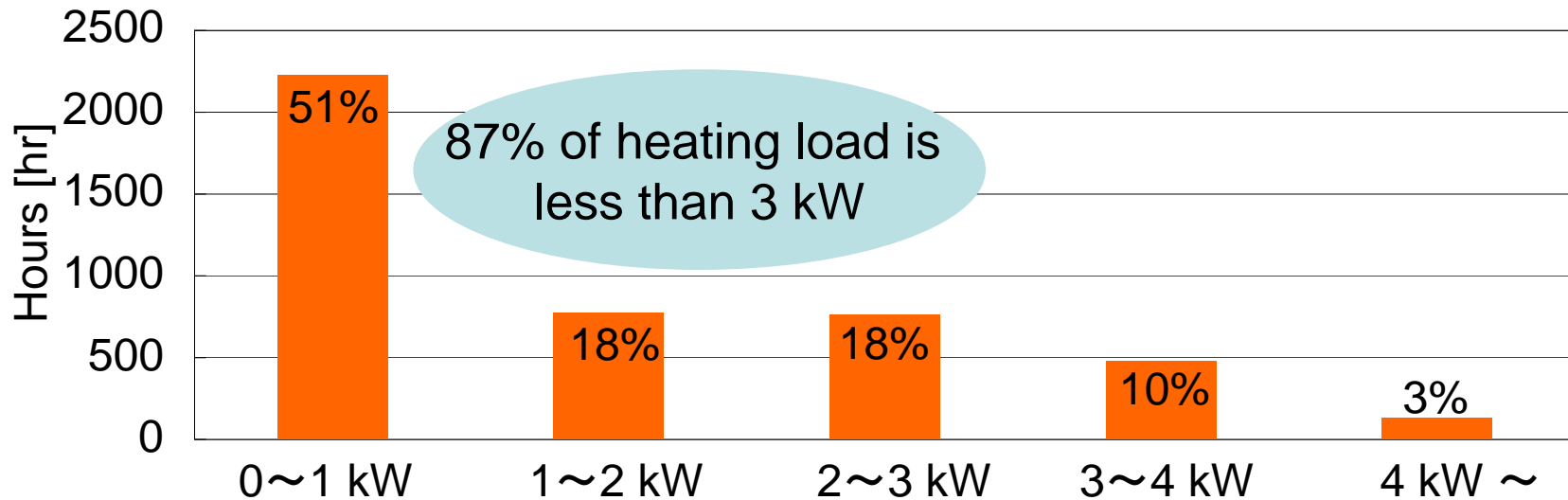
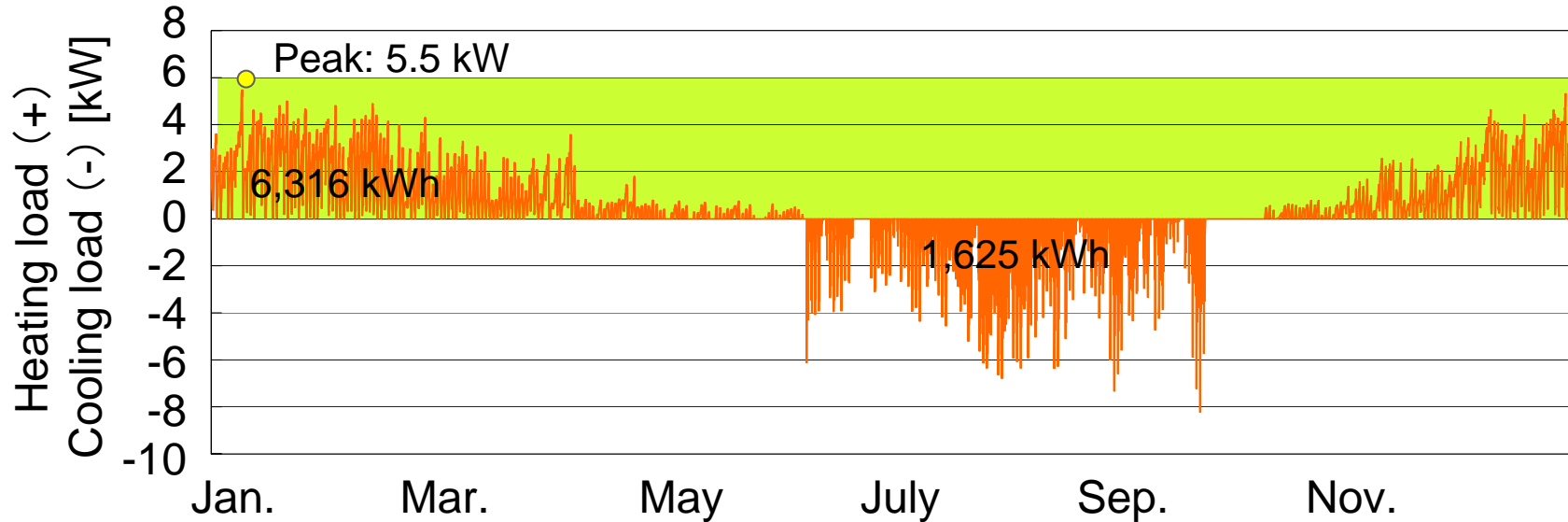
Calculation by SMASH

