

Assessing Passive Survivability in Multifamily Buildings

Lisa White, PHIUS Certification Manager

Lisa White, Certification Manager
Passive House Institute US

© Passive House Institute US



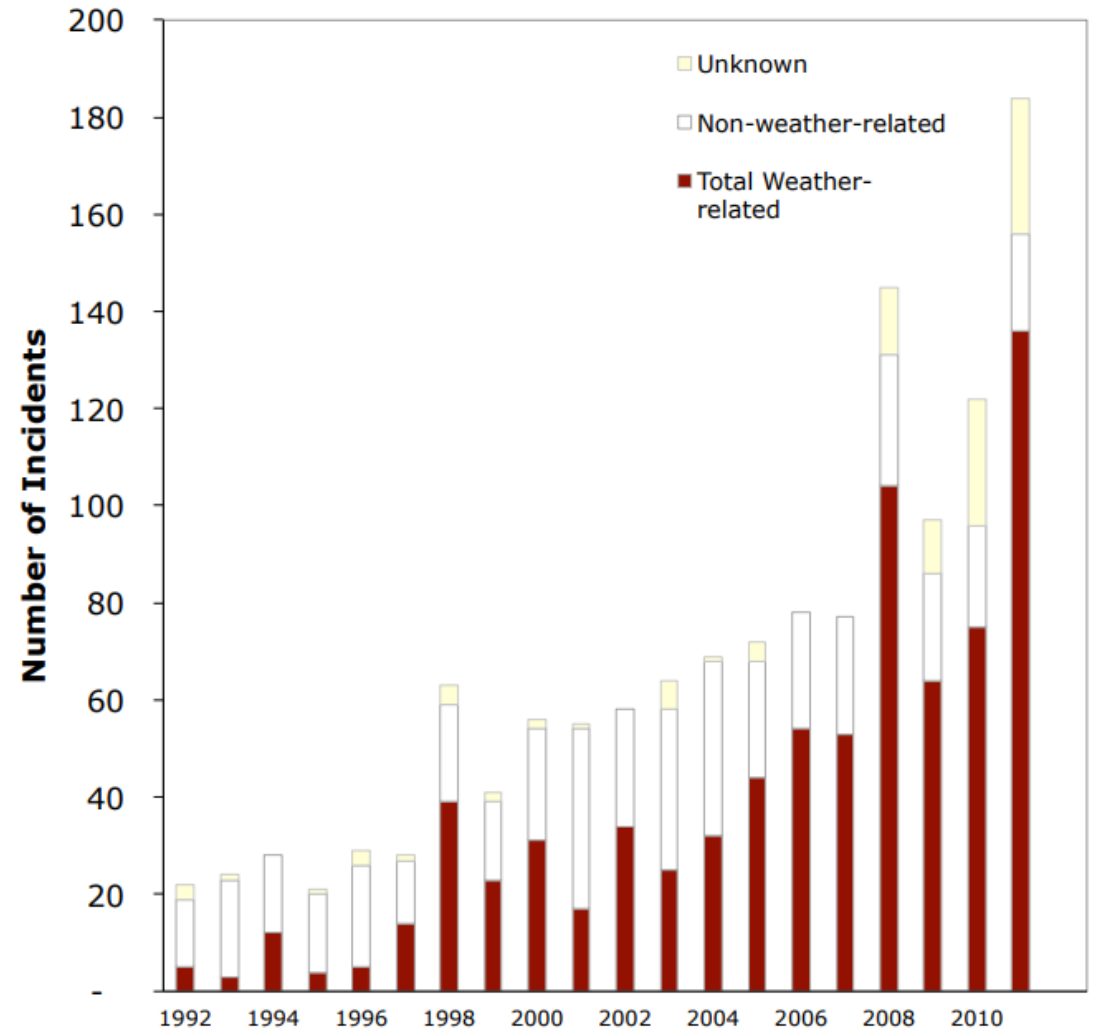
Outline

- Background
- Defining Passive Survivability
- Assessment Protocol & Simulation Setup
- Winter Resilience Results
- Summer Resilience Results
- Conclusions

WEATHER RELATED POWER DISRUPTIONS

1992 to 2010:

- 1,333 significant US electric grid disturbances occurred in the United States
- 78% of them being weather related
- Affected more than 178 million metered customers



Cause	% of events	Mean size in MW	Mean size in customers
Earthquake	0.8	1,408	375,900
Tornado	2.8	367	115,439
Hurricane/tropical storm	4.2	1,309	782,695
Ice storm	5.0	1,152	343,448
Lightning	11.3	270	70,944
Wind/rain	14.8	793	185,199
Other cold weather	5.5	542	150,255
Fire	5.2	431	111,244
Intentional attack	1.6	340	24,572
Supply shortage	5.3	341	138,957
Other external cause	4.8	710	246,071
Equipment failure	29.7	379	57,140
Operator error	10.1	489	105,322
Voltage reduction	7.7	153	212,900
Volunteer reduction	5.9	190	134,543

Type	Impact Region	Predictability	Span/area	Affecting time
Hurricane, tropical storm	Coastal regions	24-72 hours, moderate to good	Large (radius up to 1,000 miles)	Hours to days
Tornado	Inland plains	0-2 hours, bad to mod- erate	Small (ra- dius up to 5 miles)	Minutes to hours
Blizzard, Ice Storm	High lat- itude re- gions	24-72 hours, moderate to good	large, up to 1,000 miles	Hours to days
Earthquake	Regions on fault lines	Seconds to minutes, bad	Small to large	Minutes to days (after- shock)
Tsunami	Coastal regions	Minutes to hours, moderate	Small to large	Minutes to hours
Drought, Wild Fire	Inland regions	Days, good	Medium to large	Days to months



NYC Manhattan Outages
post Hurricane Sandy
2012

Many places left without
power for > 5 days



Hurricane Florence
Sept 2018, North Carolina

PASSIVE SURVIVABILITY

A building's ability to maintain livable conditions when sources such as electricity, water, or heating fuel are cut off.

- Alex Wilson, 2005

METRICS FOR PASSIVE SURVIVABILITY

ASHRAE's Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy Standard 55-2004

Indoor Summer Comfort Range: 74°F – 83°F

Indoor Winter Comfort Range: 67°F – 79°F

Acceptable for naturally ventilated spaces: 50°F – 93°F

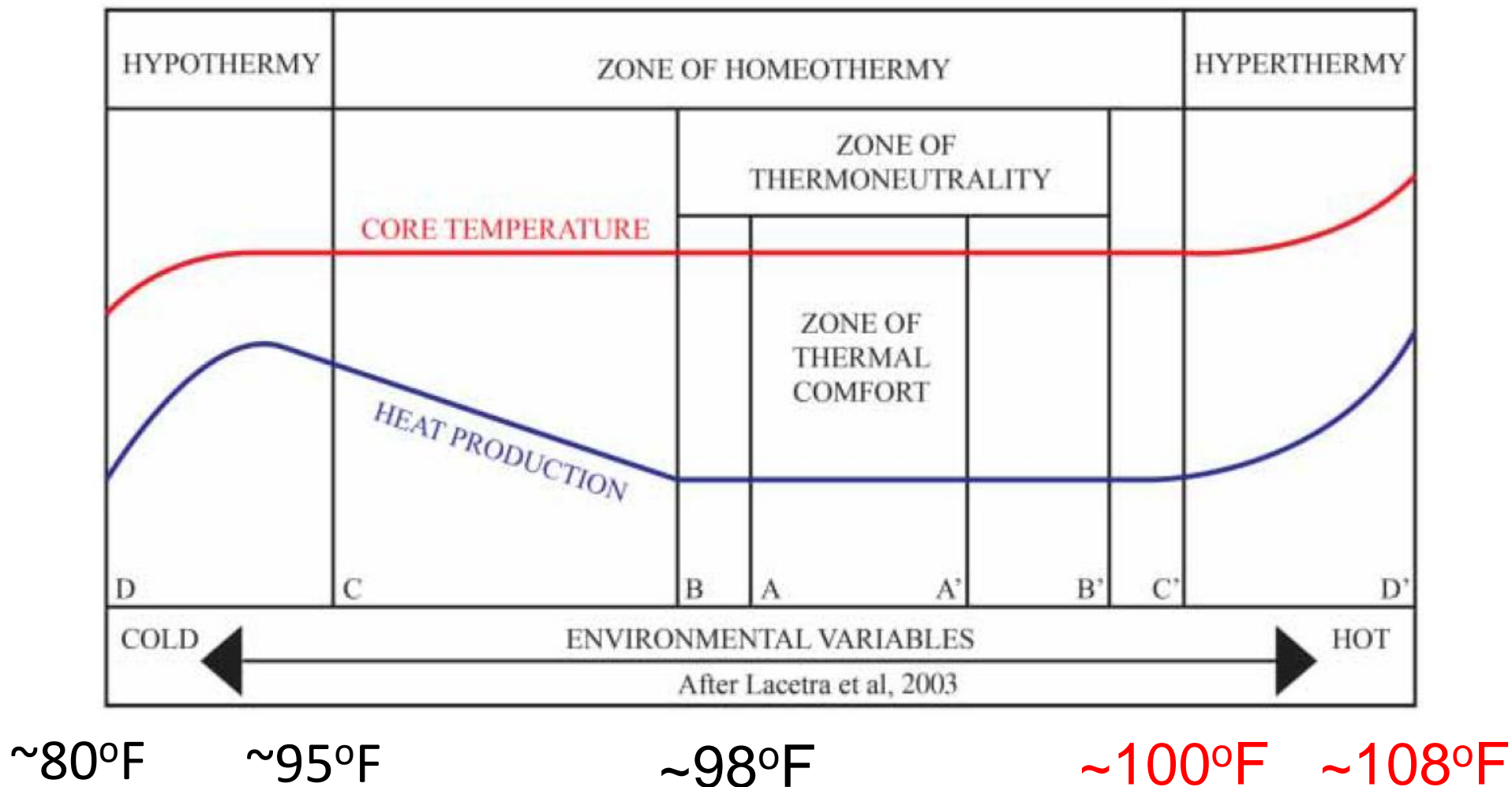
Homeothermy: form of temperature regulation used by humans, where the body maintains the same internal core temperature (98.6°F), regardless of external influences.

PASSIVE SURVIVABILITY

A building's ability to maintain livable conditions when sources such as electricity, water, or heating fuel are cut off.

