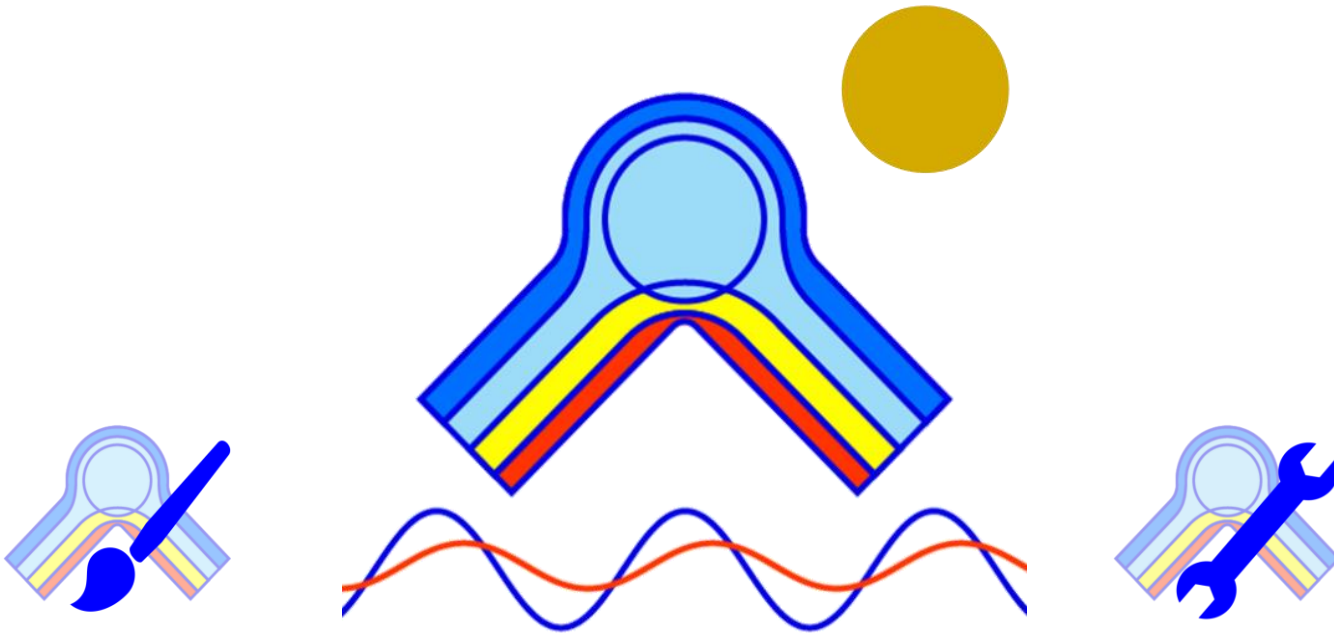




BISTRA v5 New program performances



BISTRA v5

BISTRA v5 – Overview

[overview](#)

A [Solar processor – feature RADCON](#)

- A.1 Specular reflection of solar radiation
- A.2 Handling of opaque materials in contact with transparent materials
- A.3 Revised Solar Data input – option to fix sun position
- A.4 Improved algorithms – reduced calculation time

B [Climatic data](#)

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- B.3 User defined start time

C [EN ISO standards](#)

- C.1 Revision of Colours Window in line with BISCO v12
- C.2 Gas mix according to EN 673
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D [Bitmap editing](#)

- D.1 New function 'Bisect'
- D.2 Snap to pixel
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E [Reporting: Graphic output](#)

- E.1 Sun position
- E.2 Visualisation of absorbed solar radiation
- E.3 Revised legend: clustered cavities + material names
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F [Reporting: Text output](#)

- F.1 New report definitions: ΔT_{max} , E_{tot} , E_{diff} , E_{dir} , E_{gr}
- F.2 Absorbed solar flux/energy into materials (q_{sol} , Q_{sol})
- F.3 Option to save data as .csv
- F.4 Miscellaneous

G [Online Physibel Portal](#)

- G.1 User management
- G.2 Support
- G.3 Physibel Knowledge Base
 - Documentation
 - Tutorials and examples
 - Videos

H [Licencing](#)

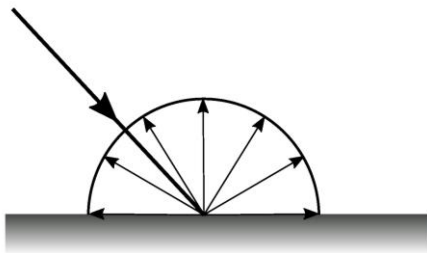
- H.1 Perpetual licence (USB key)
- H.2 Subscription licence (software key)

A1. Specular reflection of short-wave radiation

New parameter in Colour window:

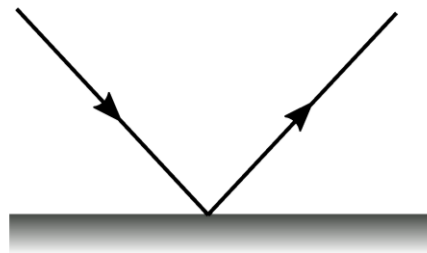
Specularity (%) = percentage specular reflection of direct solar radiation

Diffuse reflection



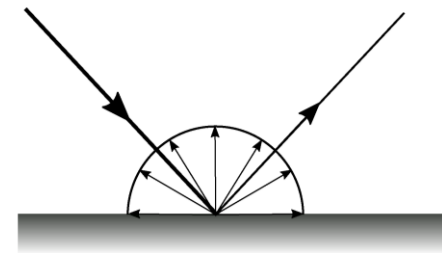
$S=0\%$

100% specular reflection



$S=100\%$

Partial specular reflection



$0\% < S < 100\%$

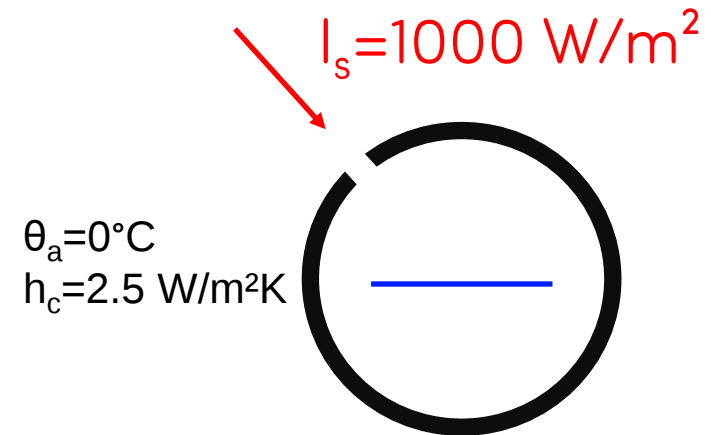
Col.	Type	Name	λ [W/mK]	ϵ [-]	θ_a [°C]	hc [W/m²K]	θ_r [°C]	Sun	ρ_s [-]	Specular [%]	τ_s [-]	Standard
2	MATERIAL	100% specular reflection	10.000	0.00					1.00	100	0.00	
4	MATERIAL	100% absorption (inner ring)	0.040	0.00					0.00	0	0.00	
7	MATERIAL	100% reflection surface (outer ring)	0.040	0.00					1.00	0	0.00	
8	MATERIAL	filling	0.040	0.00					0.10	0	0.00	
170	BC_SKY	solar zone			0.0	2.50	0.0	YES				

α_s : solar absorption factor (-)
 ρ_s : solar reflection factor (-)
 τ_s : solar transmission factor (-)
S: specularity (%)

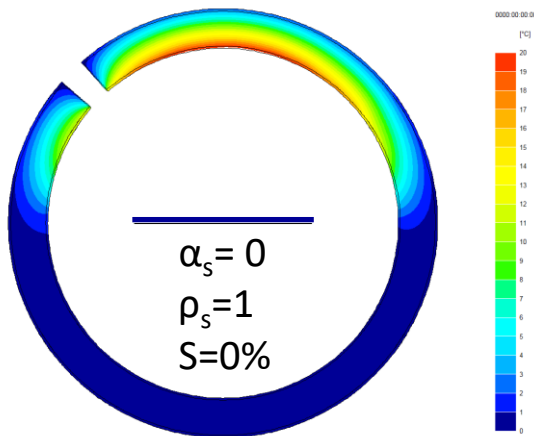
A1. Specular reflection of short-wave radiation

Theoretical example:

- Insulated circle with small opening
 - Outside surface: $\alpha_s = 0$, $\rho_s = 1$
 - Inside surface: $\alpha_s = 1$, $\rho_s = 0$
 - Horizontal opaque plate
- Solar radiation
 - 1000 W/m^2
 - Fixed sun position (45°)