* Weather condition: Sapporo

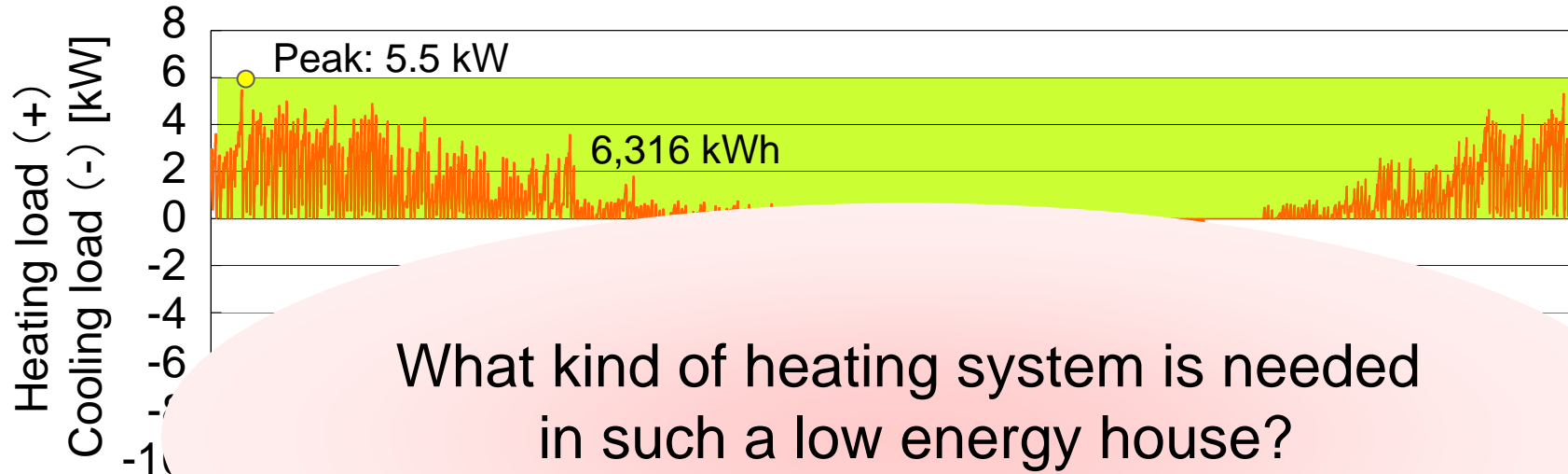


		Room1	Room2	Room3	Room4	Room5	Total
Floor area [m ²]		22.8	25.9	34.2	49.3	46.2	178.4
Ceiling area [m ²]		5.5	0.0	31.1	49.3	46.2	132.1
Outer wall area [m ²]	E	2.7	3.8	11.2	22.6	6.6	46.9
	W	10.4	0.0	5.3	15.8	6.5	38.0
	S	4.1	2.4	3.2	18.4	26.4	54.5
	N	9.1	14.8	19.7	25.9	24.5	94.0
	Total	26.3	21.0	39.4	82.7	64.0	233.4
Window area [m ²]	E	0.0	1.6	2.0	0.0	2.6	6.2
	W	0.7	0.0	8.1	0.0	0.0	8.8
	S	6.1	12.6	17.9	5.4	10.6	52.6
	N	0.9	0.7	2.5	8.0	1.4	13.5
	Total	7.7	14.9	30.5	13.4	14.6	81.1
Air volume [m ³]		50.4	57.7	120.9	149.8	108.2	487.0