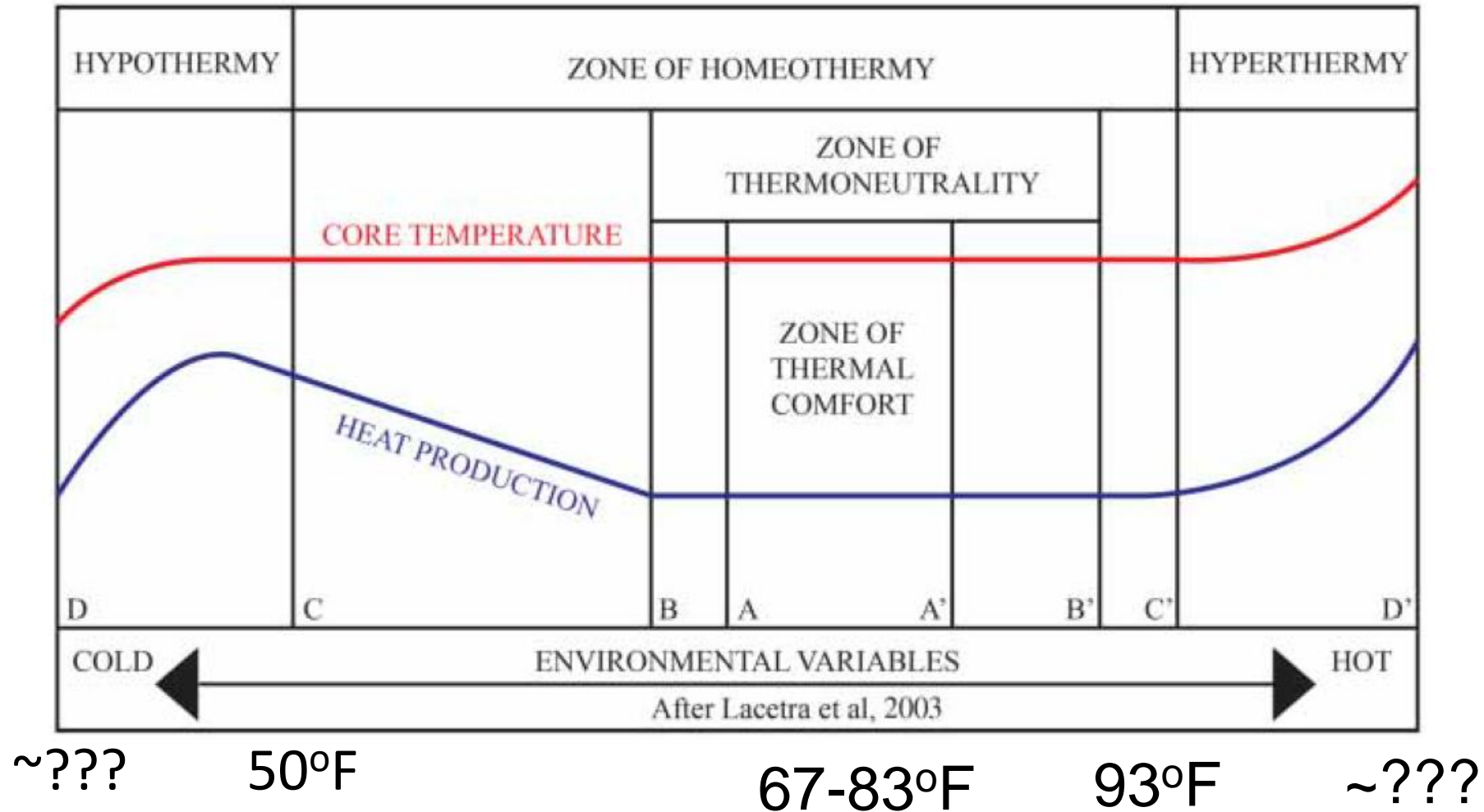
Metrics for passive survivability

Core body temperatures shown below.



Metrics for passive survivability

Interior/room temperatures shown below.



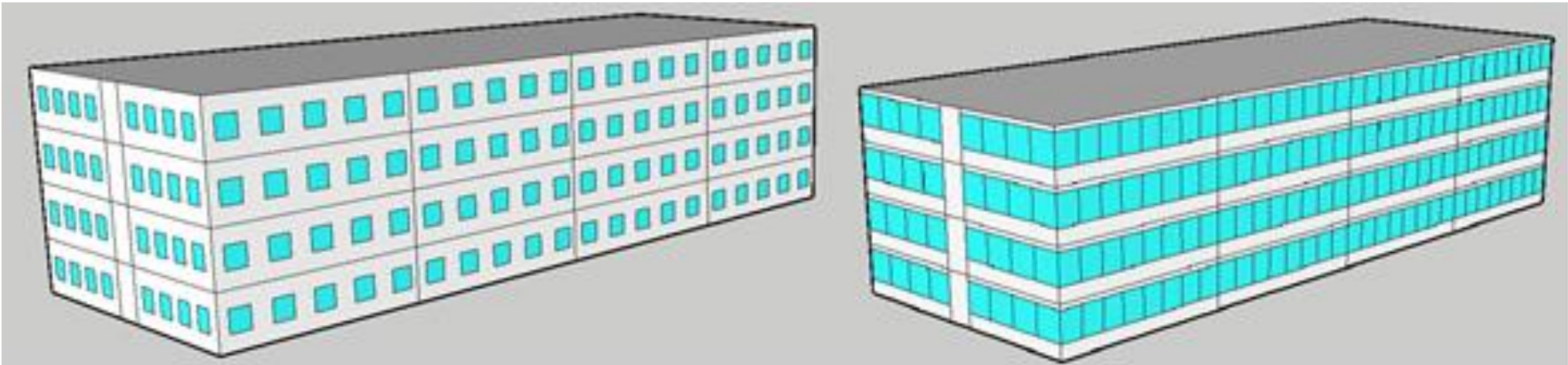
PASSIVE SURVIVABILITY

Assessment overview

- Determine resilience design week
- Model worst case unit of multifamily buildings in WUFIplus
- Simulate 5-day outages on worst case units
- Note interior conditions
- 'Rate' for passive survivability

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Overview of 8 Unique Building Types			
1	20% WWR	WOOD FRAMED CONSTRUCTION	ASHRAE 90.1
2			PHIUS+ 2015
3		ICF/CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION	ASHRAE 90.1
4			PHIUS+ 2015
5	60% WWR	WOOD FRAMED CONSTRUCTION	ASHRAE 90.1
6			PHIUS+ 2015
7		ICF/CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION	ASHRAE 90.1
8			PHIUS+ 2015



ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW - VARIABLES

1) **Window to wall ratio**

20%, 60%

2) **Building Performance Standards**

ASHRAE 90.1, PHIUS+ 2015

3) **Construction Types / Thermal Mass**

Wood-framed, concrete/insulated concrete forms

4) **Orientation of units**

Southwest, Northeast

BUT IN REALITY...