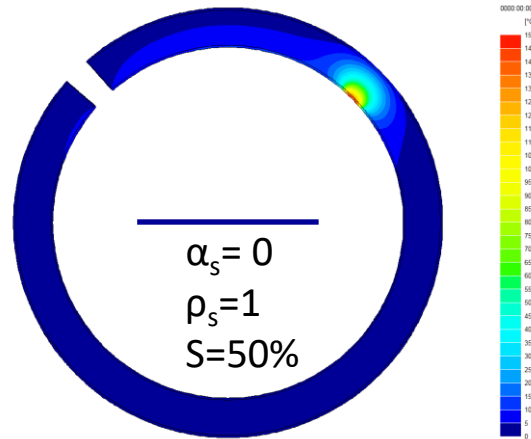


0% specular
(100% diffuse)



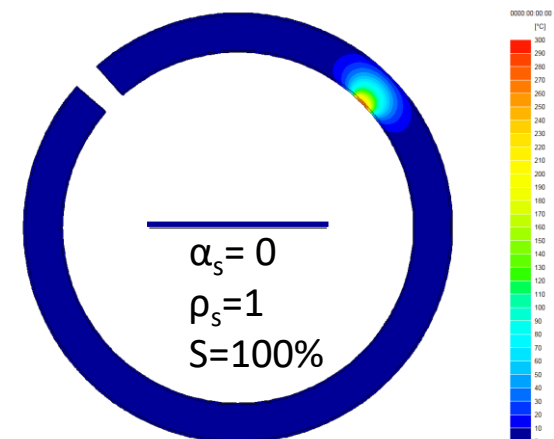
$0^\circ\text{C} - 20^\circ\text{C}$

50% specular



$0^\circ\text{C} - 150^\circ\text{C}$

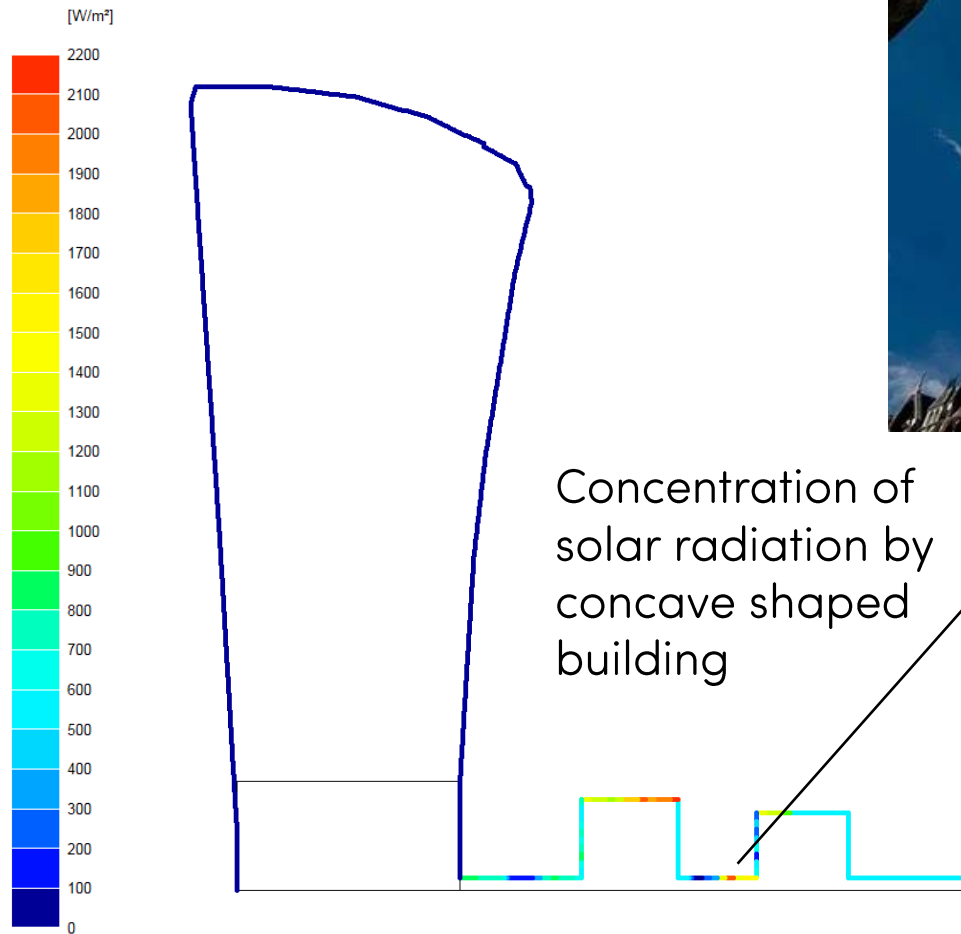
100% specular



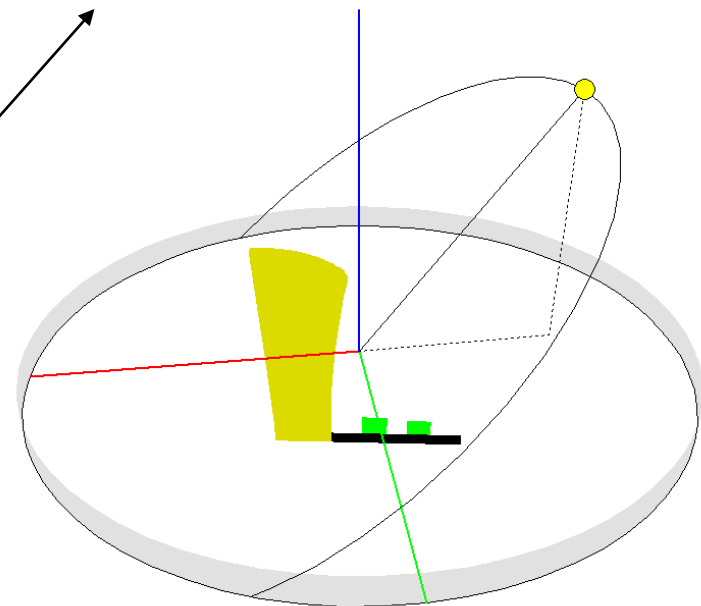
$0^\circ\text{C} - 300^\circ\text{C}$

A1. Specular reflection of short-wave radiation

Practical example 1 : specular reflection from built environment

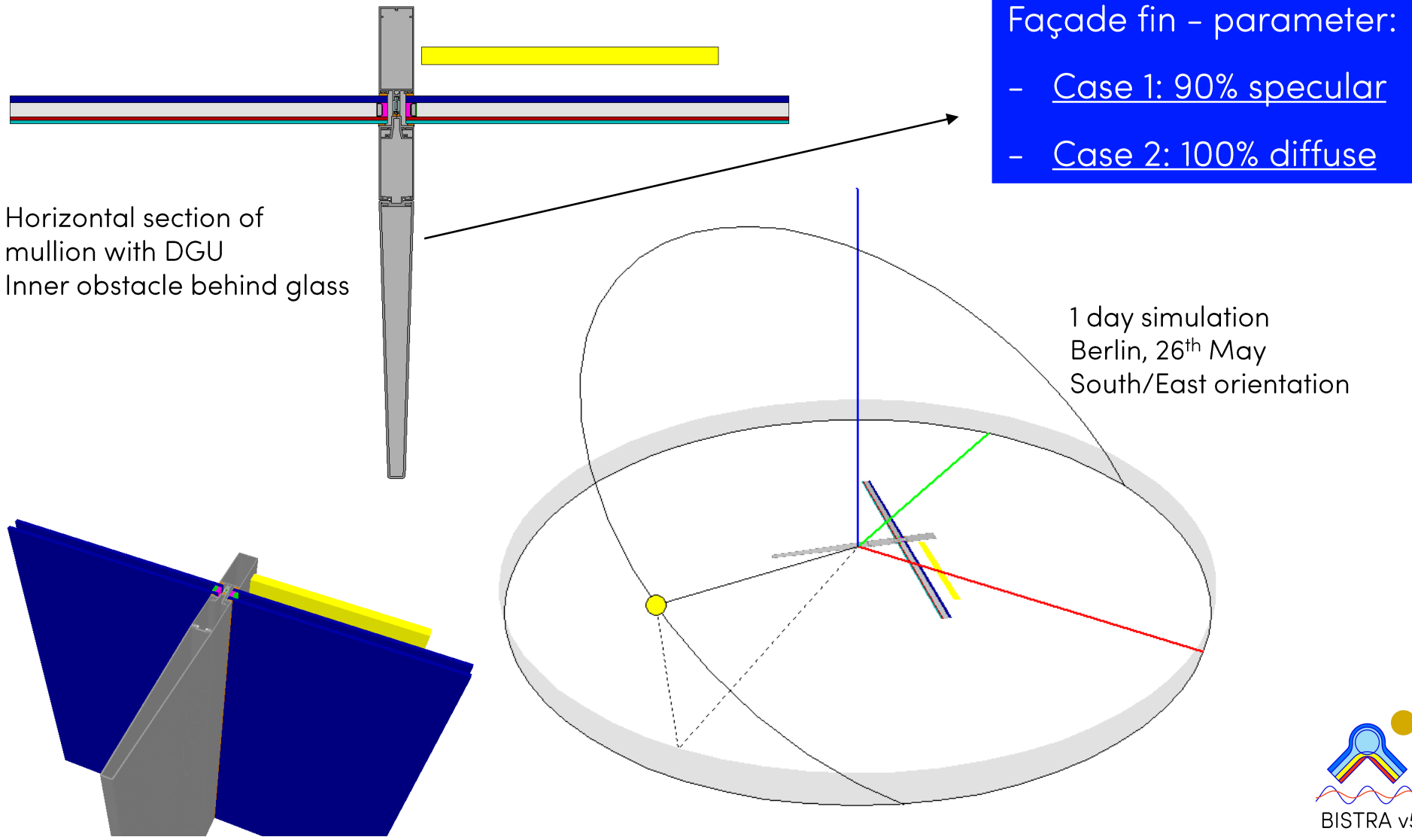


(*)