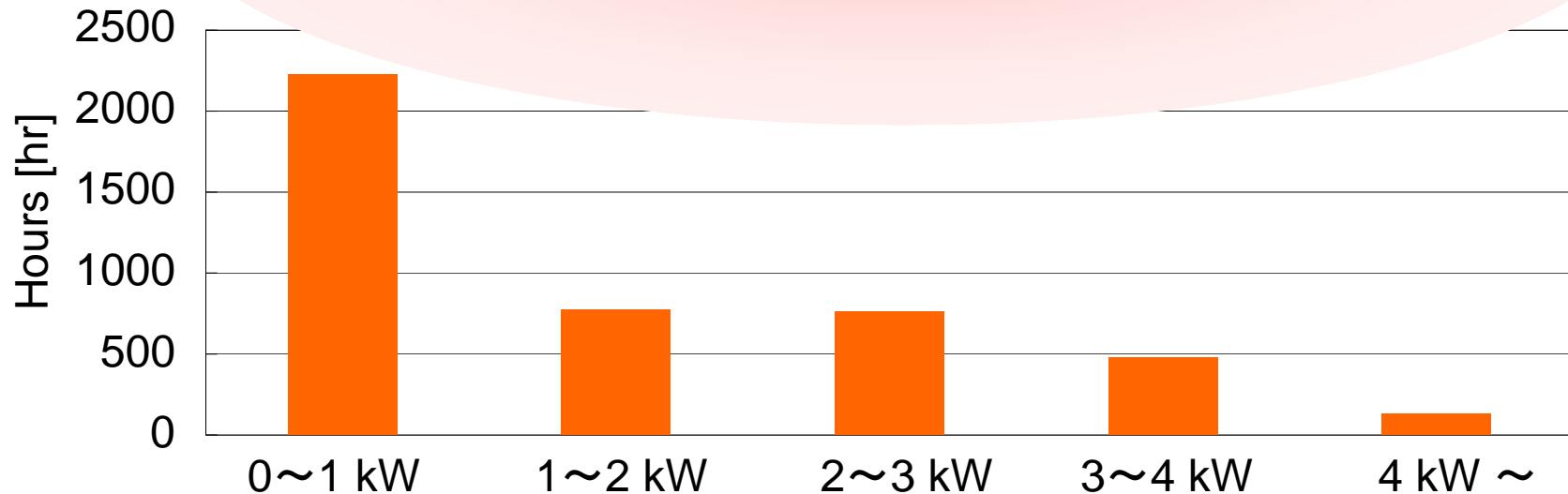
Calculated heating/cooling load



Calculated heating/cooling load

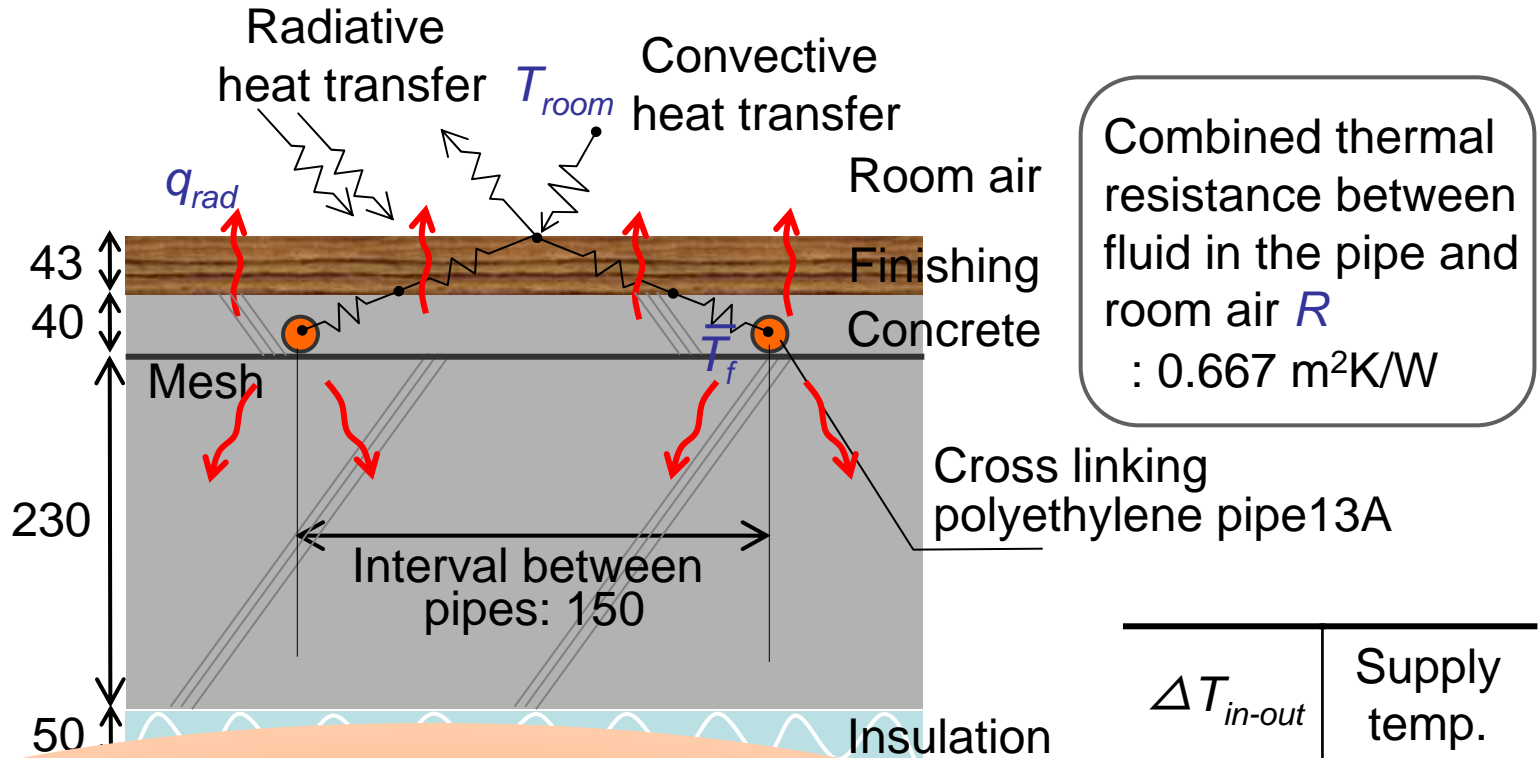


What kind of heating system is needed
in such a low energy house?
High temperature heat source is still needed?



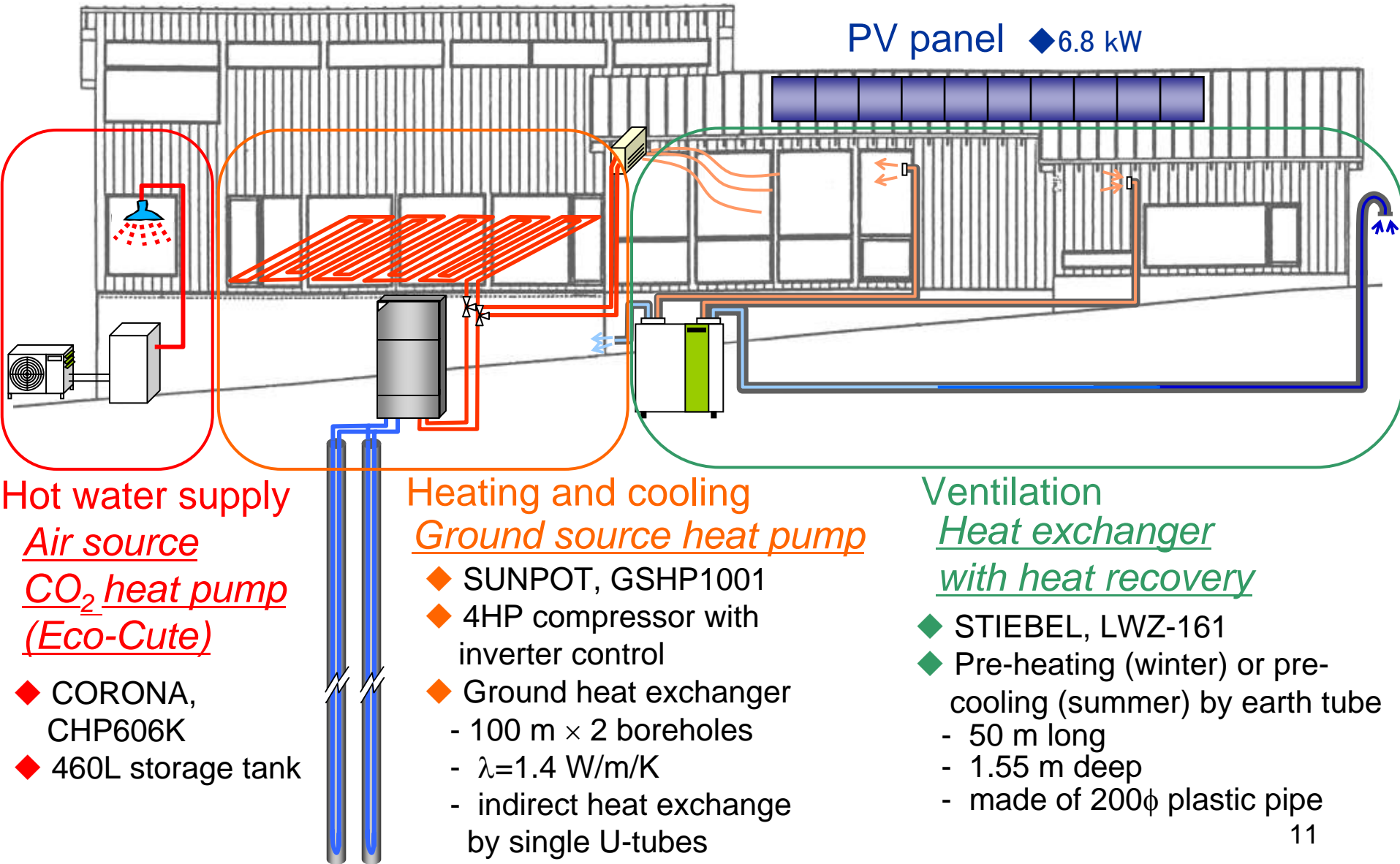
What degree of supply temperature is needed ?