1640 W Division St
Chicago, IL 60622



1140 N Wells St
Chicago, IL 60610



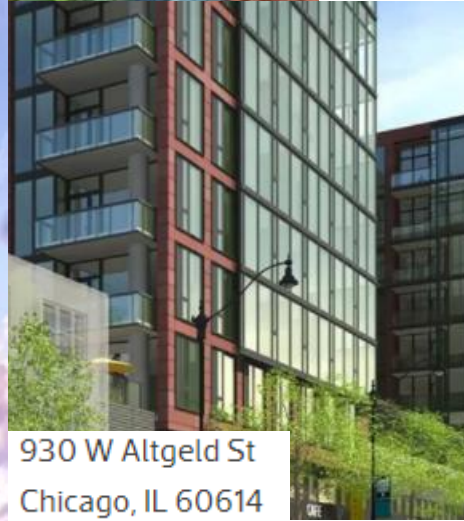
1201 N LaSalle St
Chicago, IL 60610



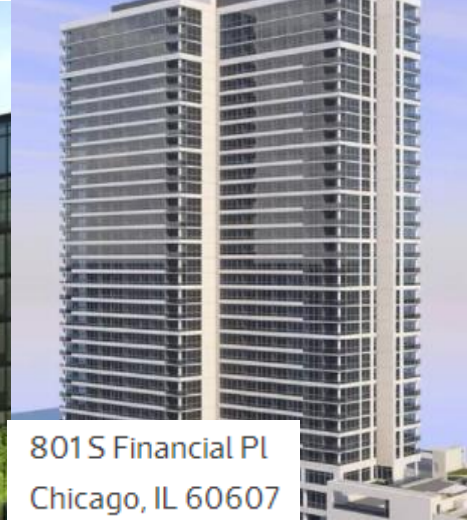
113 E Roosevelt Rd
Chicago, IL 60605



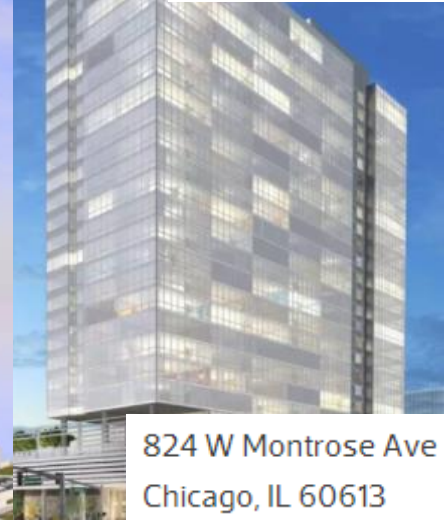
720 S Wells St
Chicago, IL 60607



930 W Altgeld St
Chicago, IL 60614



801 S Financial Pl
Chicago, IL 60607



824 W Montrose Ave
Chicago, IL 60613

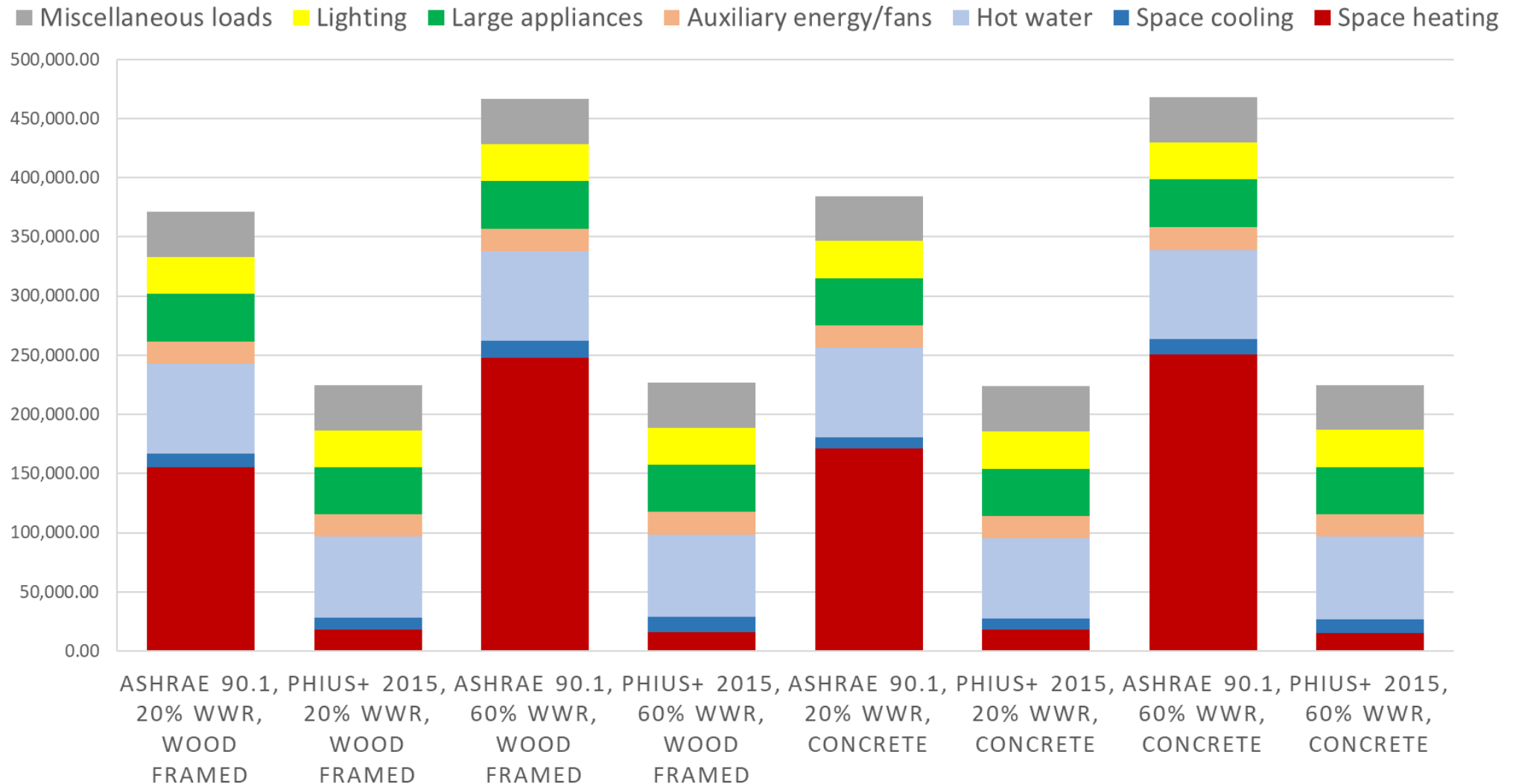
8 Unique Building Types

Main Characteristics

Window to Wall Ratio		20% WWR				60% WWR			
Construction Type		WOOD FRAMED CONST.		ICF/CONCRETE CONST.		WOOD FRAMED CONST.		ICF/CONCRETE CONST.	
Performance Standard		ASHRAE 90.1	PHIUS+ 2015	ASHRAE 90.1	PHIUS+ 2015	ASHRAE 90.1	PHIUS+ 2015	ASHRAE 90.1	PHIUS+ 2015
Opaque Building Envelope	Wall	R13+7.5ci	R22 + 8ci	R13.3 ci	R24 ci	R13+7.5ci	R22 + 8ci	R13.3 ci	R32 ci
	Roof	R49 Attic	R49 Attic	R30 ci	R36 ci	R49 Attic	R49 Attic	R30 ci	R36 ci
	Floor Slab	Uninsulated	Uninsulated	Uninsulated	Uninsulated	Uninsulated	R4 Slab	Uninsulated	R4 Slab
	Perimeter Insulation	R20 for 24"	N/A	R20 for 24"	N/A	R20 for 24"	N/A	R20 for 24"	N/A
	Specific Heat Capacity [BTU/ft2.F]	11 (Lightweight)		23 (Mixed)		11 (Lightweight)		23 (Mixed)	
Windows	Operability	All operable							
	SHGC (glass only)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
	U-Value, Whole Window [BTU/hr.ft2.F]	0.46	0.25	0.46	0.25	0.46	0.28	0.46	0.28
Shading	Interior Blinds	80% (20% shaded)							
	Site Shading	80% (20% shaded)							
Infiltration	CFM75/ft2	0.4	0.08	0.4	0.08	0.4	0.08	0.4	0.08
	CFM50/ft2	0.31	0.05	0.31	0.05	0.31	0.05	0.31	0.05
	ACH50	1.95	0.32	1.95	0.32	1.95	0.32	1.95	0.32

SITE ENERGY

ANNUAL SITE ENERGY (KWH/YR)

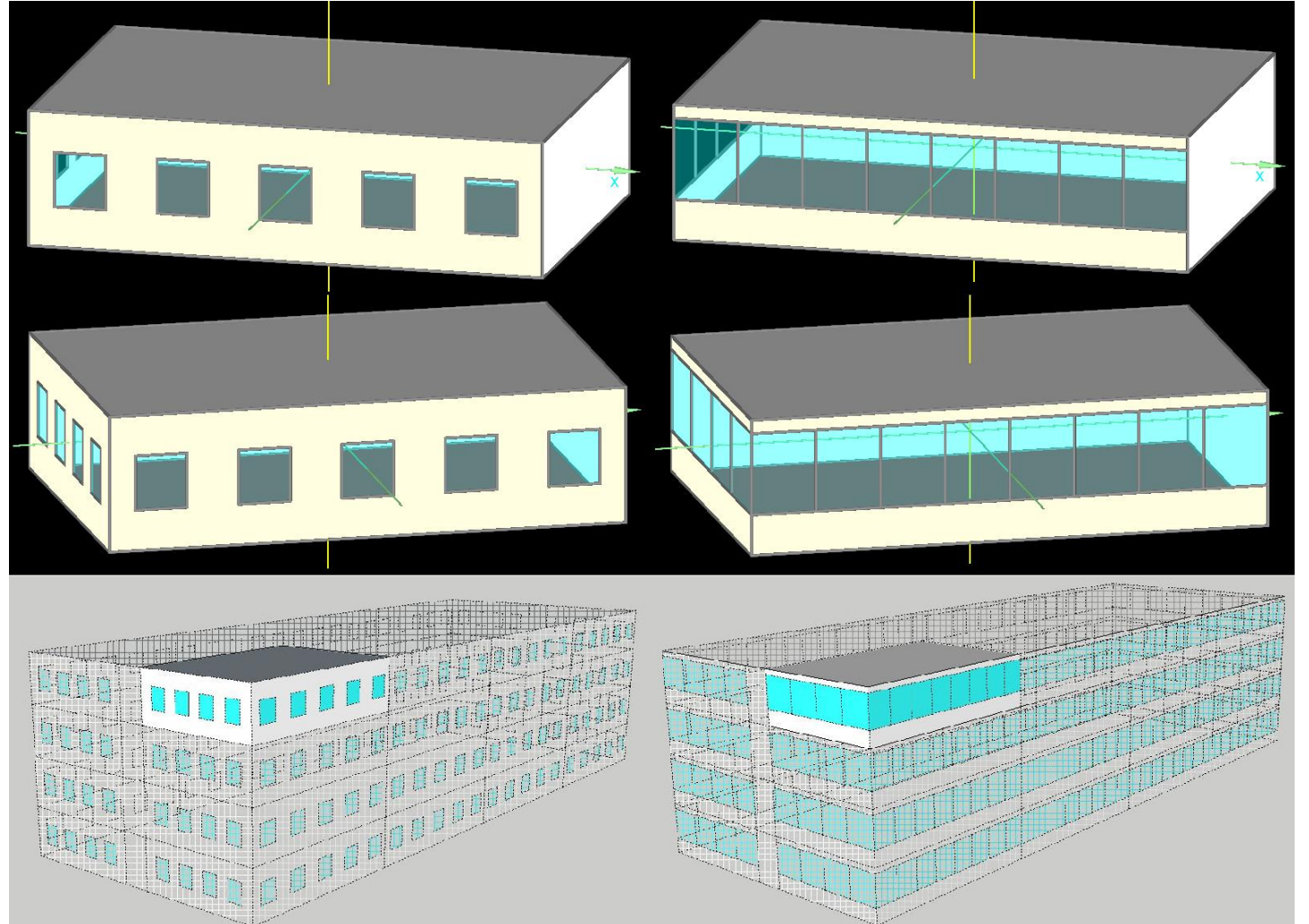


OUTAGE SIMULATION SETUP

- 32 dynamic simulations
- Simulate outage during 5-day resilience design week

Cover all combinations of:

- 8 buildings
- 2 unit locations
- 2 seasons



RESILIENCE DESIGN WEEK

- Similar to ASHRAE 99.6% and 0.4% design temperatures used to calculate heating and cooling loads
- 16 years of climate data (1998-2015)
- Look at 5-day moving average temp.
- Create histogram
 - Determine 99.6% temperature, choose hour with lowest global radiation
 - Determine 0.4% temperature, choose hour with highest global radiation
- Winter and summer resilience design weeks start at midnight on day that hour occurs

Chicago:

Winter – January 9-14, 1999

Summer – August 3-8, 2007

OUTAGE SIMULATION SETUP

- Hourly modeling tool (WUFIplus)
- Remove heating and cooling capacity
- Remove ventilation capacity
 - Some natural ventilation in both summer and winter
- Internal gains/loads in the space reduced to occupant only, no lighting, appliances, or miscellaneous loads
 - Should use mostly flat load profile rather than typical day

The screenshot displays the WUFIplus software interface for setting up an outage simulation. It shows two overlapping windows: 'Space heating capacity' and 'Ventilation capacity', both with the 'General' tab selected.

Space heating capacity - General tab:

- Selection:** Periodic day profiles
- Periods table:**

Nr.	Begin	End	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
1	1/4/2017	1/19/2017	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New
2	1/9/2017	1/14/2017	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delete

- Day-profile:** A table with 'Hour' and 'Value' columns. The value is set to 0 kBtu/hr. Buttons for New, Delete, Copy, Insert, and New/Insert are visible.
- Max. heating power [kBtu/hr]:** A graph showing a flat red line at 0 on a grid from 0 to 10 hours.

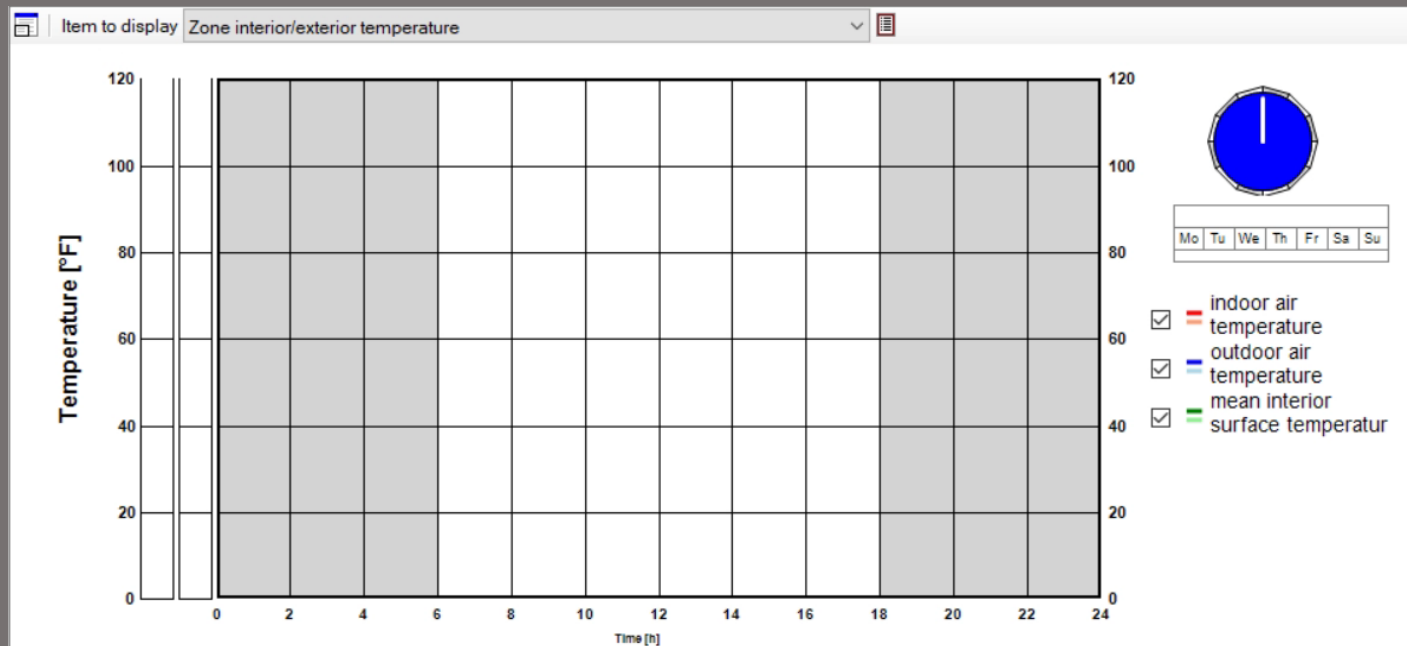
Ventilation capacity - General tab:

- Selection:** Periodic day profiles
- Periods table:**

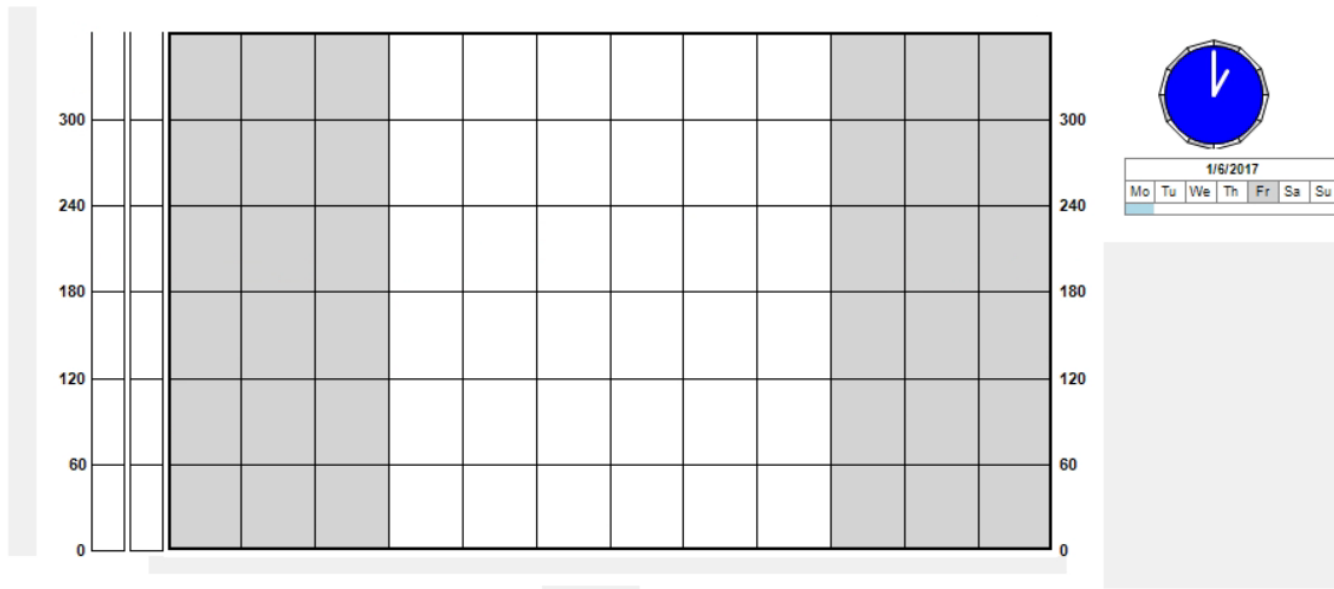
Nr.	Begin	End	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
1	1/4/2017	1/19/2017	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New
2	1/9/2017	1/14/2017	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delete

- Day-profile:** A table with 'Hour' and 'Value' columns. The value is set to 0 cfm. Buttons for New, Delete, Copy, Insert, and New/Insert are visible.
- Capacity of mechanical system [cfm]:** A graph showing a flat red line at 0 on a grid from 0 to 24 hours. The daily average is 0.

WUFIplus Simulation

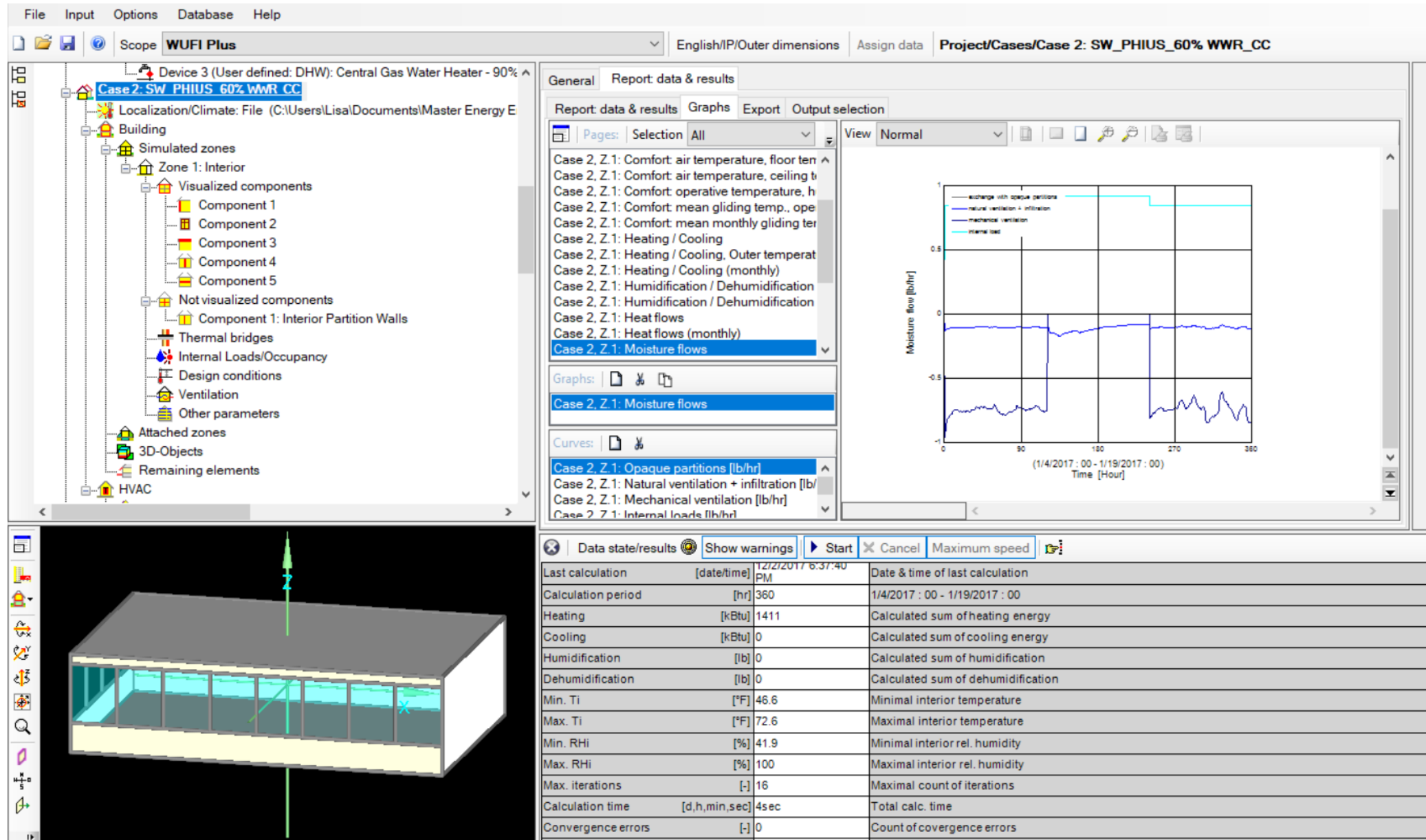


Interior
Temperature



Solar
Radiation

Modeling Software - WUFIplus



WINTER RESILIENCE RESULTS

Case	Season	Const. Type	Orientation	Standard	WWR %	Avg. Temp.	Min. Temp.	% of Hours in Simulation Above Threshold Temperature											
								>65°F	>60°F	>55°F	>50°F	>45°F	< 40°F	< 35°F	< 30°F	>25°F	>20°F	>15°F	>10°F
1	Winter	Wood framed	SW	PHIUS	20	43.8	29.2	3%	14%	21%	32%	42%	53%	68%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%
2					60	50.9	33.5	13%	27%	41%	47%	61%	78%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
3				ASHRAE	20	32.0	18.1	0%	3%	7%	15%	19%	23%	36%	42%	54%	91%	100%	100%
4					60	28.5	14.4	0%	1%	6%	12%	17%	20%	27%	38%	41%	61%	98%	100%
5			NE	PHIUS	20	40.4	27.1	3%	8%	16%	22%	33%	42%	55%	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%
6					60	35.5	22.9	3%	5%	13%	18%	22%	33%	39%	47%	83%	100%	100%	100%
7				ASHRAE	20	30.3	17.7	2%	5%	8%	13%	18%	22%	28%	38%	45%	79%	100%	100%
8					60	21.8	10.3	2%	3%	4%	6%	8%	13%	16%	18%	22%	36%	60%	100%
9		Concrete/ICF	SW	PHIUS	20	57.6	49.2	12%	37%	62%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10					60	57.3	46.8	11%	39%	59%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11				ASHRAE	20	49.2	36.8	3%	16%	27%	42%	61%	84%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
12					60	42.9	27.5	2%	10%	18%	29%	39%	48%	68%	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%
13			NE	PHIUS	20	56.3	47.9	7%	28%	53%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14					60	53.2	43.1	3%	19%	38%	60%	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
15				ASHRAE	20	48.1	35.7	3%	13%	23%	38%	55%	79%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
16					60	39.7	25.4	2%	6%	14%	20%	33%	40%	56%	78%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Percentage of hours **above** threshold temperature shown across the top