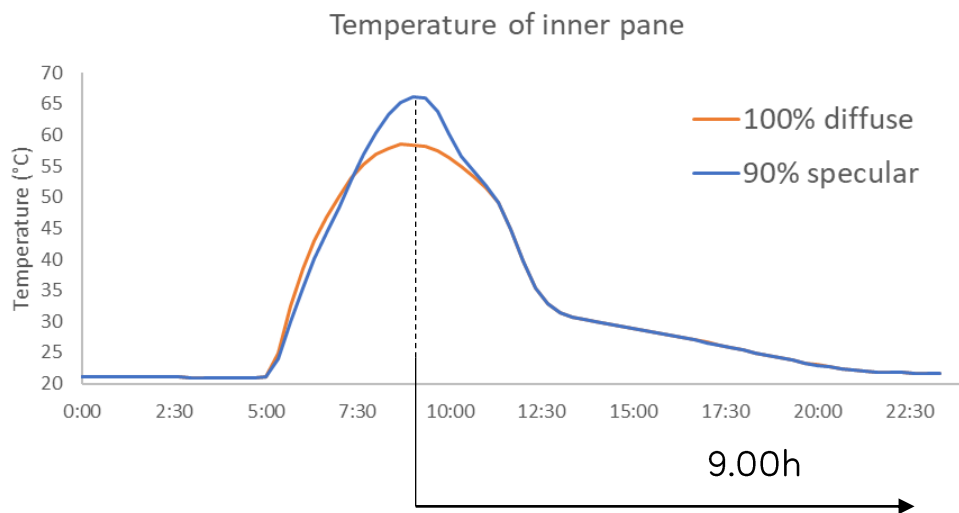
A1. Specular reflection of short-wave radiation

Practical example 2 : specular reflection of façade elements

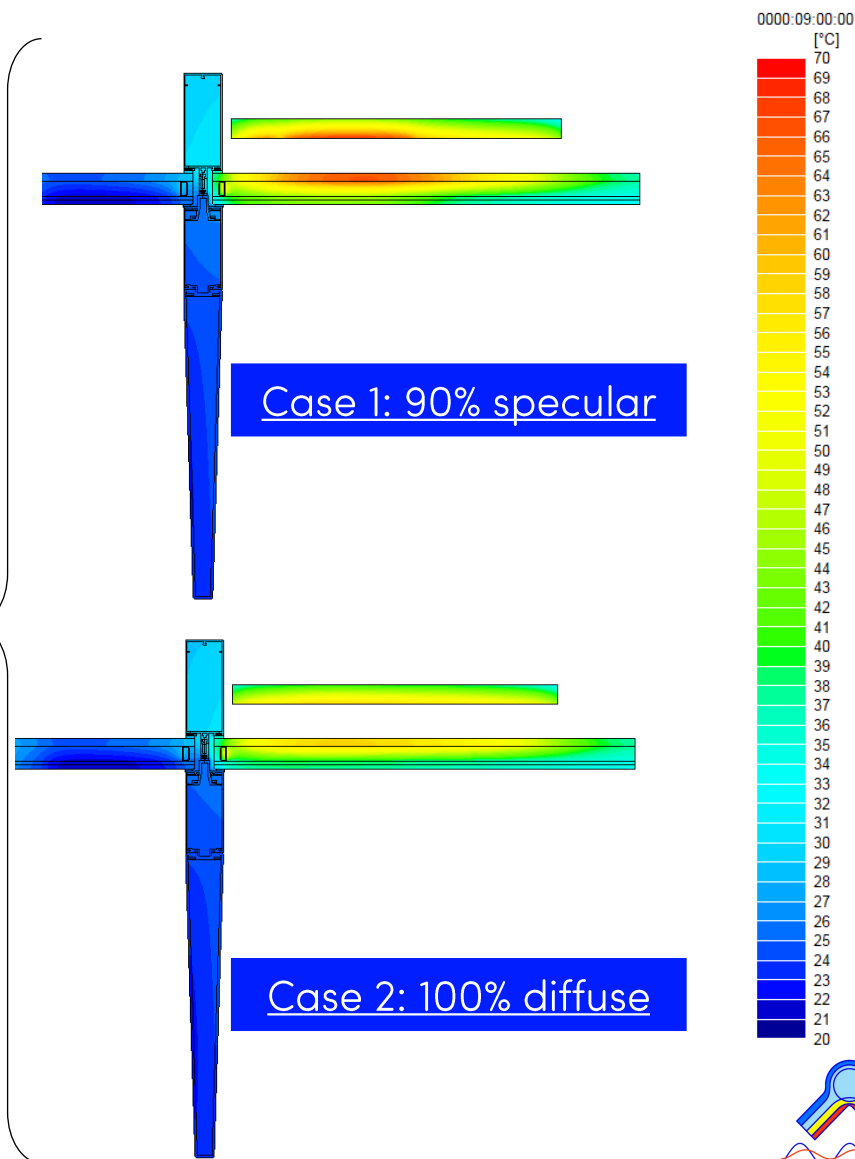


A1. Specular reflection of short-wave radiation

Practical example 2 : specular reflection of façade elements



Specular reflection on the outer fins can result in zones with concentrated solar radiation

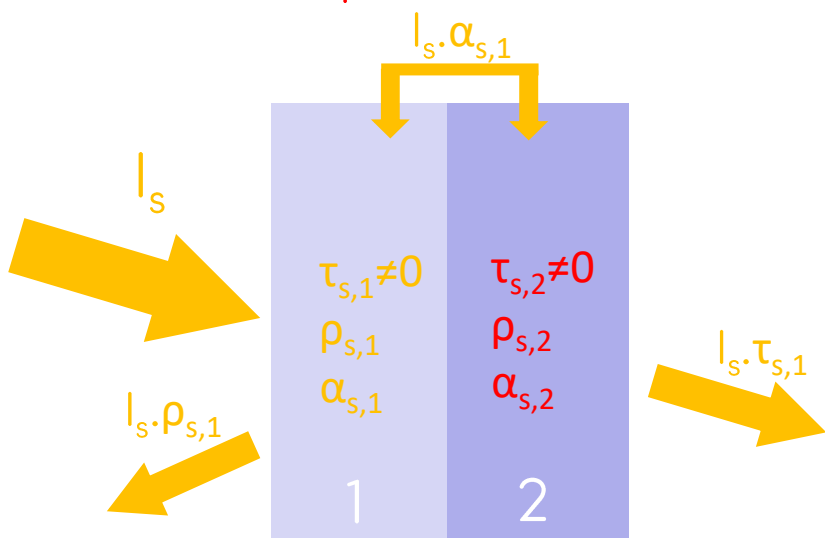


A2. Contact between opaque & transparent materials

[overview](#)

Absorption and interreflections at opaque materials behind transparent material are considered.

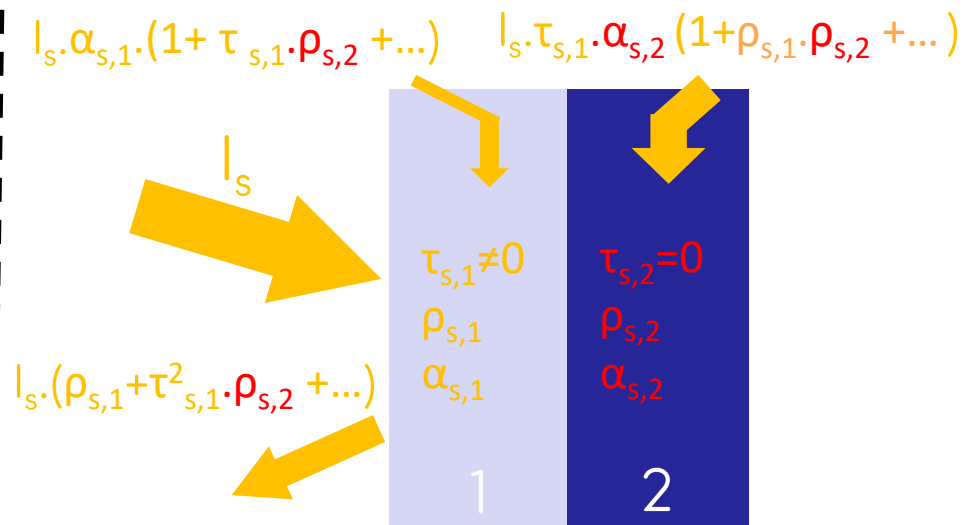
Transparent materials



Solar properties at incident side are applied.