Floor construction and the thermal resistance



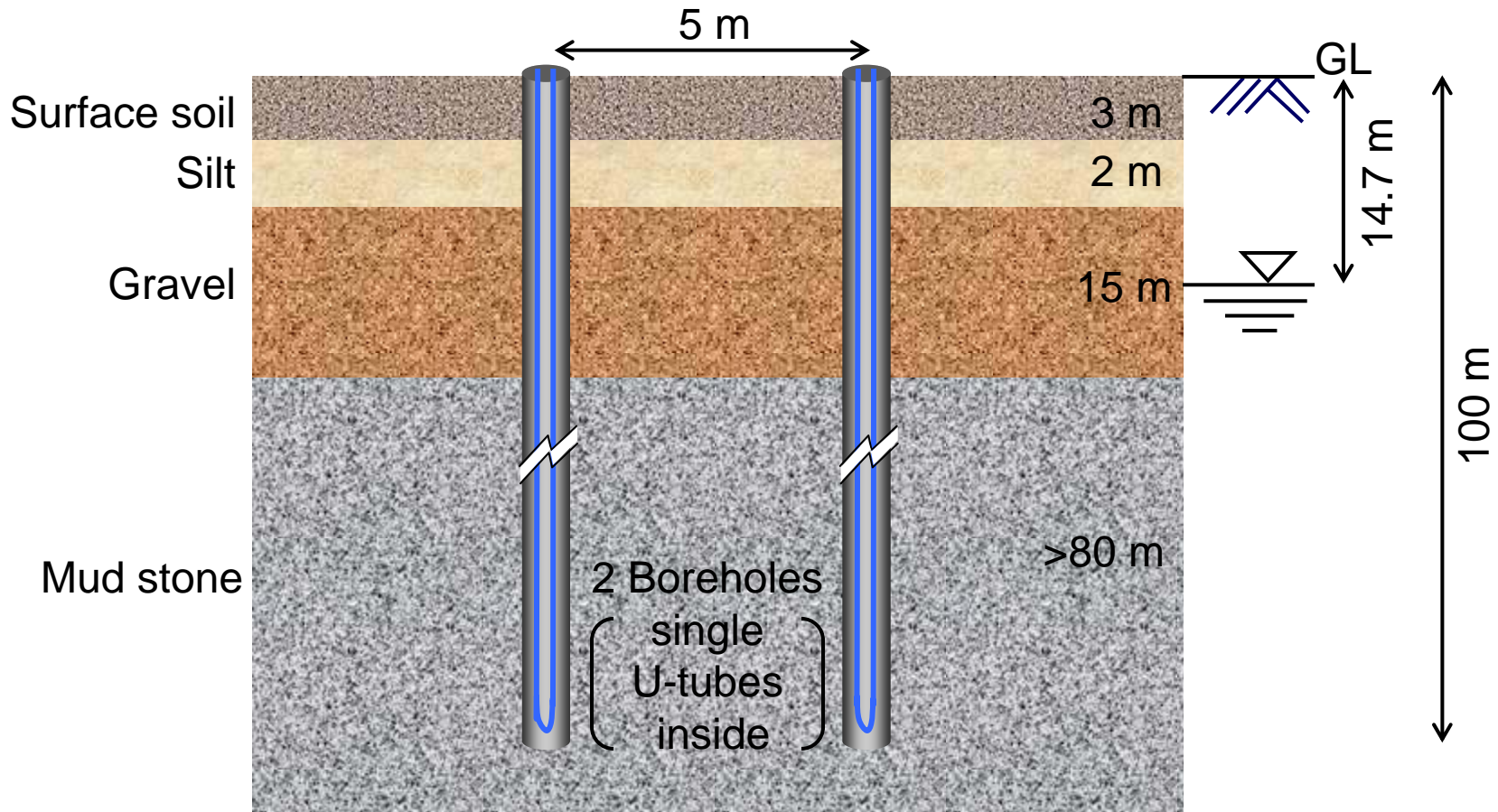
We can use lower supply temperature especially in such a floor heating system. In the case, heat pump would be a suitable heat source.

Active design measures for energy savings



GSHP system - Geological condition -

Effective thermal conductivity: 1.4 W/m/K
(from a thermal response test)