<50% = red

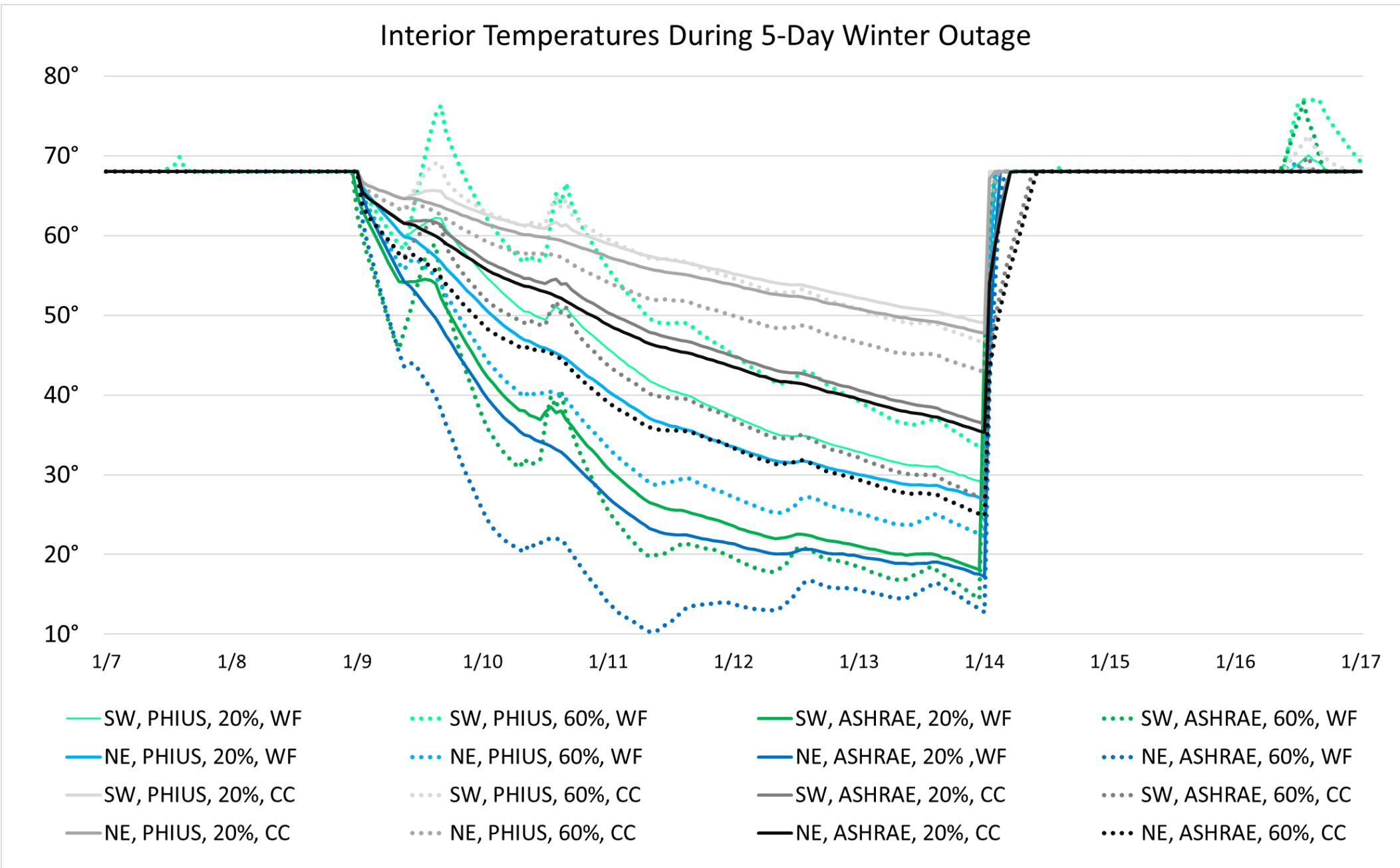
50-90% = yellow

>90% = green

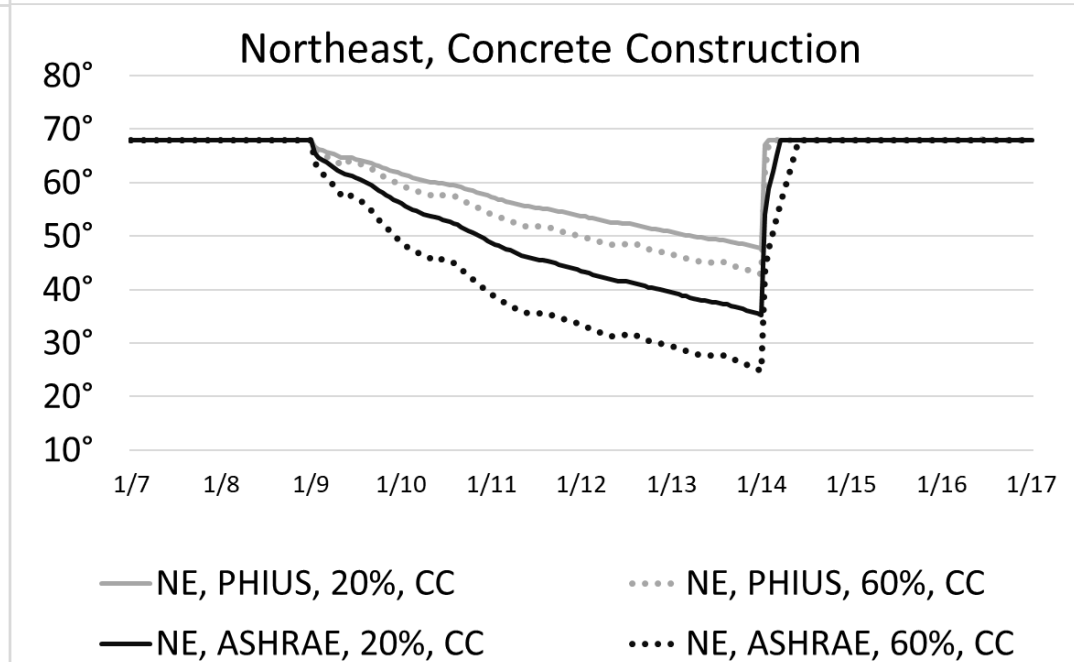
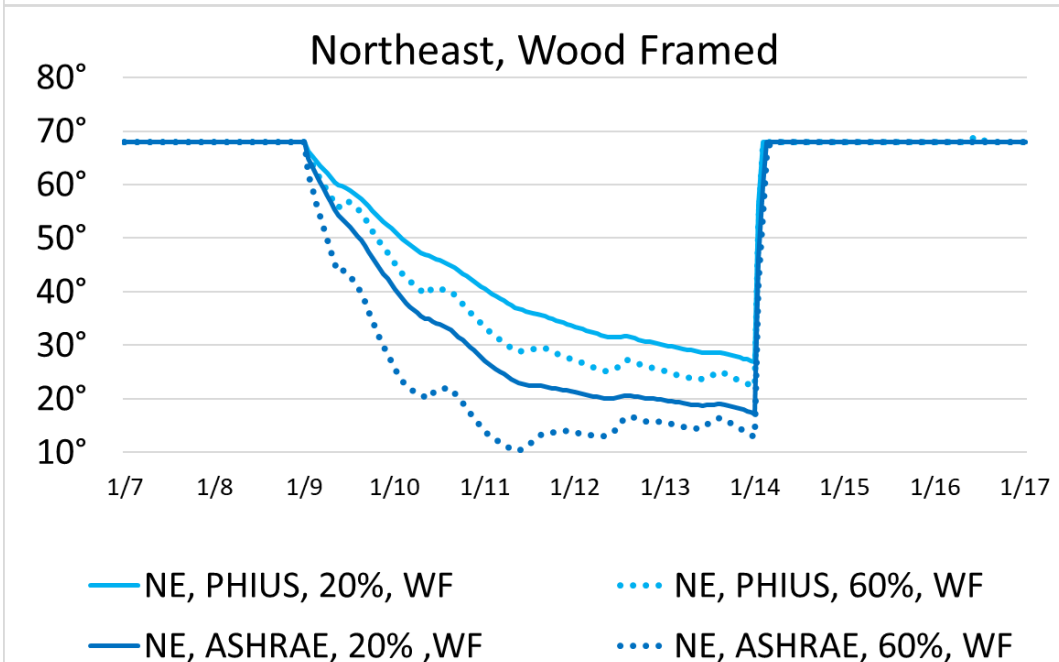
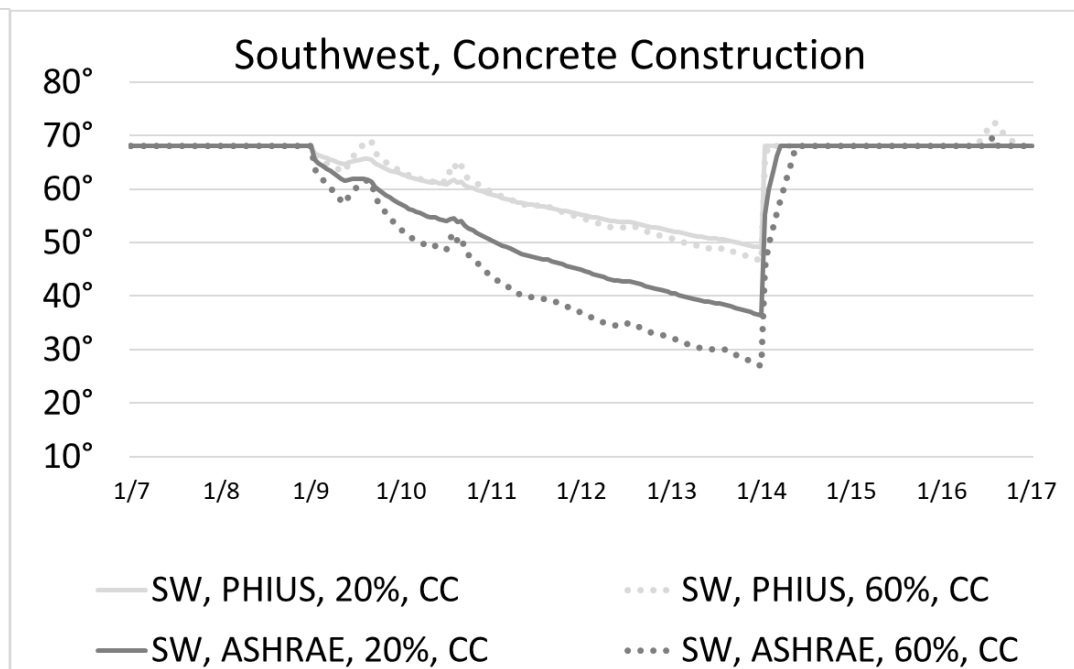
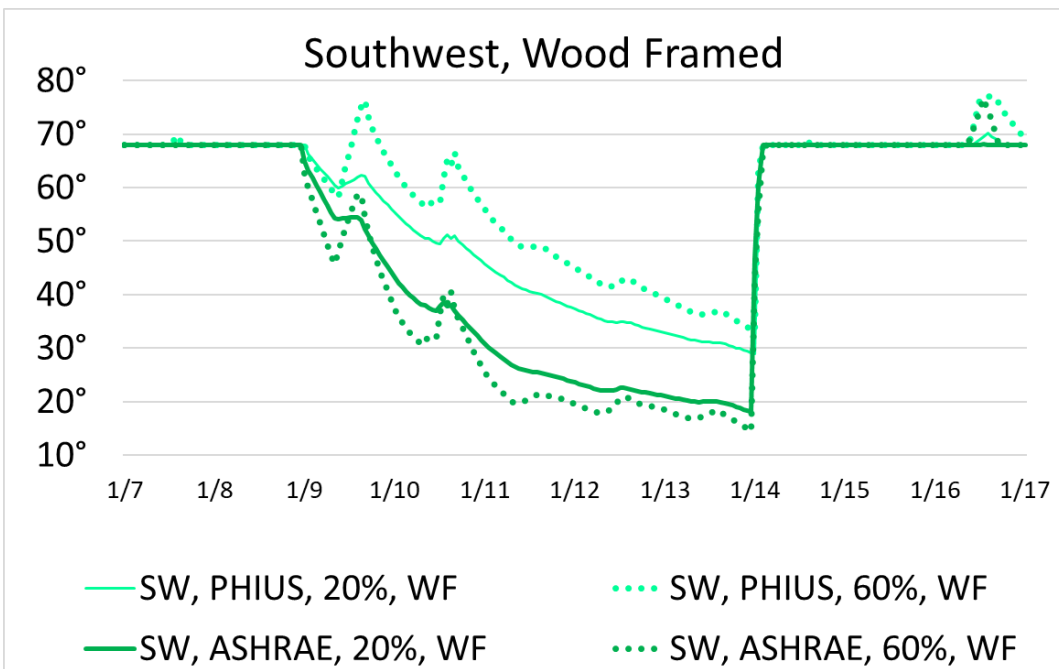
Case #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Season	Winter															
Construction Type	Wood framed								Concrete/ICF							
Orientation	SW				NE				SW				NE			
Standard	PHIUS		ASHRAE		PHIUS		ASHRAE		PHIUS		ASHRAE		PHIUS		ASHRAE	
WWR (%)	20	60	20	60	20	60	20	60	20	60	20	60	20	60	20	60
°F dropped in 1 hour	1.8	2.3	1.7	2.7	1.8	2.8	3.1	6.0	1.3	1.8	2.5	4.2	1.3	1.8	2.5	4.2
°F dropped in 4 hours	4.4	5.3	5.7	9.1	4.4	6.8	7.5	13.9	2.3	3.2	4.2	7.1	2.3	3.2	4.2	7.1
°F dropped in 12 hours	6.9	1.0	10.5	7.6	9.1	11.3	15.9	25.0	2.7	1.1	6.2	7.7	3.6	4.2	7.1	10.9
Temp (°F) at 1 AM Day 1	66.2	65.8	63.2	59.8	66.2	65.2	64.9	62.0	66.7	66.2	65.5	63.8	66.7	66.2	65.5	63.8
Temp (°F) at 4 AM Day 1	63.6	62.7	59.2	53.4	63.6	61.2	60.5	54.1	65.8	64.8	63.8	60.9	65.8	64.8	63.8	60.9
Temp (°F) at Noon Day 1	61.1	67.0	54.4	54.9	58.9	56.7	52.1	43.0	65.3	66.9	61.8	60.3	64.4	63.8	60.9	57.1