Same as in BISTRA v4

Opaque behind transparent material



Absorption and interreflections at intermediate opaque materials are considered.

New in BISTRA v5

(BISTRA v4: required trick with virtual layer of RADCON type to consider absorption in opaque material behind transparent material)

A3. Revised Solar data – Option to fix sun position

[overview](#)

Solar Data:

- Real sun path
- Fixed sun position

Solar data dialog box

Solar Data

☒ Real sun path
☐ Fixed sun position

North orientation

1. Rotate bitmap (in XY) around Z axis so that new X axis is parallel to horizon plane (clockwise) rotation angle = °

2. Rotate bitmap upward (in YZ) around X axis so that new XY plane is parallel to horizon plane elevation angle = °
 (0° = horizontal bitmap, 90° = vertical bitmap)

3. Azimuth from X axis to north direction (clockwise) azimuth = °

Earth position

Latitude °N

Longitude °E

Time zone h E

Solar radiation

Horizontal global solar radiation function

Horizontal diffuse solar radiation function

Ground reflection factor

Sun position on June 21 at 12 h

Fixed sun position

Total solar radiation:

☐ Function
☒ Constant value W/m²

Angle of incidence of solar radiation °
 (0° = radiation from right, 90° = from top, 180° = from left, 270° = from bottom)

OK Cancel

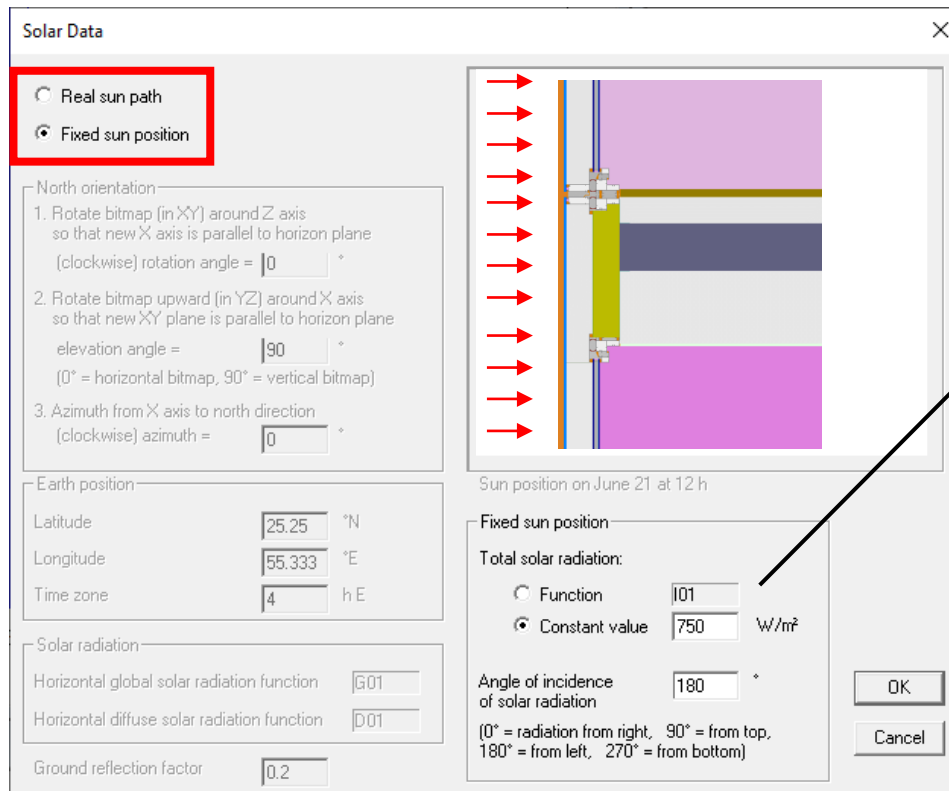
- Visualisation of bitmap orientation (for June 21th at 12h)
- Rotation possible with mouse cursor

A3. Revised Solar data – Option to fix sun position

[overview](#)

Solar Data:

- Real sun path
- Fixed sun position



Solar Data

☐ Real sun path
☒ Fixed sun position

North orientation

1. Rotate bitmap (in XY) around Z axis so that new X axis is parallel to horizon plane (clockwise) rotation angle = °
2. Rotate bitmap upward (in YZ) around X axis so that new XY plane is parallel to horizon plane elevation angle = ° (0° = horizontal bitmap, 90° = vertical bitmap)
3. Azimuth from X axis to north direction (clockwise) azimuth = °

Earth position

Latitude °N

Longitude °E

Time zone h E

Solar radiation

Horizontal global solar radiation function

Horizontal diffuse solar radiation function

Ground reflection factor

Sun position on June 21 at 12 h

Fixed sun position

Total solar radiation:

☐ Function
☒ Constant value W/m²

Angle of incidence of solar radiation °

(0° = radiation from right, 90° = from top, 180° = from left, 270° = from bottom)

OK Cancel

- Total (direct) solar radiation via:
 - Function (I01)
 - Constant value
- User-defined angle of incidence

A4. Improved algorithms – reduced calculation time

[overview](#)

- Clustered triangle faces for larger view factor faces in RADCON zone
- Number of rays for sky visibility calculation is a calculation parameter
- Increased calculation speed due to improved neighbouring nodes algorithm for view factor zones (RADCON)

Radiation

☐ Linear Radiation

Black radiation heat transfer coefficient W/(m².K)
(linear radiation)

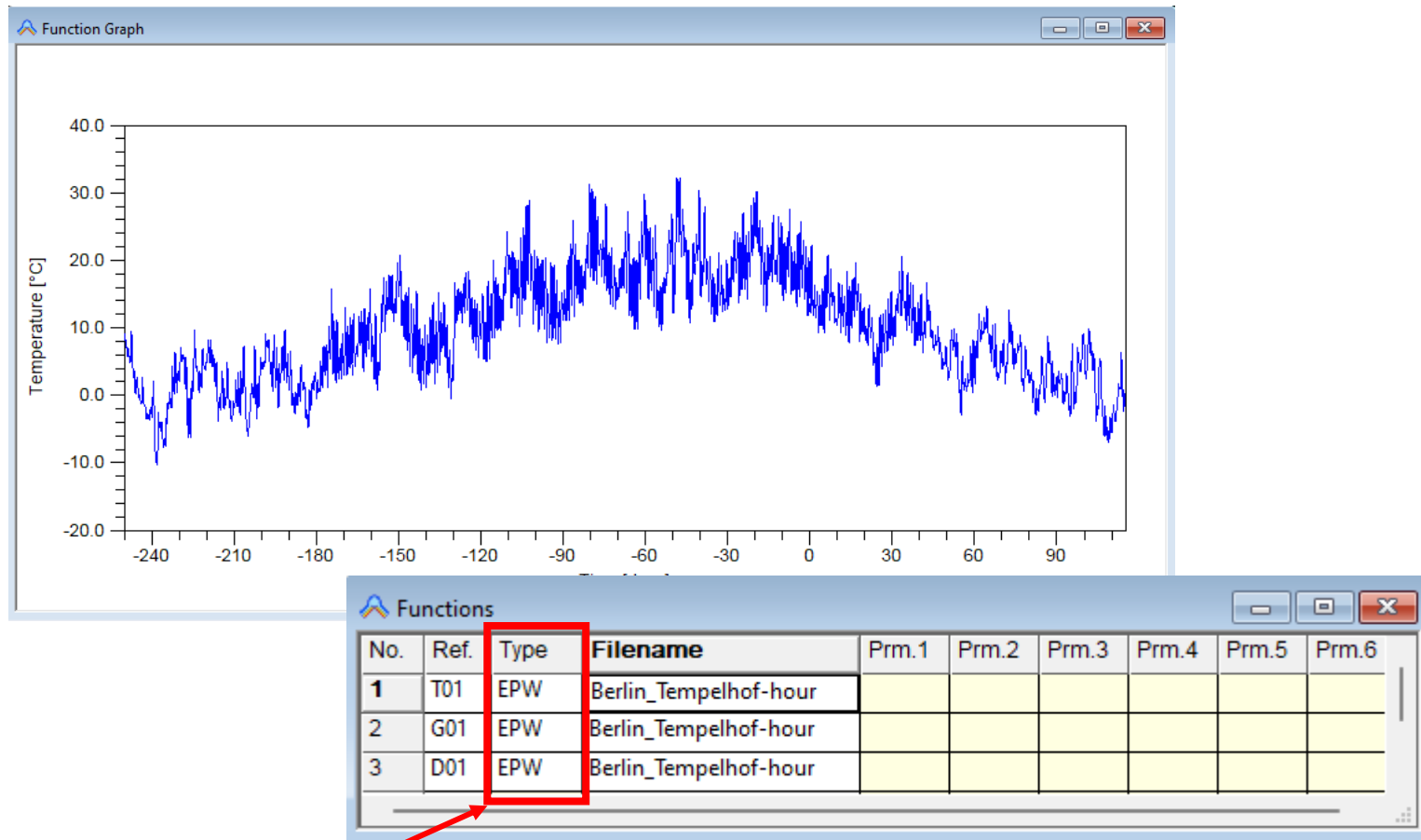
Smallest accepted view factor

Number of visibility rays between radiative surfaces

Max. number of view factor faces (per view factor zone)