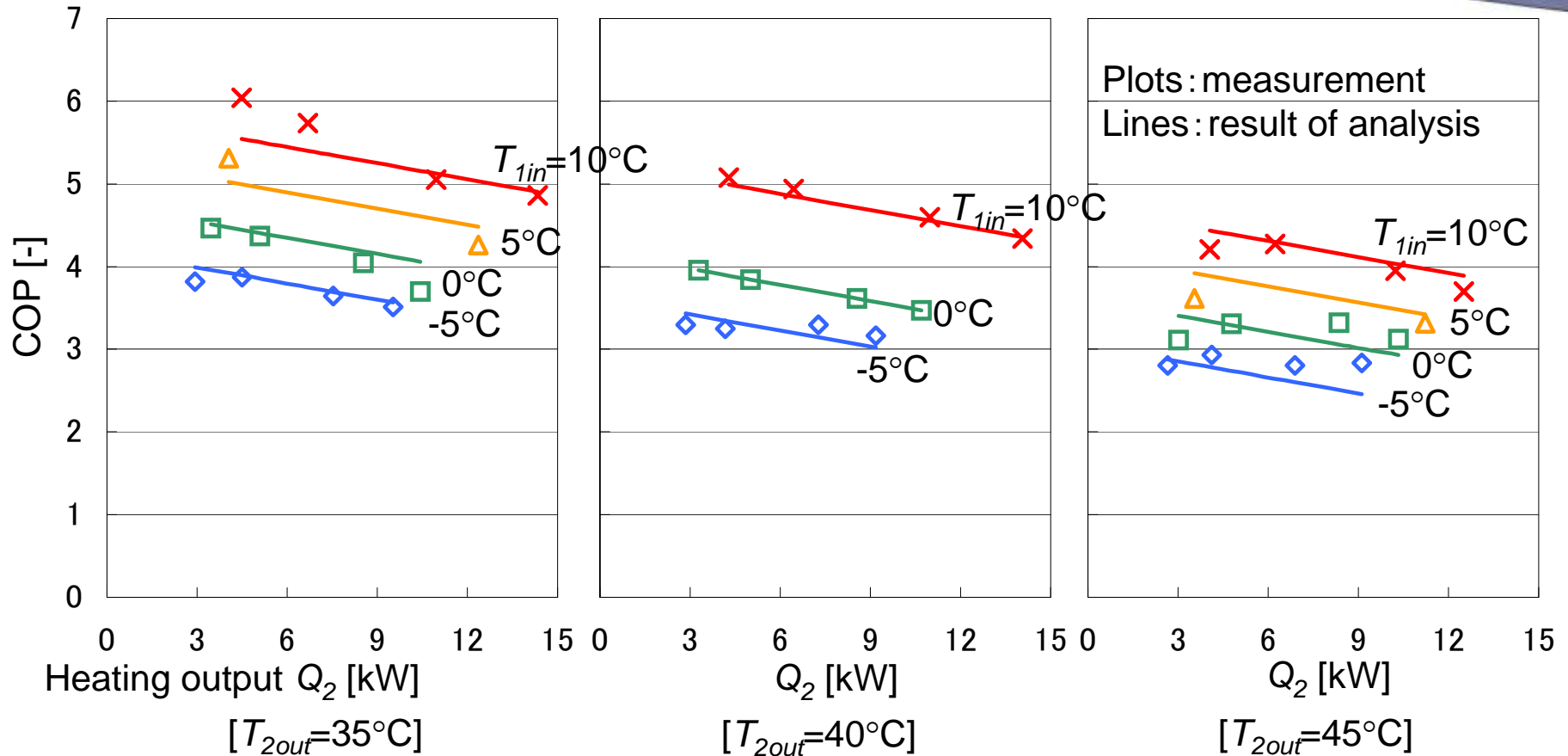


GSHP system -Performance of heat pump -



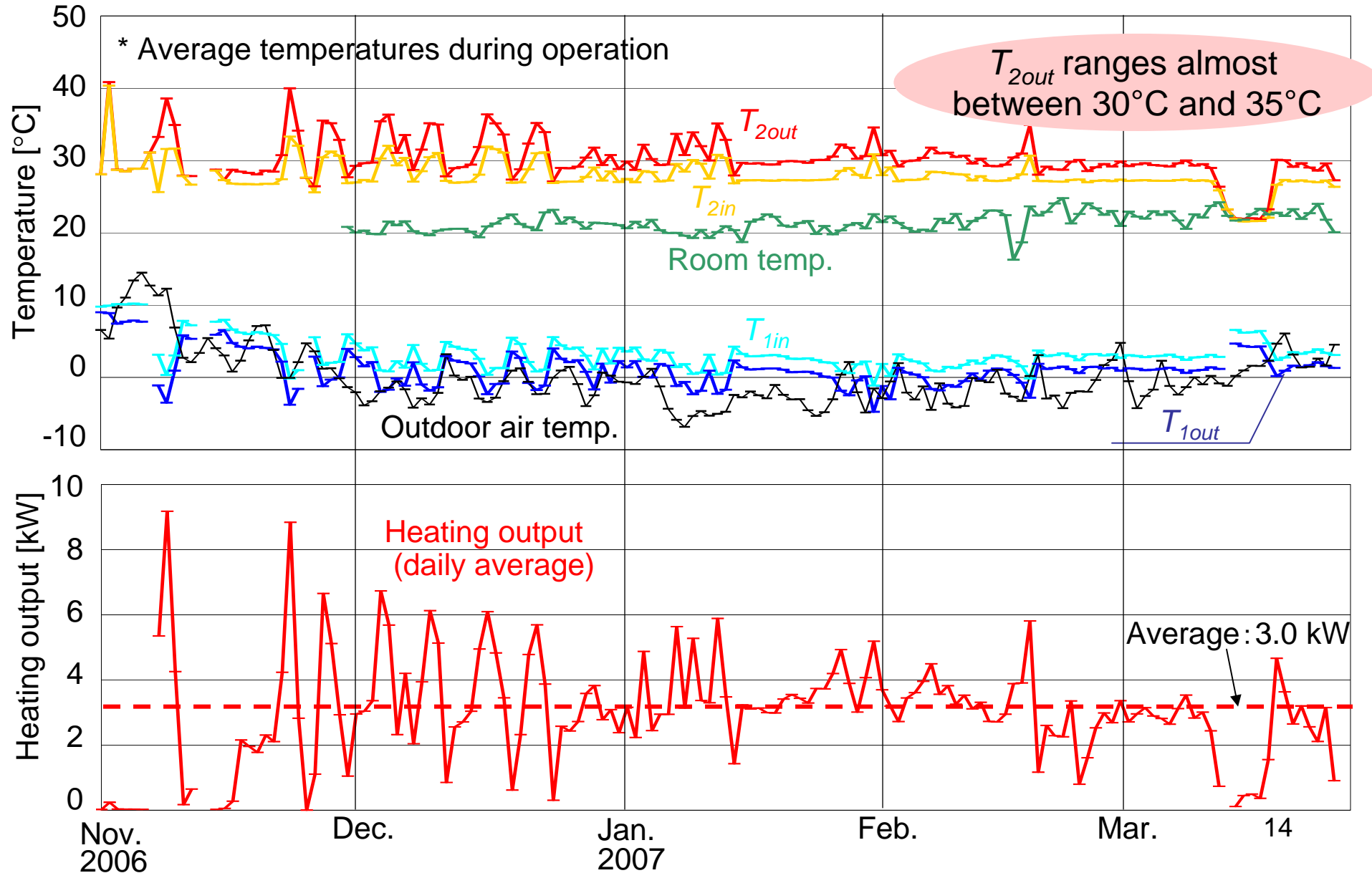
COP function obtained by multi-regression analysis:

$$\text{COP} = - 0.0650 Q_2 + 0.1101 T_{1in} - 0.1135 T_{2out}$$



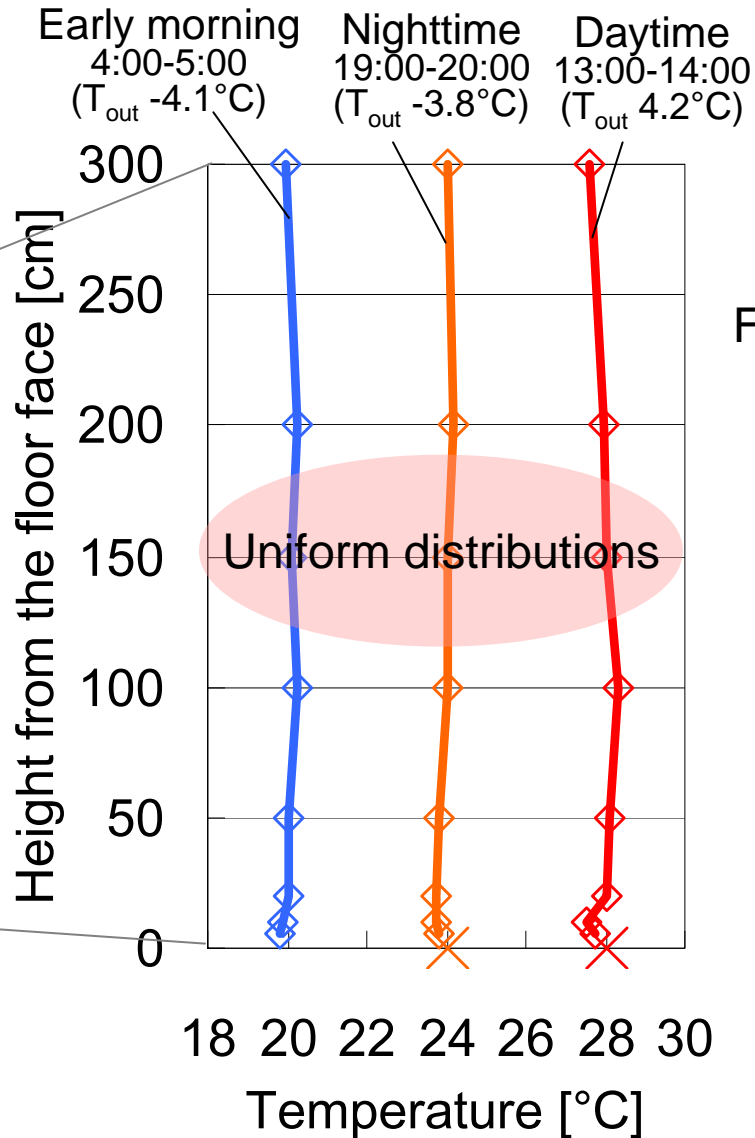
Control: The heat pump provides a constant supply temperature T_{2out} .
 T_{2out} can be set by the user depending on the heating load.

Temperature and heating output (season)