Decrease in interior temperature after 1 hour, 4 hours, and 12 hours

WINTER RESILIENCE RESULTS

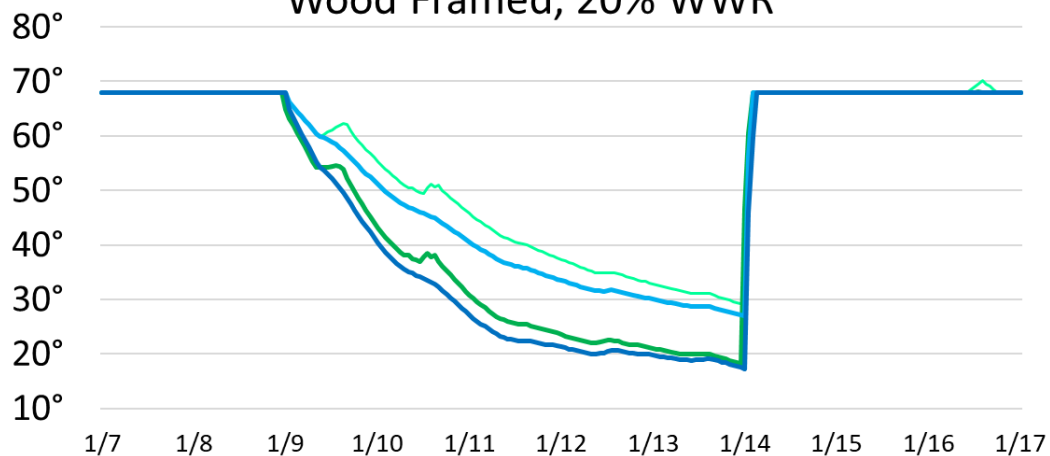


WINTER RESILIENCE RESULTS



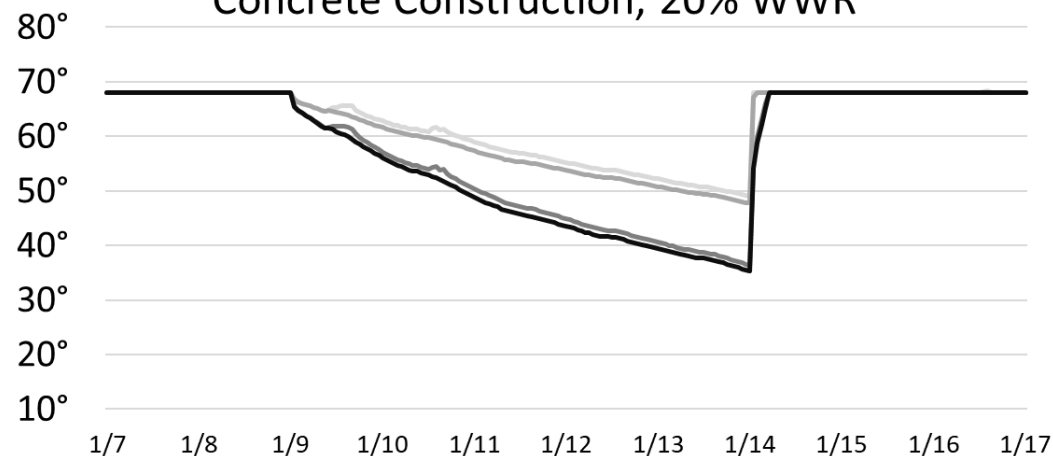
WINTER RESILIENCE RESULTS

Wood Framed, 20% WWR



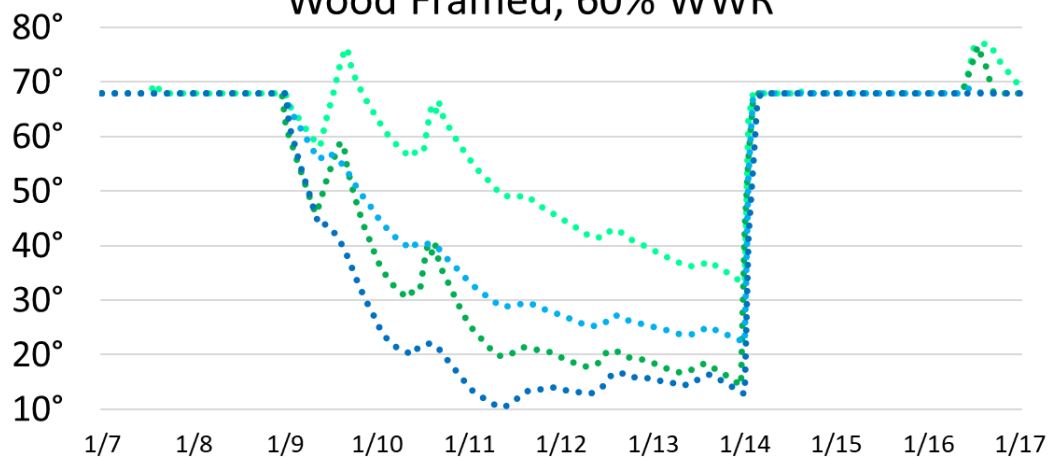
— SW, PHIUS, 20%, WF — SW, ASHRAE, 20%, WF
— NE, PHIUS, 20%, WF — NE, ASHRAE, 20%, WF

Concrete Construction, 20% WWR



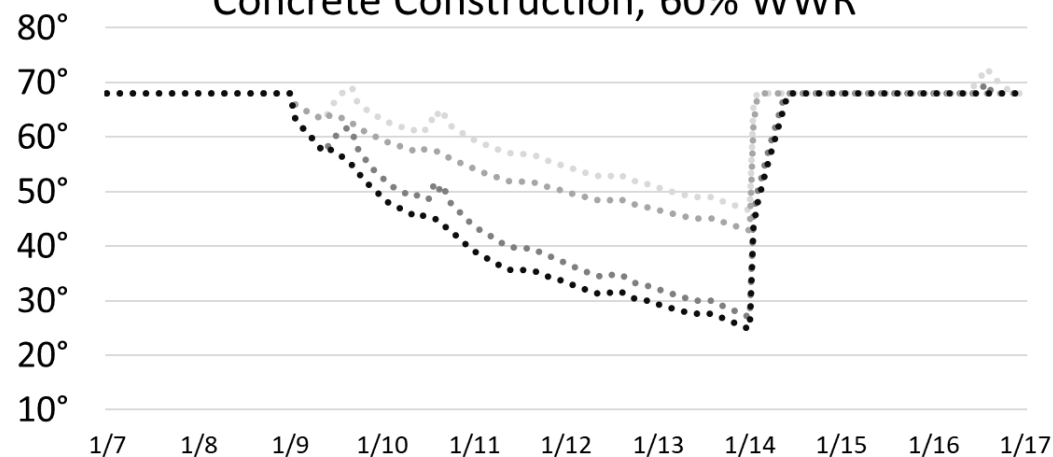
— SW, PHIUS, 20%, CC — SW, ASHRAE, 20%, CC
— NE, PHIUS, 20%, CC — NE, ASHRAE, 20%, CC

Wood Framed, 60% WWR



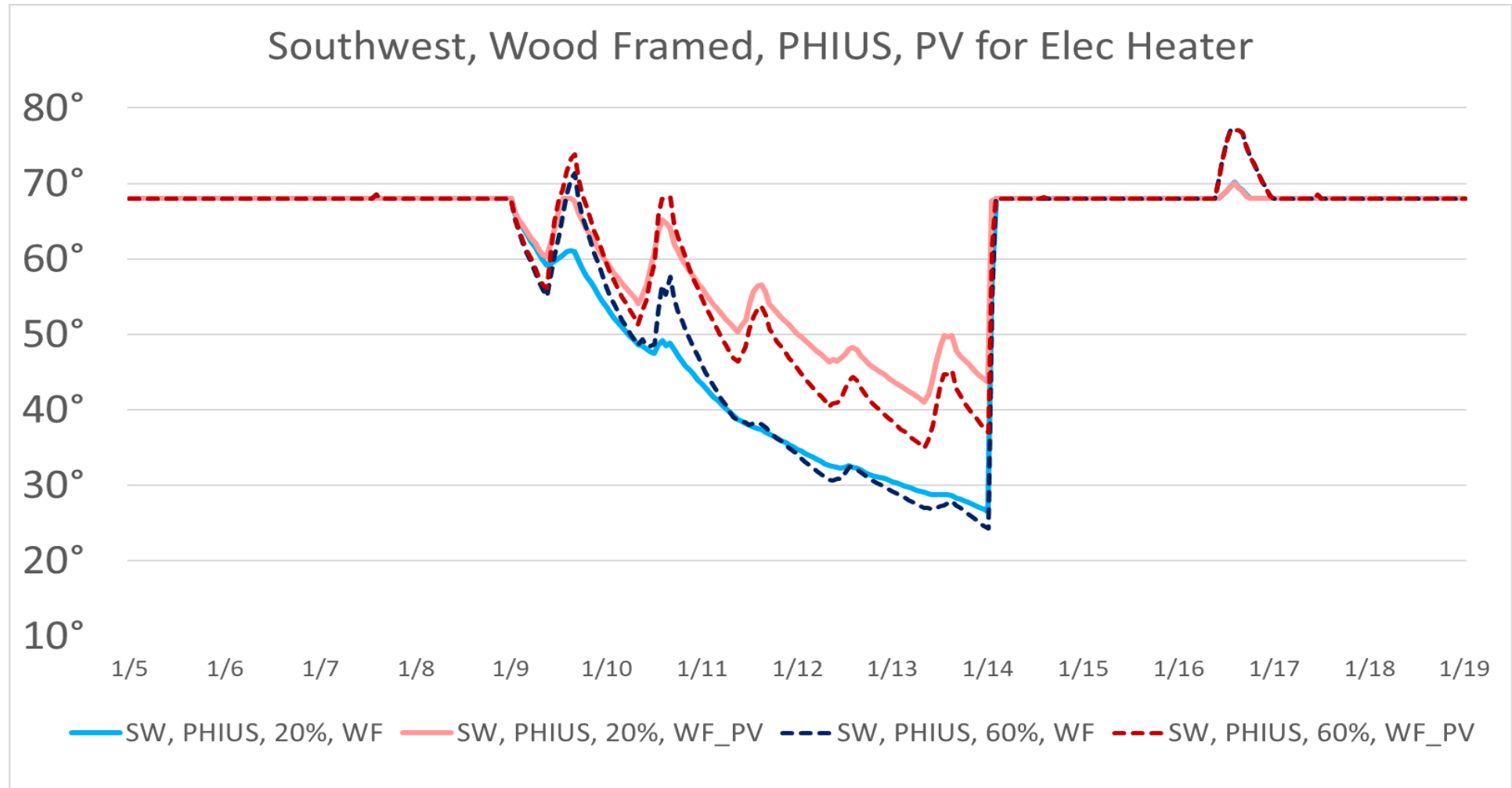
..... SW, PHIUS, 60%, WF SW, ASHRAE, 60%, WF
..... NE, PHIUS, 60%, WF NE, ASHRAE, 60%, WF

Concrete Construction, 60% WWR



..... SW, PHIUS, 60%, CC SW, ASHRAE, 60%, CC
..... NE, PHIUS, 60%, CC NE, ASHRAE, 60%, CC

195 kW array, instantaneous PV output used for ventilation & electric resistance space heating during outage



Summer Resilience Results

Case	Season	Const. Type	Orientation	Standard	WWR %	Avg. Temp.	Max. Temp.	% of Hours in Simulation Below Threshold Temperature							
								< 80°F	< 85°F	< 90°F	< 95°F	< 100°F	< 105°F	< 110°F	< 115°F
17	Summer	Wood framed	SW	PHIUS	20	81.6	94.5	59%	59%	70%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
18					60	86.0	110.6	59%	59%	59%	59%	76%	88%	98%	100%
19				ASHRAE	20	80.8	92.7	60%	60%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
20					60	83.2	103.8	60%	60%	66%	80%	92%	100%	100%	100%
21			NE	PHIUS	20	81.1	91.9	59%	59%	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
22					60	84.3	101.9	59%	59%	59%	69%	87%	100%	100%	100%
23				ASHRAE	20	80.5	90.4	59%	59%	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
24					60	82.1	96.7	59%	59%	72%	88%	100%	100%	100%	100%
25		Concrete/ICF	SW	PHIUS	20	78.3	84.9	59%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
26					60	81.3	94.7	59%	59%	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
27				ASHRAE	20	78.5	85.5	59%	92%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
28					60	80.9	93.6	59%	59%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
29			NE	PHIUS	20	78.0	83.8	59%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
30					60	80.4	90.8	59%	60%	90%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
31				ASHRAE	20	78.2	84.4	59%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
32					60	80.1	90.0	59%	65%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