B1. Input of EPW and TRY files (climate files)

Standardised climate data formats **EPW** and **TRY3** are available as input for temperature, global and diffuse radiation



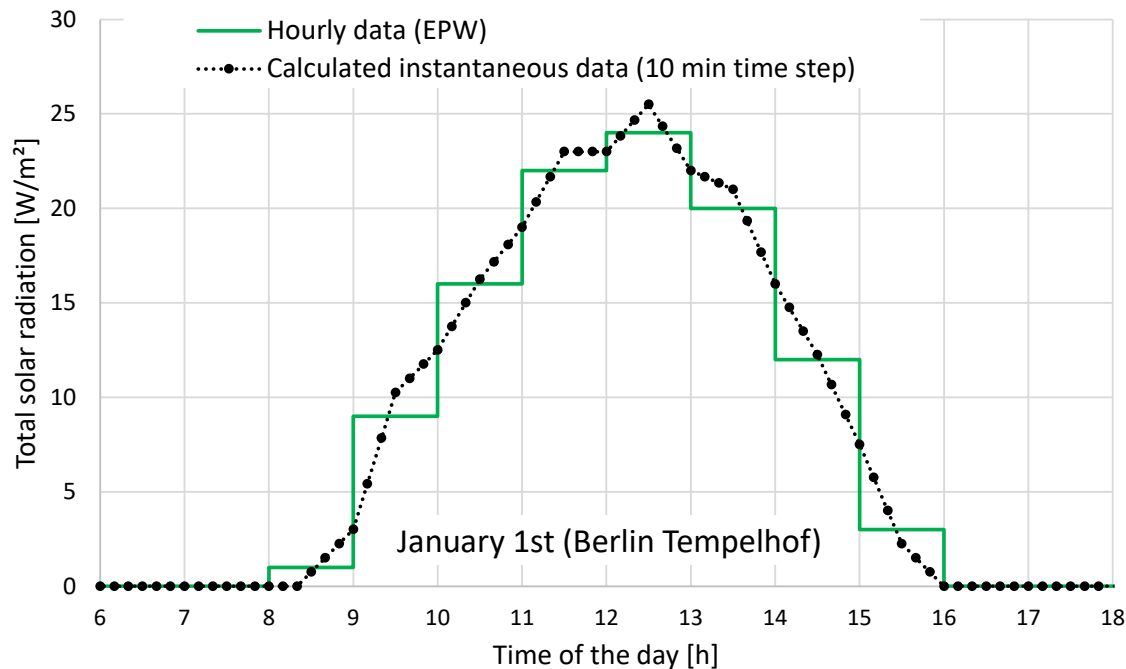
Available via new function types

B2. Handling sub-hourly data from hourly solar data

[overview](#)

Solar (climate) data is typically only available on hourly basis, where façades need often to be modelled with smaller time steps (e.g. 10 min).

An algorithm* to handle sub-hourly solar data when using stepped climate data is included.



B3. User-defined start time

[overview](#)

Calculation Parameters are extended allowing to define start time (in addition to start day)

Calculation Parameters [X]

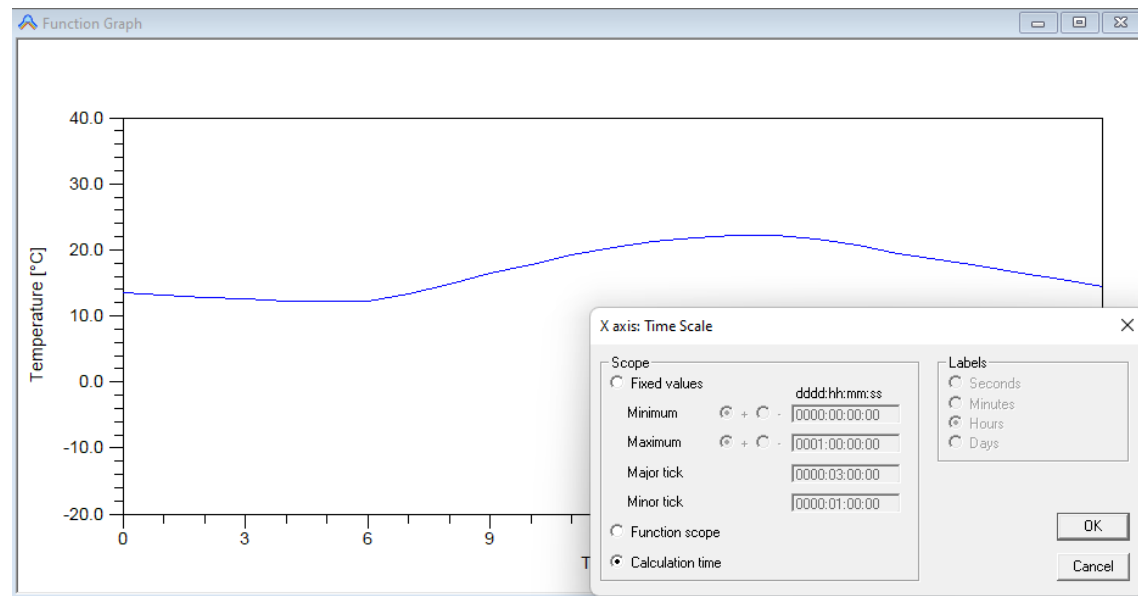
Time axis

Time step: 0000:00:20:00 dddd:hh:mm:ss

Start-up calculation duration: 0000:00:00:00 dddd:hh:mm:ss

Calculation duration: 0001:00:00:00 dddd:hh:mm:ss

Calculation start: Day 251 i Time 00:00:00 hh:mm:ss



- Rule $\rightarrow$ Subtype
- Physical flow direction (horizontal, up, down): defined by the user (and standard)
- Geometrical flow direction (X, Y)
- Standard (EN10077, EN6946, EN673)
- ϵ_1 / ϵ_2 : emissivity's linked to a cavity ("single equivalent thermal conductivity method")
- ϵ emissivity linked to a material ("radiosity method")
- Improved navigation in Colours Window: mouse wheel scroll

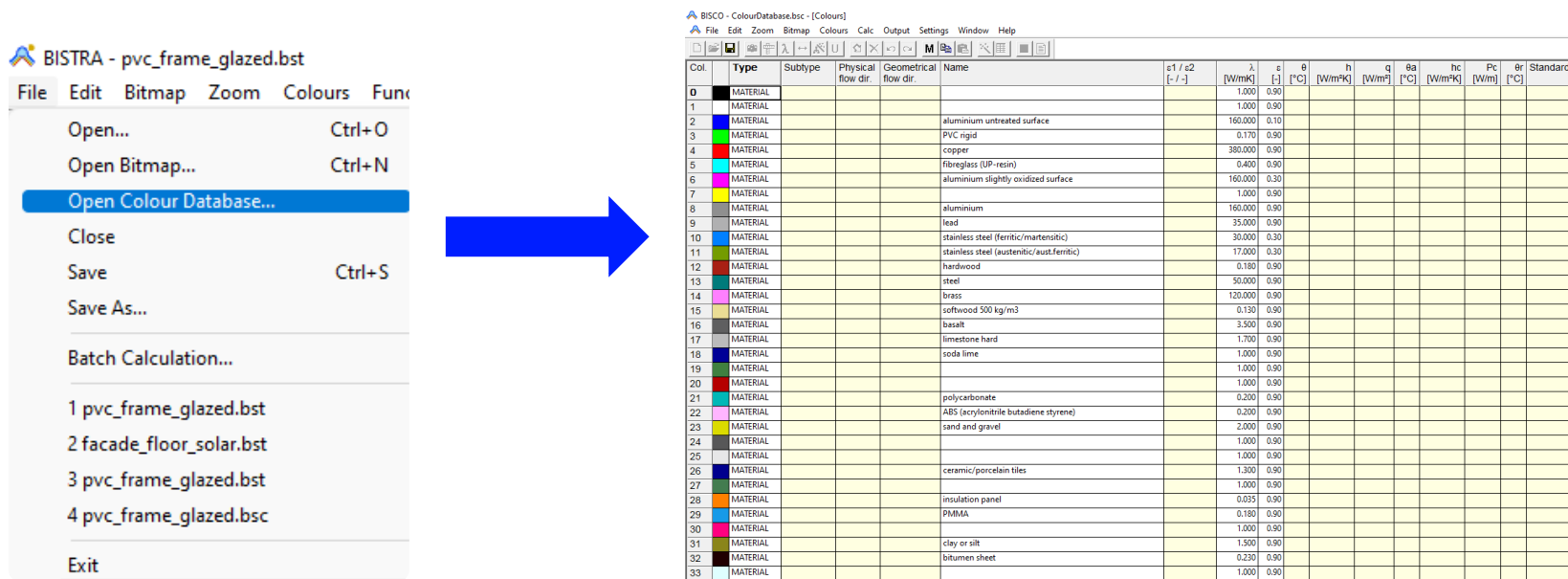
[illegible]

C.1 Revision of Colour Window in line with BISCO v12

[overview](#)

Customisable **Colour Database** with predefined colours

File → *Open Colour Database...* allows to quickly adjust frequently used materials and boundary conditions.