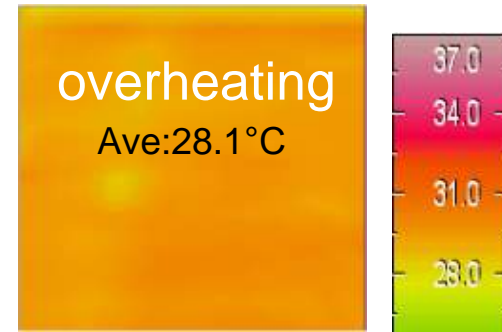


Vertical temperature variations

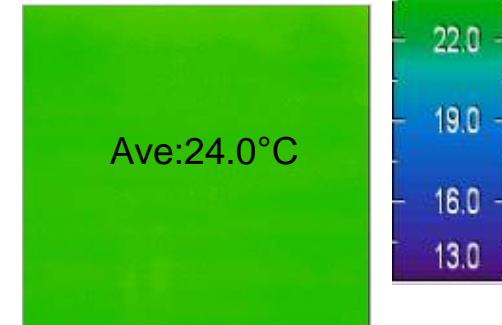
Jan.17,2007



Floor surface temp.
13:00-14:00



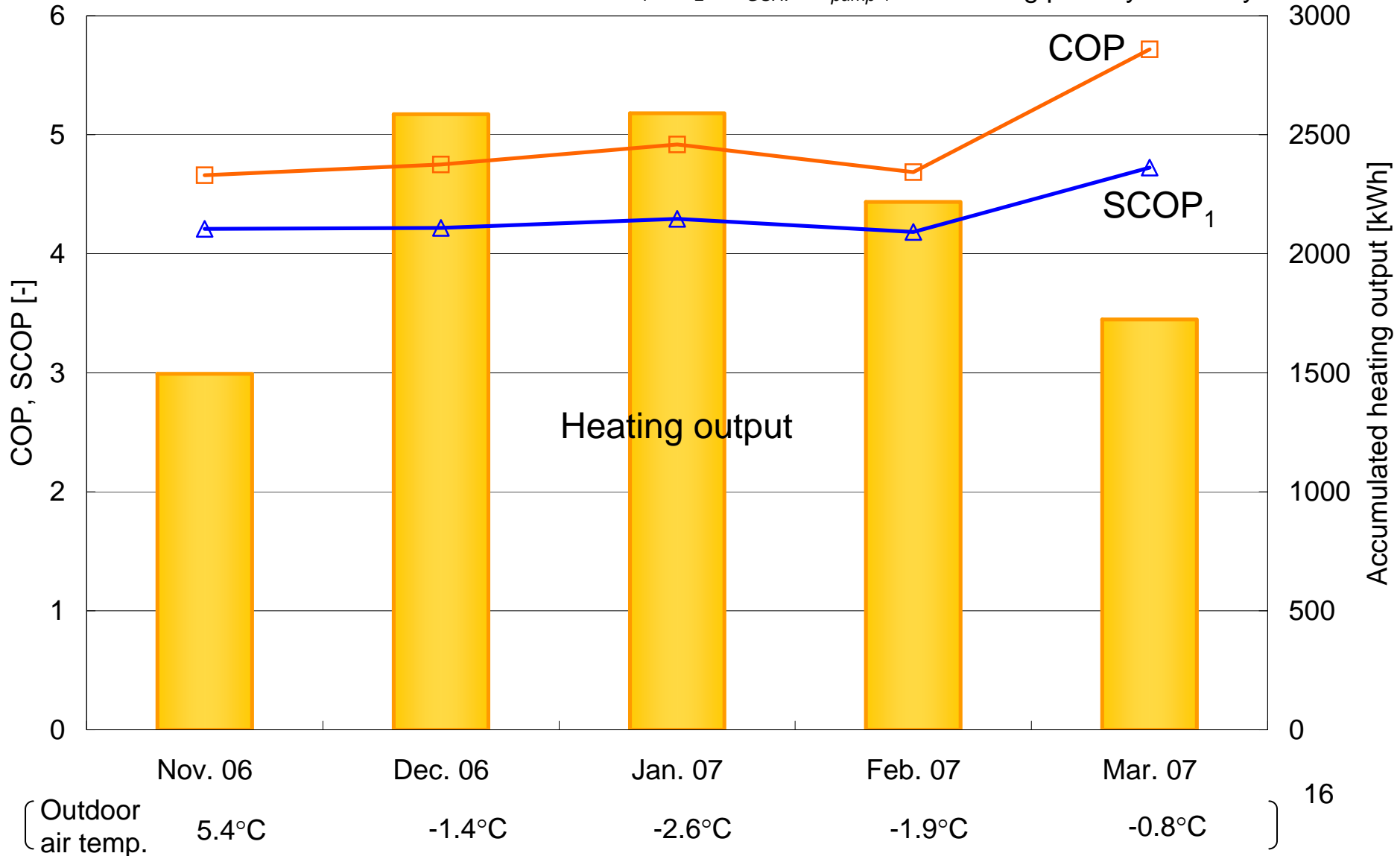
19:00-20:00



Seasonal performance of GSHP

$$\text{COP} = Q_2 / E_{\text{GSHP}}$$

$$\text{SCOP}_1 = Q_2 / (E_{\text{GSHP}} + E_{\text{pump-1}}) : \text{including primary side only}$$



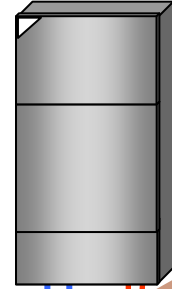
Seasonal heat balance of GSHP system

Nov.'06. – May'07

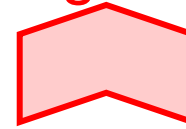
Electricity

GSHP 2,455 kWh
Pump 379 kWh
(primary side only)