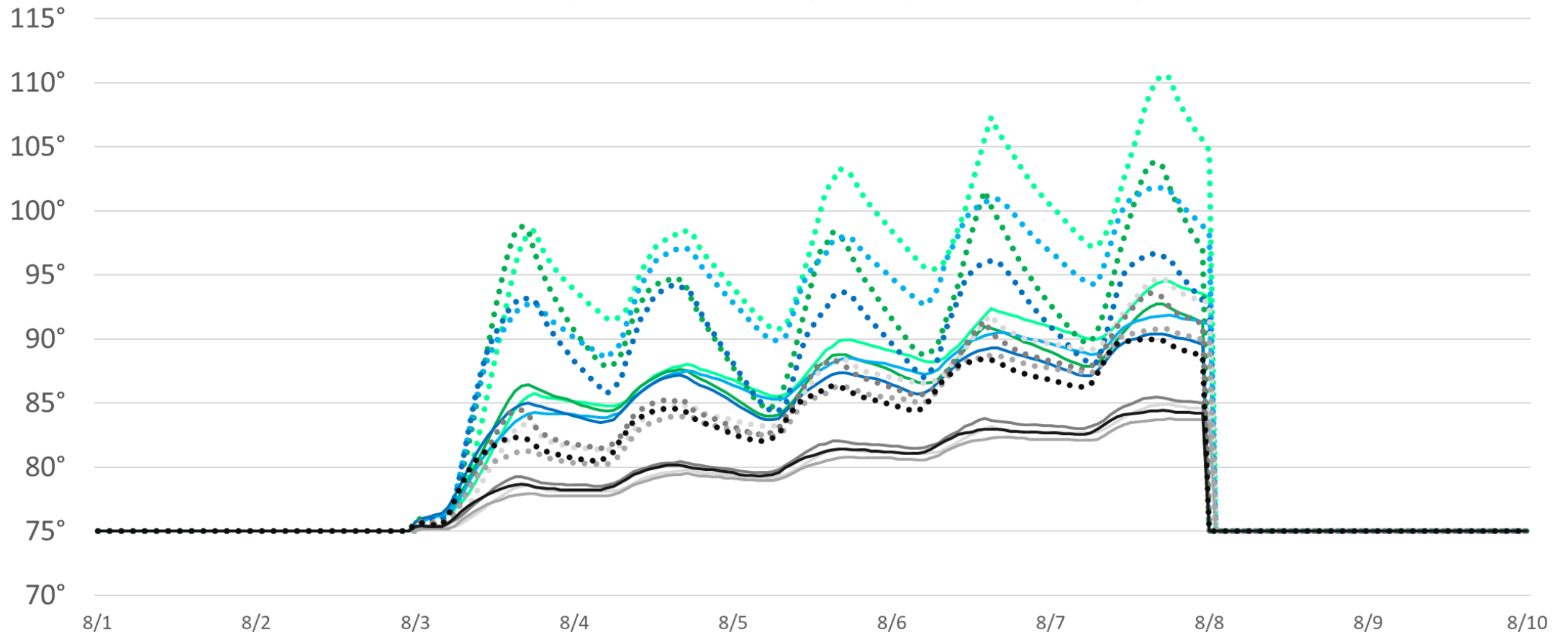
Percentage of hours ***below*** threshold temperature shown across the top

<50% = red

50-90% = yellow

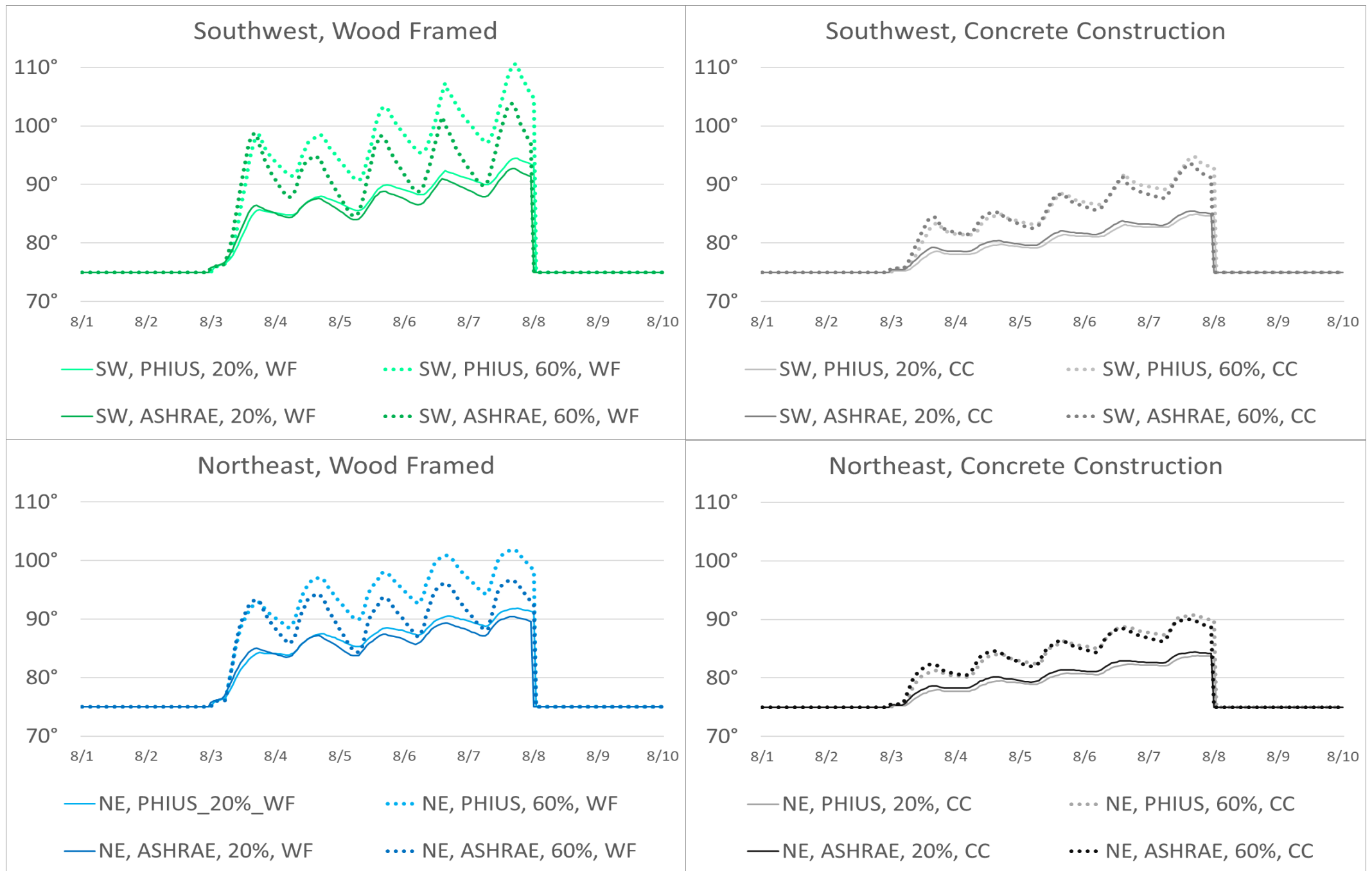
>90% = green

Interior Temperatures During 5-Day Summer Outage



- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| — SW, PHIUS, 20%, WF | SW, PHIUS, 60%, WF | — SW, ASHRAE, 20%, WF | SW, ASHRAE, 60%, WF |
| — NE, PHIUS, 20%, WF | NE, PHIUS, 60%, WF | — NE, ASHRAE, 20%, WF | NE, ASHRAE, 60%, WF |
| — SW, PHIUS, 20%, CC | SW, PHIUS, 60%, CC | — SW, ASHRAE, 20%, CC | SW, ASHRAE, 60%, CC |
| — NE, PHIUS, 20%, CC | NE, PHIUS, 60%, CC | — NE, ASHRAE, 20%, CC | NE, ASHRAE, 60%, CC |