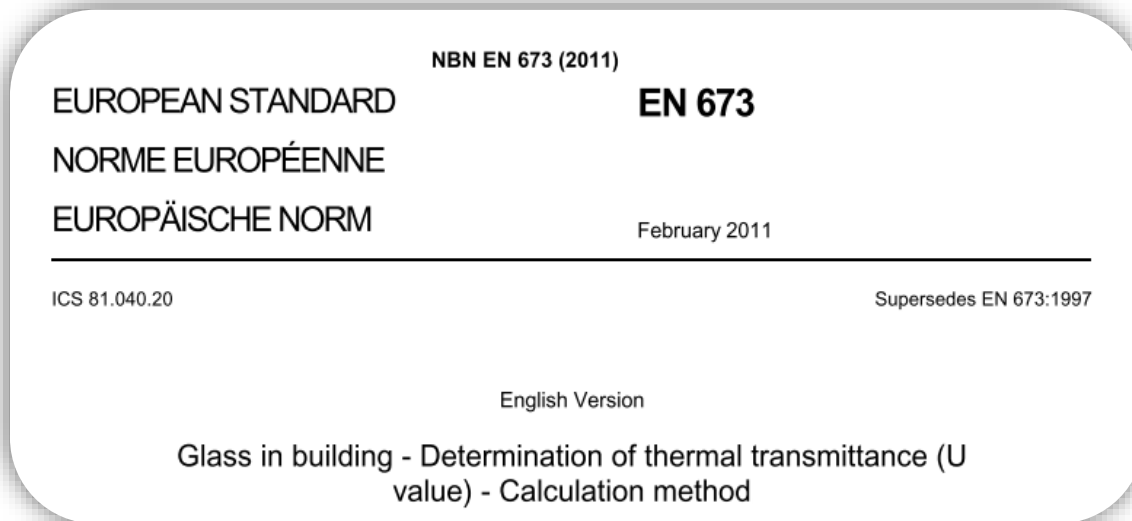
BISTRA - pvc_frame_glazed.bst

File Edit Bitmap Zoom Colours Func

- Open... Ctrl+O
- Open Bitmap... Ctrl+N
- Open Colour Database...**
- Close
- Save Ctrl+S
- Save As...
- Batch Calculation...
- 1 pvc_frame_glazed.bst
- 2 facade_floor_solar.bst
- 3 pvc_frame_glazed.bst
- 4 pvc_frame_glazed.bsc
- Exit

BISCO - ColourDatabase.bsc - [Colours]

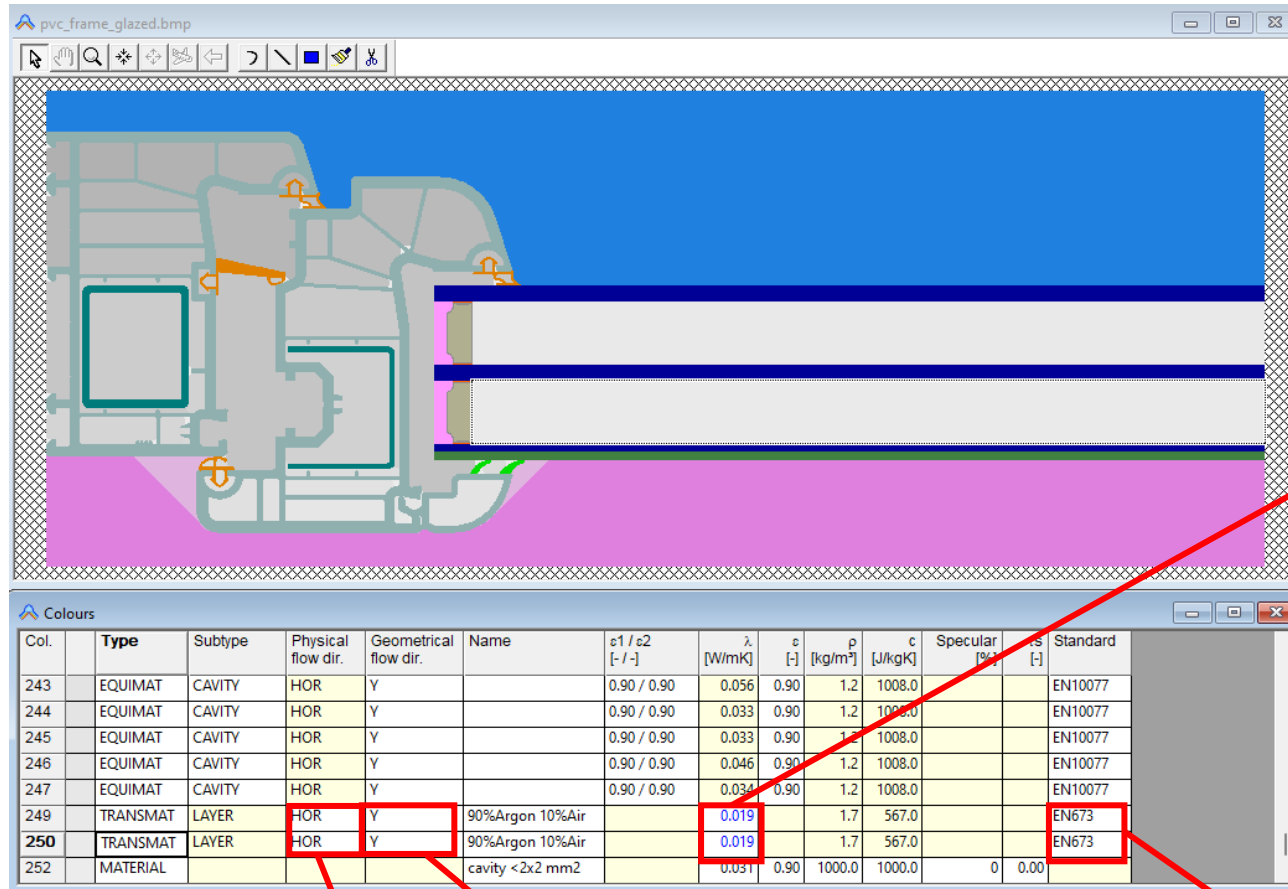
Col	Type	Subtype	Physical flow dir	Geometrical flow dir	Name	ϵ_1 / ϵ_2 [- / -]	λ [W/mK]	ϵ [-]	θ [°C]	h [W/m²K]	q [W/m²]	α_a [°C]	h_c [W/m²K]	P_c [W/m]	ϵ_r [°C]	Standard
0	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
1	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
2	MATERIAL				aluminium untreated surface		160.000	0.10								
3	MATERIAL				PVC rigid		0.170	0.90								
4	MATERIAL				copper		380.000	0.90								
5	MATERIAL				fibreglass (UP-resin)		0.400	0.90								
6	MATERIAL				aluminium slightly oxidized surface		160.000	0.30								
7	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
8	MATERIAL				aluminium		160.000	0.90								
9	MATERIAL				lead		35.000	0.90								
10	MATERIAL				stainless steel (ferritic/martensitic)		30.000	0.30								
11	MATERIAL				stainless steel (austenitic/aust.ferritic)		17.000	0.30								
12	MATERIAL				hardwood		0.180	0.90								
13	MATERIAL				steel		50.000	0.90								
14	MATERIAL				brass		120.000	0.90								
15	MATERIAL				softwood 500 kg/m³		0.130	0.90								
16	MATERIAL				basalt		3.500	0.90								
17	MATERIAL				limestone hard		1.700	0.90								
18	MATERIAL				soda lime		1.000	0.90								
19	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
20	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
21	MATERIAL				polycarbonate		0.200	0.90								
22	MATERIAL				ABS (acrylonitrile butadiene styrene)		0.200	0.90								
23	MATERIAL				sand and gravel		2.000	0.90								
24	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
25	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
26	MATERIAL				ceramic/porcelain tiles		1.300	0.90								
27	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
28	MATERIAL				insulation panel		0.035	0.90								
29	MATERIAL				PMMA		0.180	0.90								
30	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								
31	MATERIAL				clay or silt		1.500	0.90								
32	MATERIAL				bitumen sheet		0.230	0.90								
33	MATERIAL						1.000	0.90								



Implementation of equivalent thermal conductivity of **gas mixes** according to **EN 673** for the types:

- EQUIMAT
- TRANSMAT
- BC_FREE

C.2 EN 673 – Gas mixes

[overview](#)


Cavity Properties

☐ Vacuum

Cavity inclination angle: 90°
(0° -> upward heat flow, 90° -> horizontal heat flow)

Gas mix:

100 % Air

0 % Argon

0 % Krypton

0 % Xenon

0 % SF6

OK

Cancel

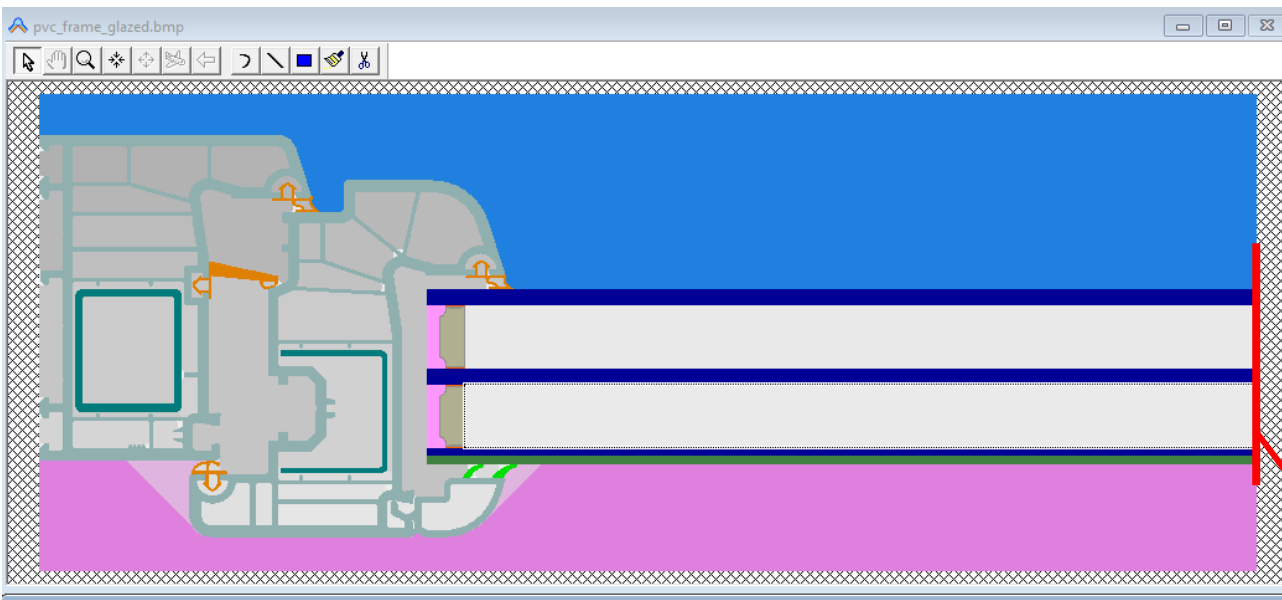
(accessible by double clicking)

Set heat flow direction: X, Y

Selection of standard

Set physical flow direction:
horizontal, downwards, upwards

C.2 EN 673 – Gas mixes

[overview](#)


Bitmap border U Values

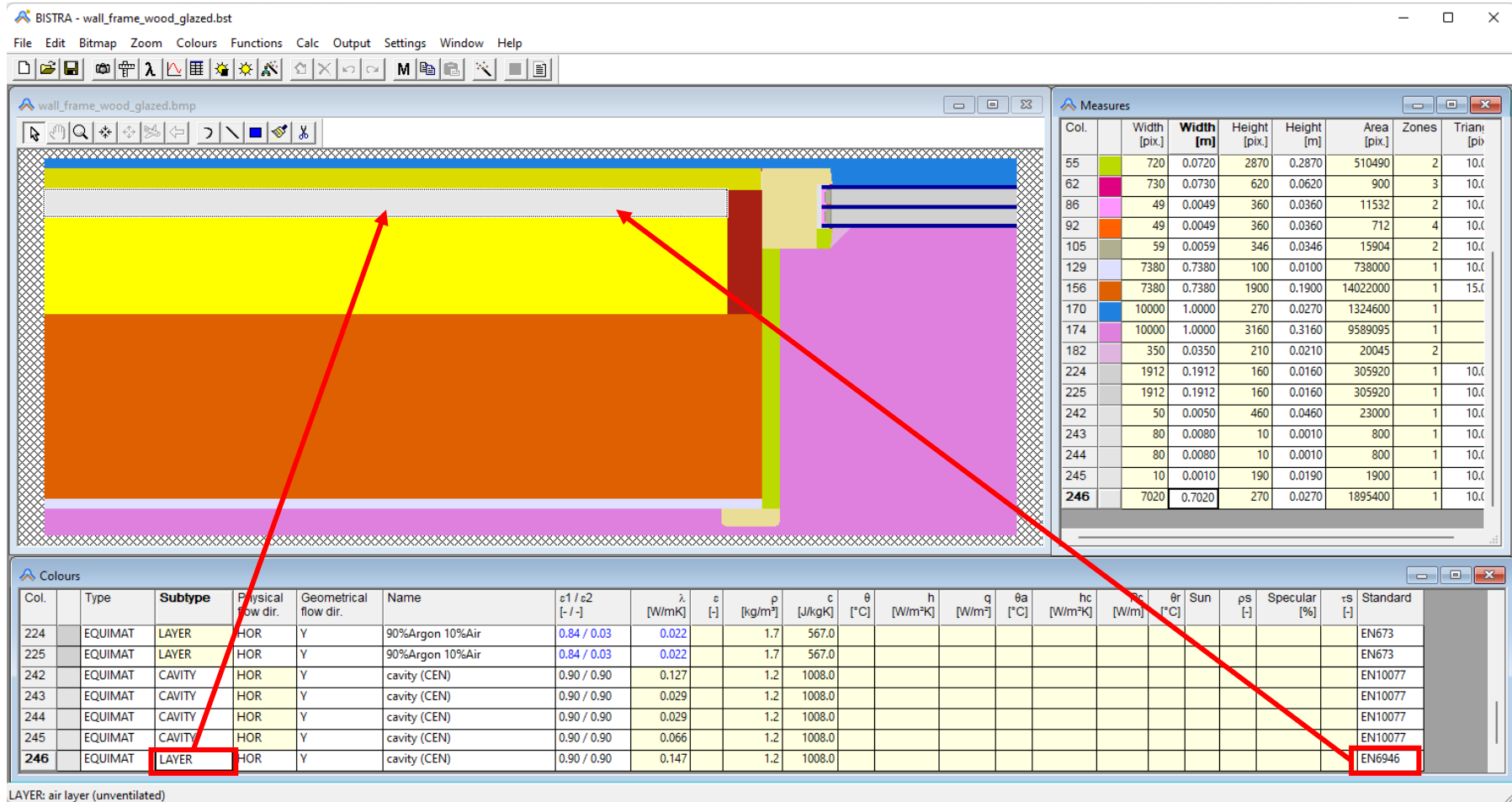
Bitmap Border	U [W/m²K]
Left	2.015
Right	1.093
Top	
Bottom	

Calculation of U-value at border of bitmap

C.3 EN ISO 6946 – cavities and layers

[overview](#)

Example 1: window-wall connection: air layer in wall → EN ISO 6946



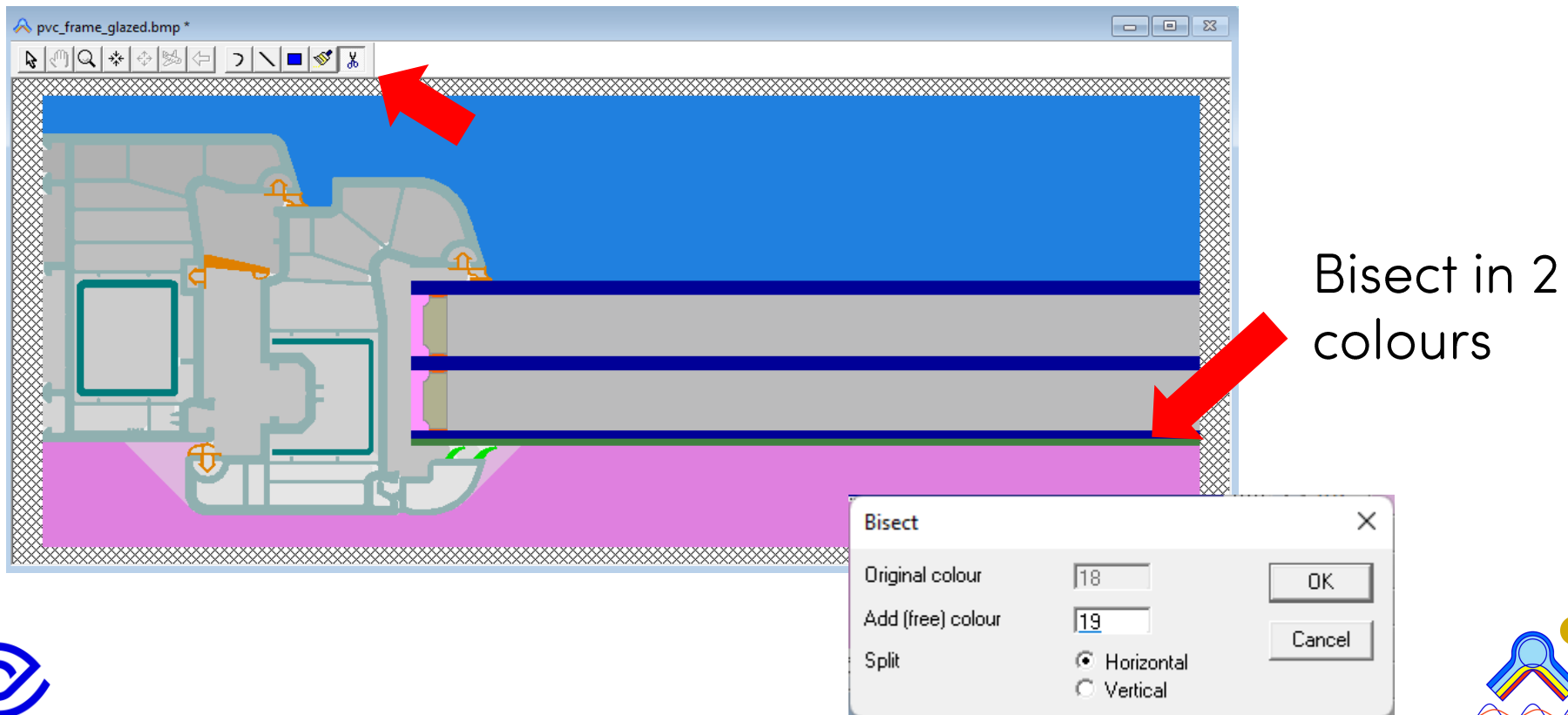
D.1 Bitmap editing – New function 'Bisect'