GSHP1001

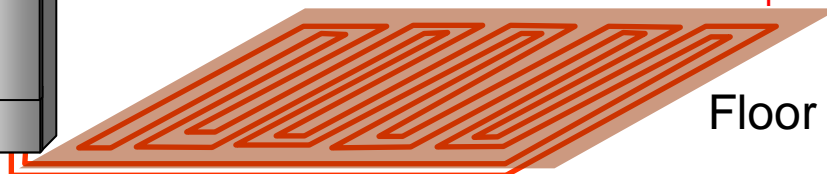


Heating output 12,624 kWh



COP: 5.14
SCOP₁: 4.45

Floor heating

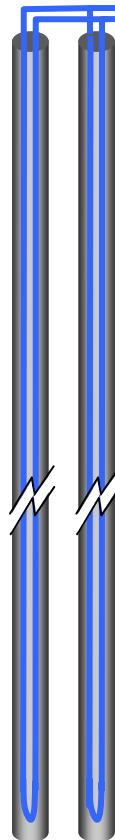


Heat extraction from ground

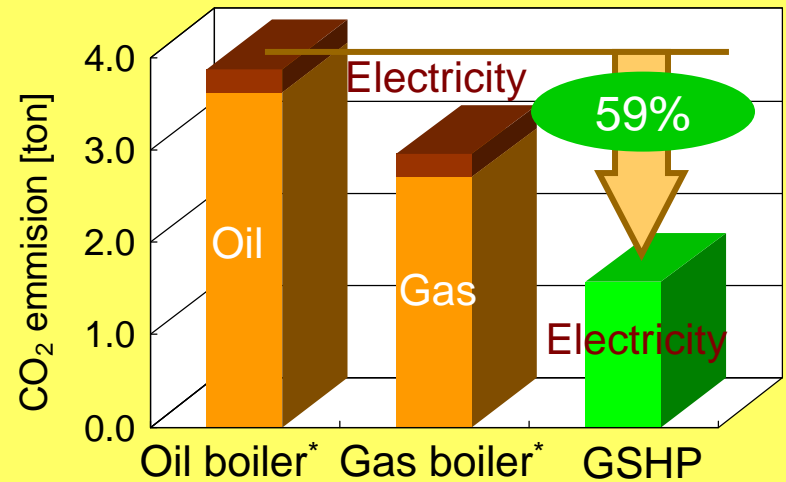
10,477 kWh



Boreholes

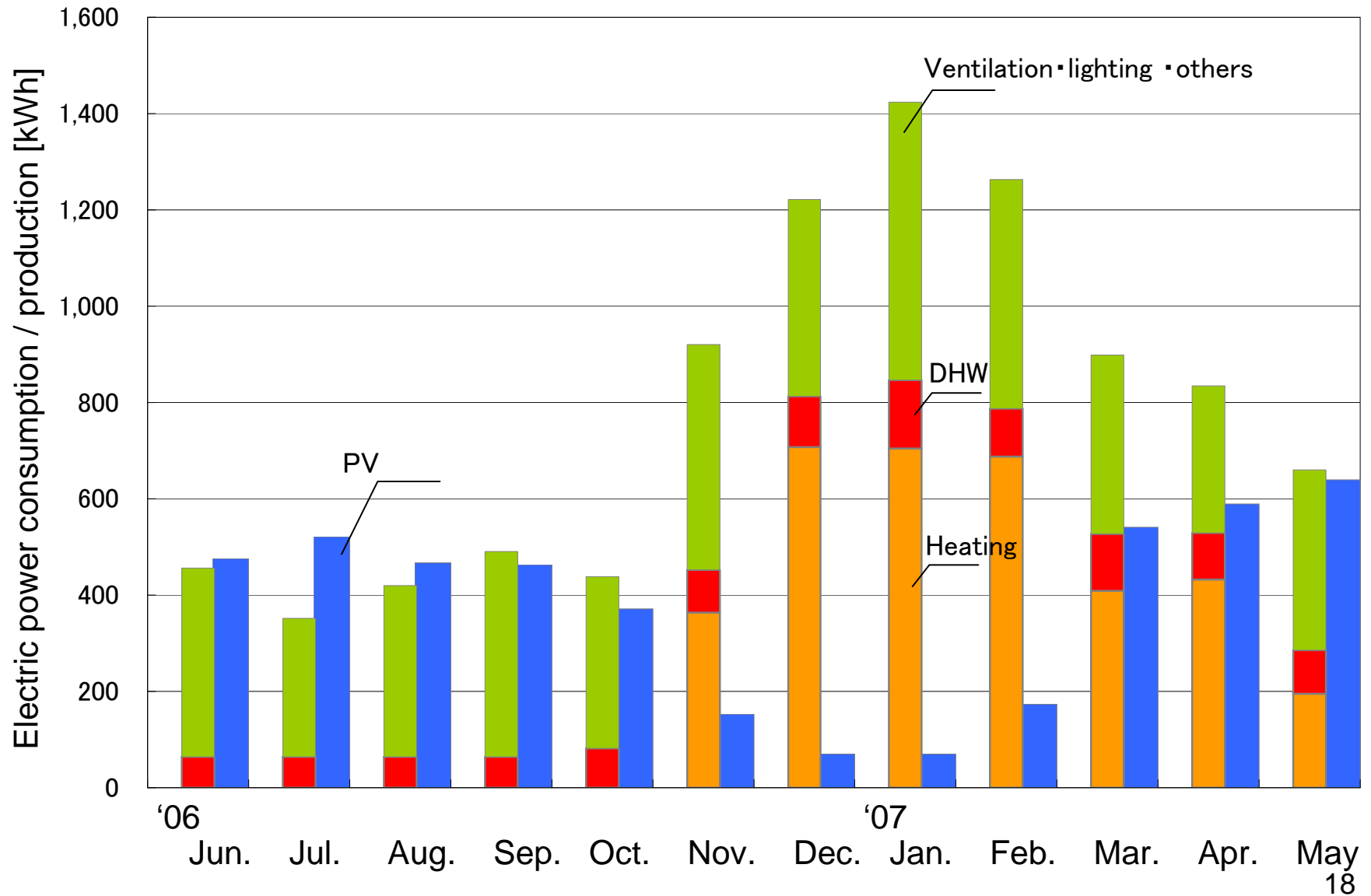


Environmental merit

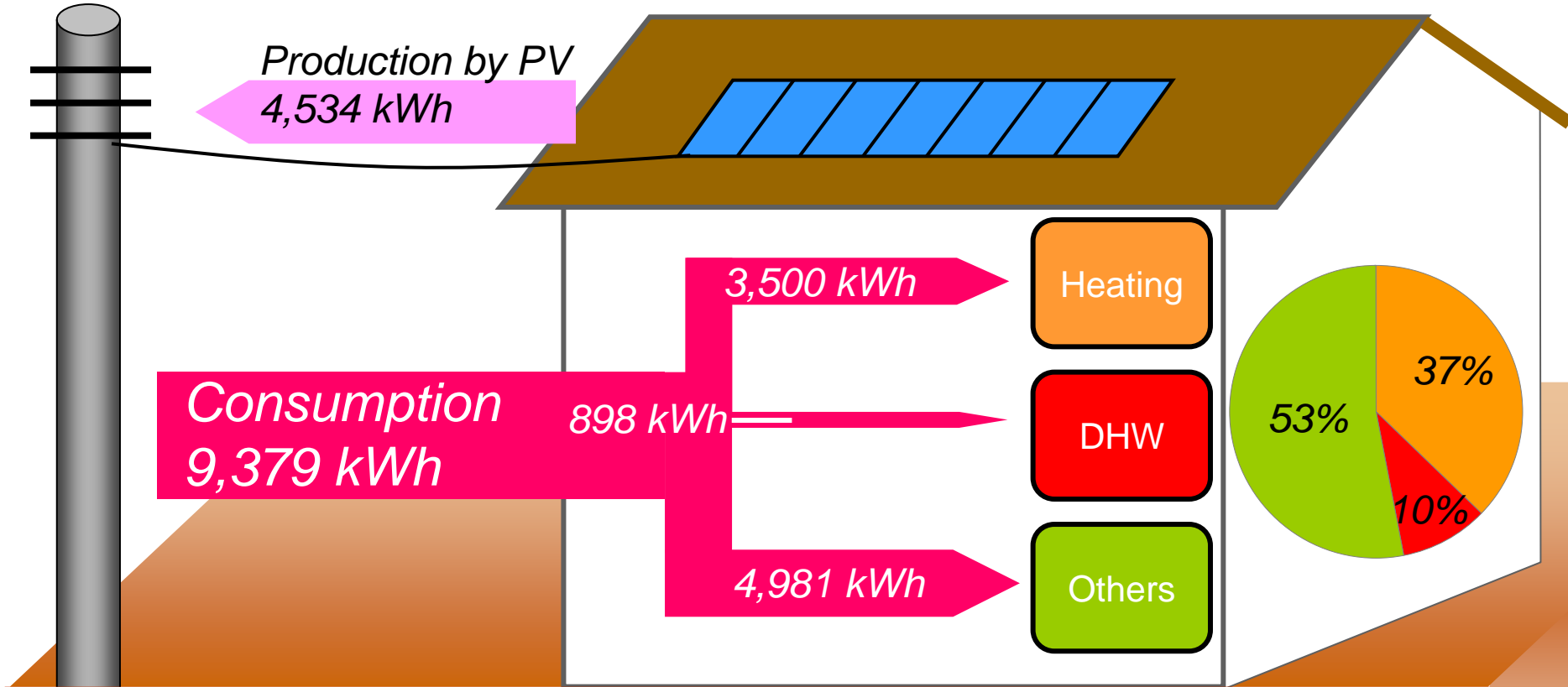


* Boiler efficiency: 85%

Monthly power consumption and production



Annual energy balance



Real consumption
4,845 kWh
(24 kWh/m²)

= 236 MJ/m² (primary energy)

Energy self-sufficiency rate

48%

$$\left[\frac{\text{production}}{\text{consumption}} \times 100 [\%] \right]$$

Summary

- ❑ From a seasonal measurement of GSHP system in an actual low energy house in the cold region of Japan, the system provides the satisfied heating performance with a low supply temperature around 30°C. High values of COP and SCOP are observed and then the reduction of CO₂ emission is estimated to be around 58% compared to conventional systems.
- ❑ Room temperature is kept uniformly in the room space all day. Overshooting during the daytime would be improved by heat storage to an additional storage media.

Summary

□ Annual electric balance in the low energy house

Consumption : 9,379 kWh

Production : 4,534 kWh

Real consumption : 4,845 kWh
(24 kWh/m²)

Totally, 48% of electric power demand can be covered by the PV system.

For the 2nd field testing

- Evaluation of an integrated heat pump system in a well-designed low energy house
- Optimization of floor heating by GSHP
 - ✓ 24hours operation or intermittent operation?
 - ✓ Control of supply water temperature
- Measures to prevent overshooting
- Pre-cooling (and passive dehumidification) effects in a ventilation system using earth tube
(Preheating effect to avoid defrost working has been already confirmed.)
- Exhaust heat recovery of ventilation air
- Improvement of PV performance in winter