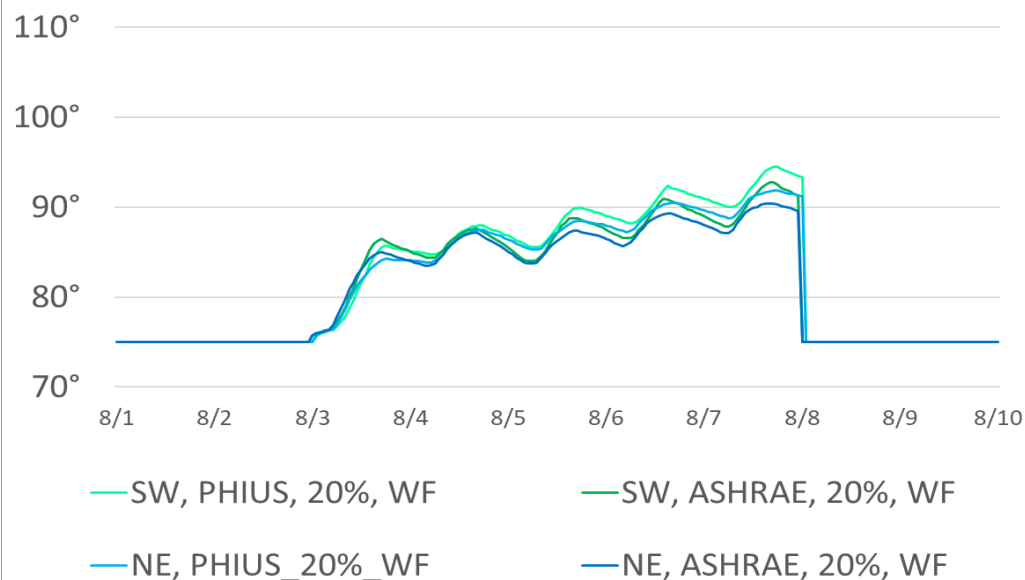
SUMMER RESILIENCE RESULTS



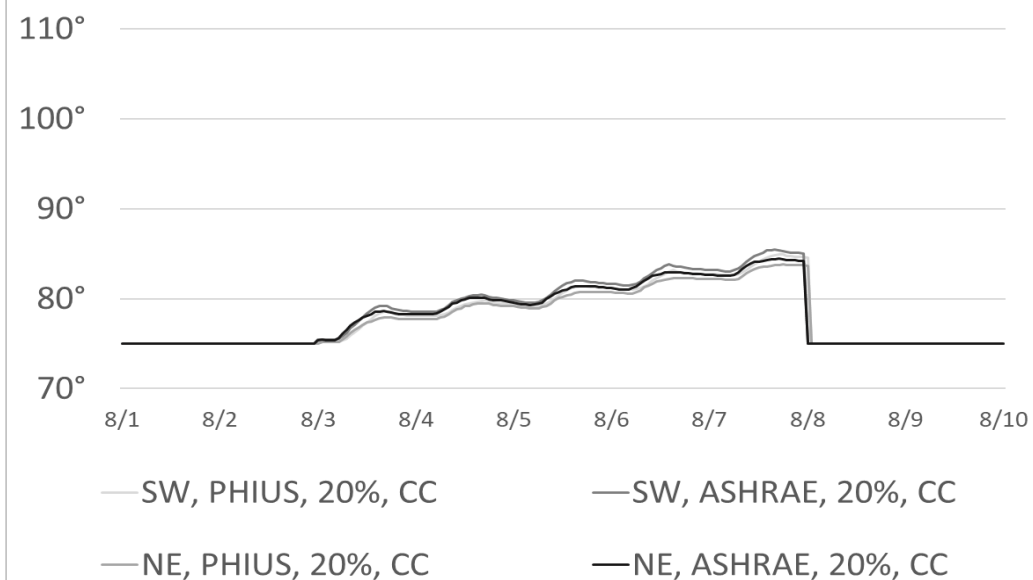
Picture Courtesy of Lisa White

SUMMER RESILIENCE RESULTS

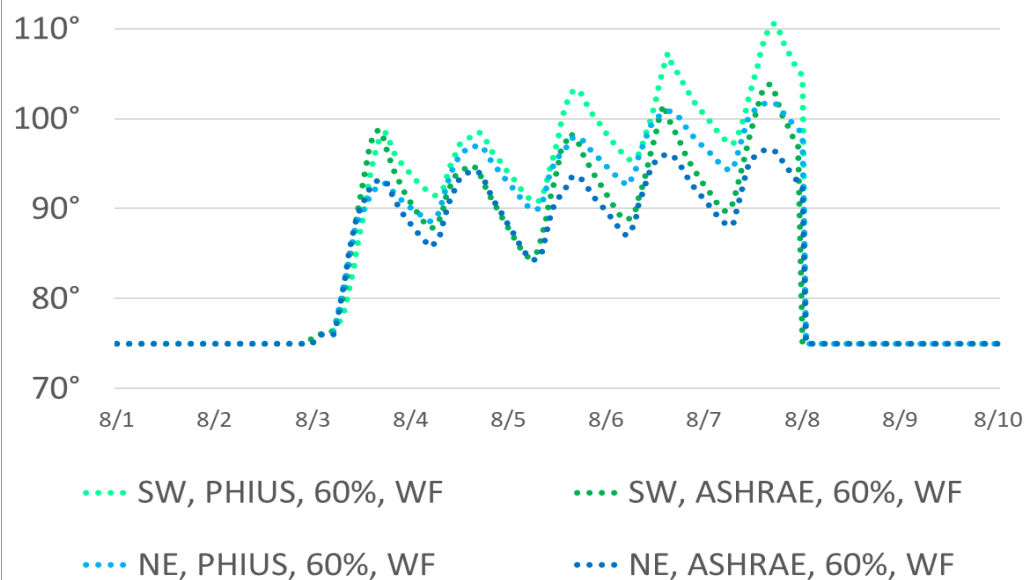
Wood Framed, 20% WWR



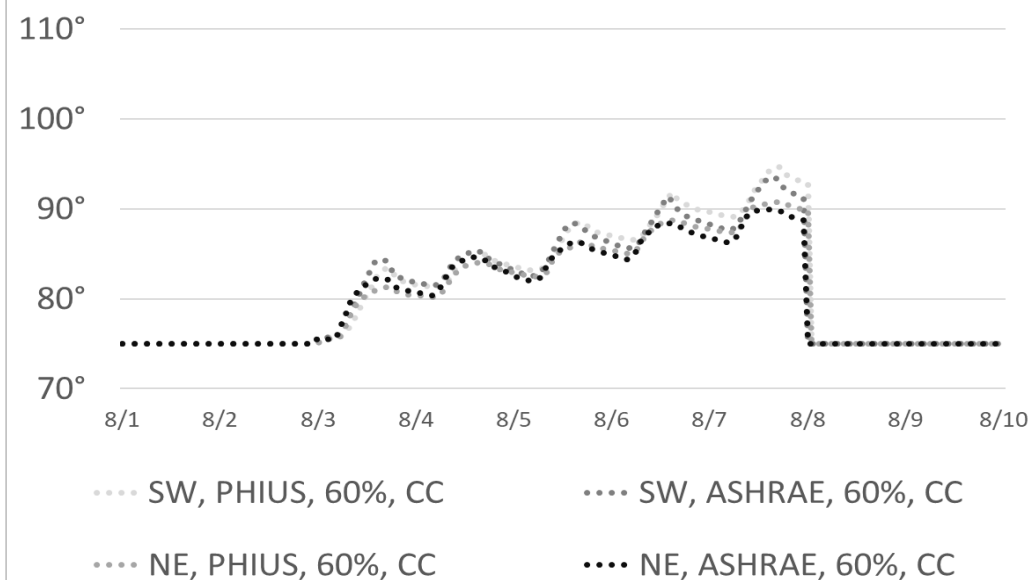
Concrete Construction, 20% WWR



Wood Framed, 60% WWR



Concrete Construction, 60% WWR

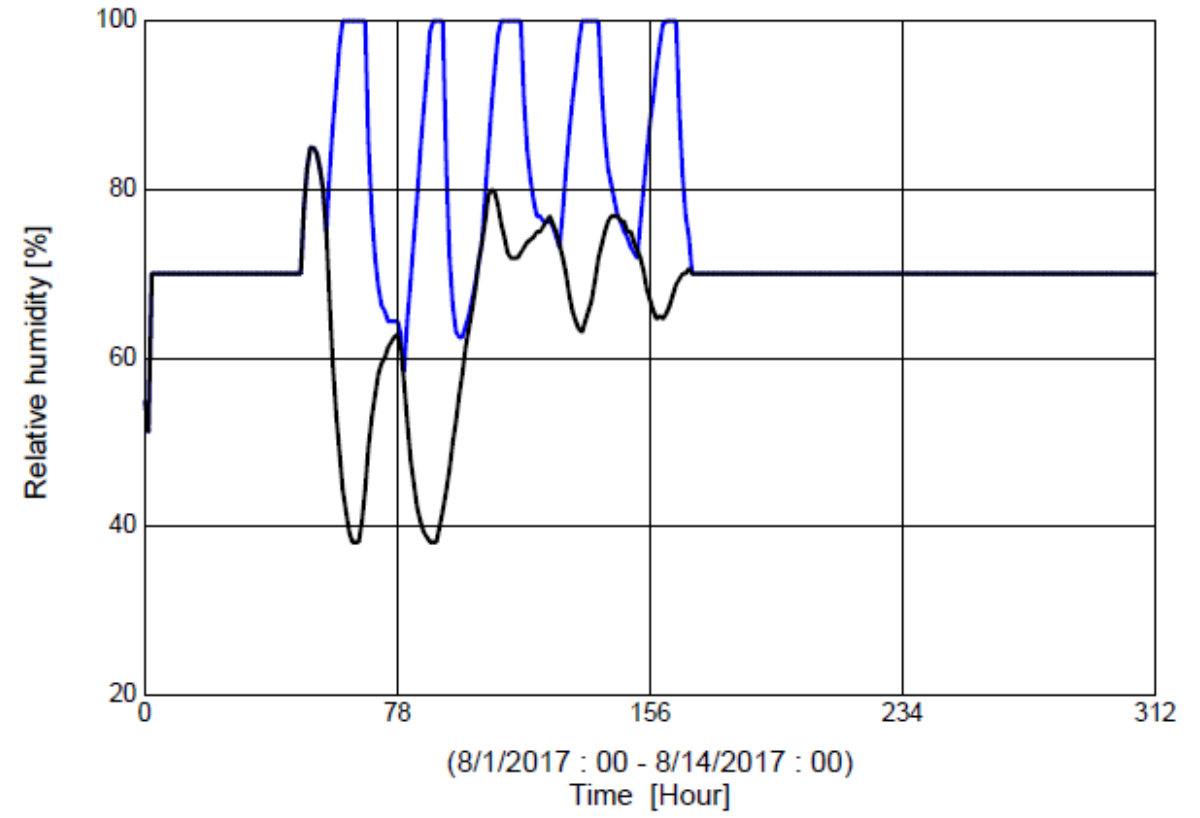
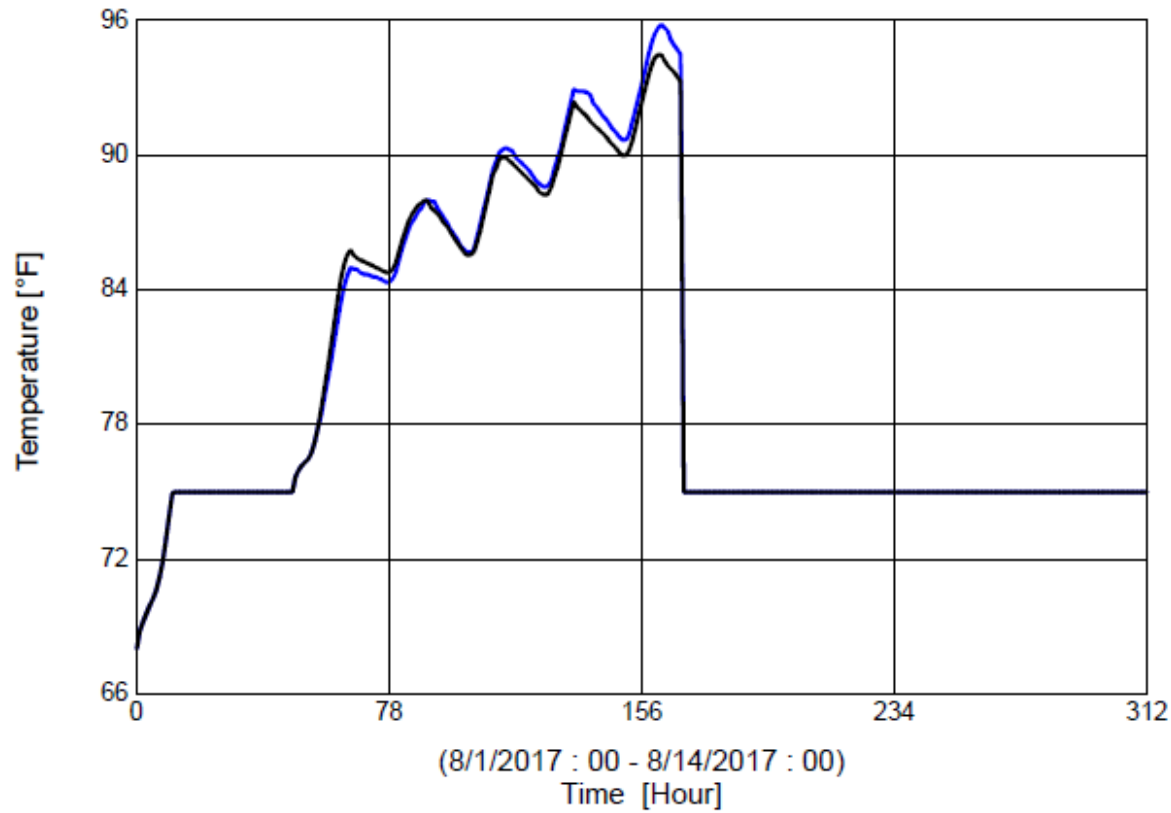


FUTURE OUTLOOK

- Study additional climates
- Study additional designs
- Re-run with future climate data sets
- Study with varying levels of internal gain/occupancy – stress cases
- Study with varying levels of natural ventilation
 - Investigate shading strategies
- Detailed airflow model for ventilation
- Small backup power for designated undisturbed loads

Natural vent – summer test

— Interior Air Temperature & Relative Humidity_12hr Night Ventilation Only
— Interior Air Temperature & Relative Humidity_24hr Ventilation



CONCLUSIONS

- Concrete construction has a higher passive survivability rating than wood or steel framed
- Lower window-to-wall ratio and natural ventilation strategies are critical for maintaining favorable conditions during summer outages
- Insulation and air-tightness substantially increase interior temperature during winter outages
- Resilient design strategies need a higher priority and should be quantified and given a higher priority