[overview](#)

Bisect: Split a colour in two equal parts.

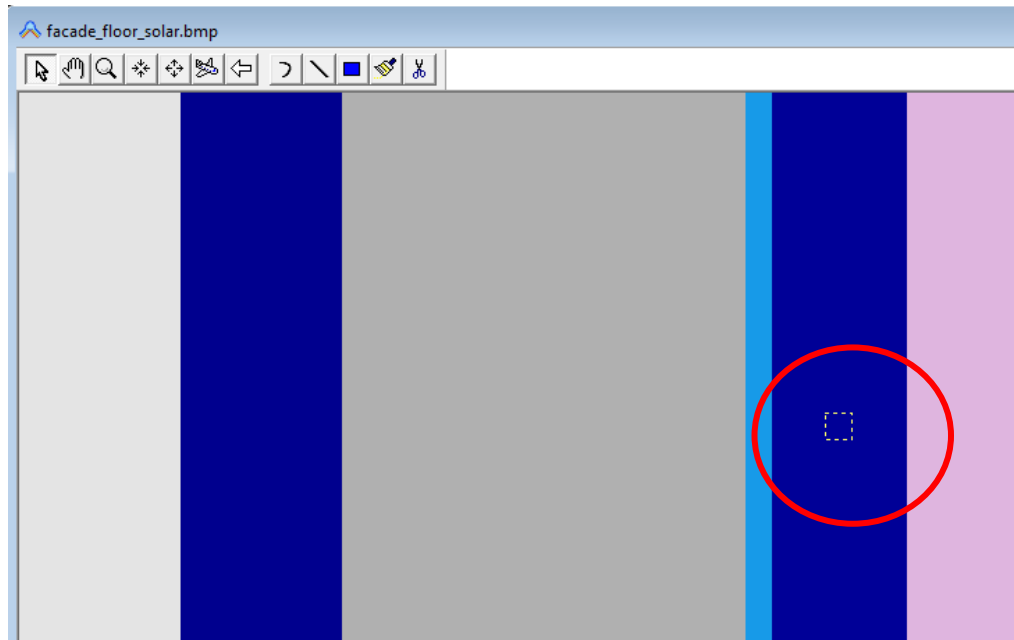
Applications:

- definition of solar properties on glazing sides
- splitting type BC_FREE for definition of ventilation paths



D.2 Bitmap editing – snap to pixel

Pixel is **highlighted** when in 'selection' mode or in 'drawing' mode



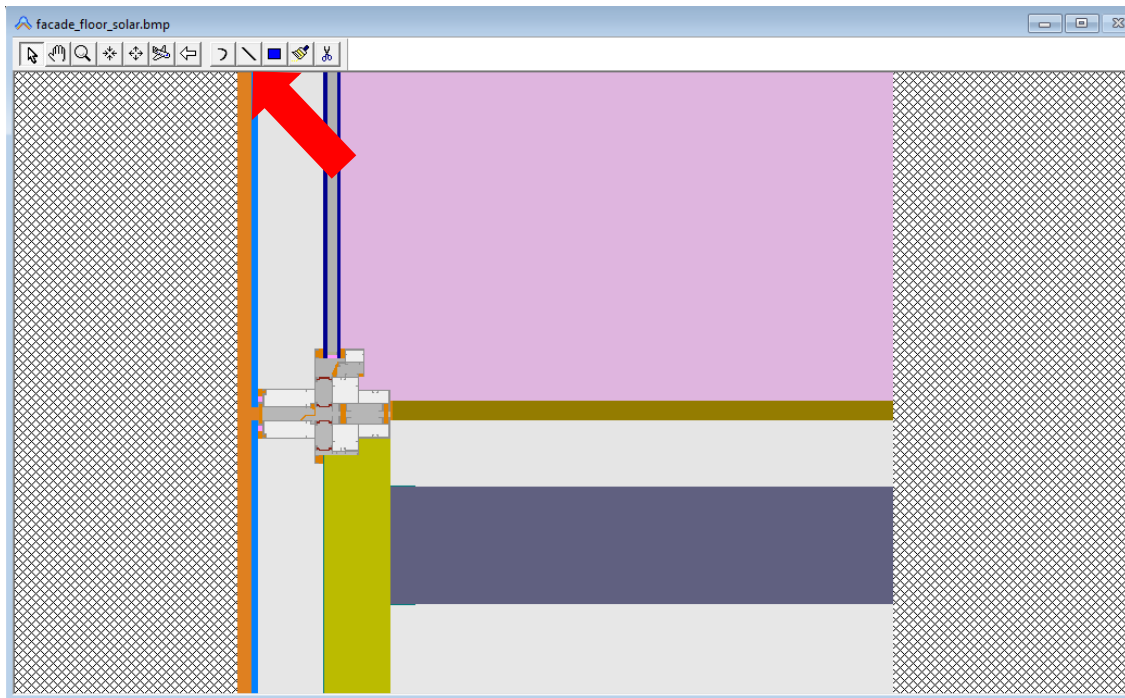
Snap to pixel simplifies:

- drawing
- Selecting colours

D.3 Bitmap editing – New drawing functions

[overview](#)

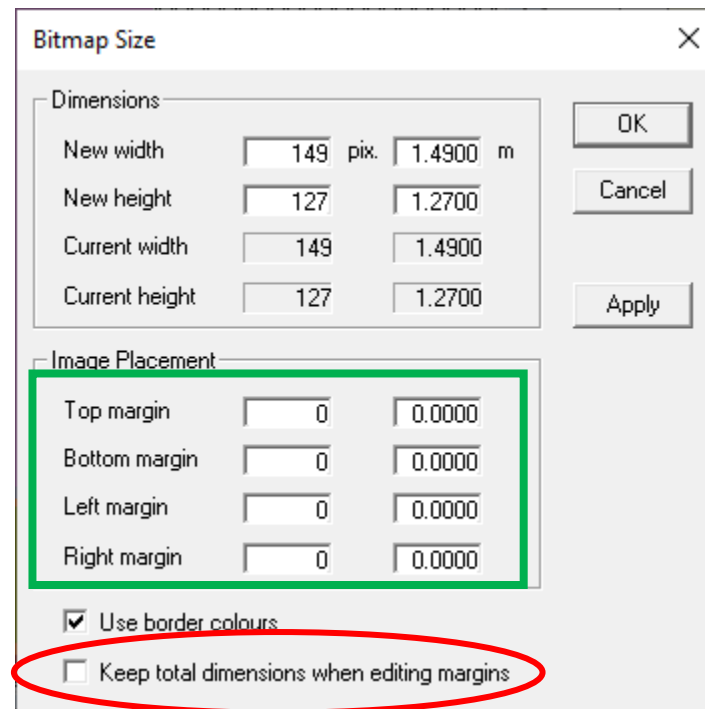
New drawing functions in line with BISCO v12: rectangles & lines



D.4 Bitmap editing – Miscellaneous

Bitmap size: option to keep dimension when editing margins

Allows to easily extend the
bitmap borders with
desired extension length



Bitmap Size

Dimensions

New width	149	pix.	1.4900	m
New height	127		1.2700	
Current width	149		1.4900	
Current height	127		1.2700	

Image Placement

Top margin	0	0.0000
Bottom margin	0	0.0000
Left margin	0	0.0000
Right margin	0	0.0000

☒ Use border colours

☐ Keep total dimensions when editing margins

OK Cancel Apply

D.4 Bitmap editing – Miscellaneous

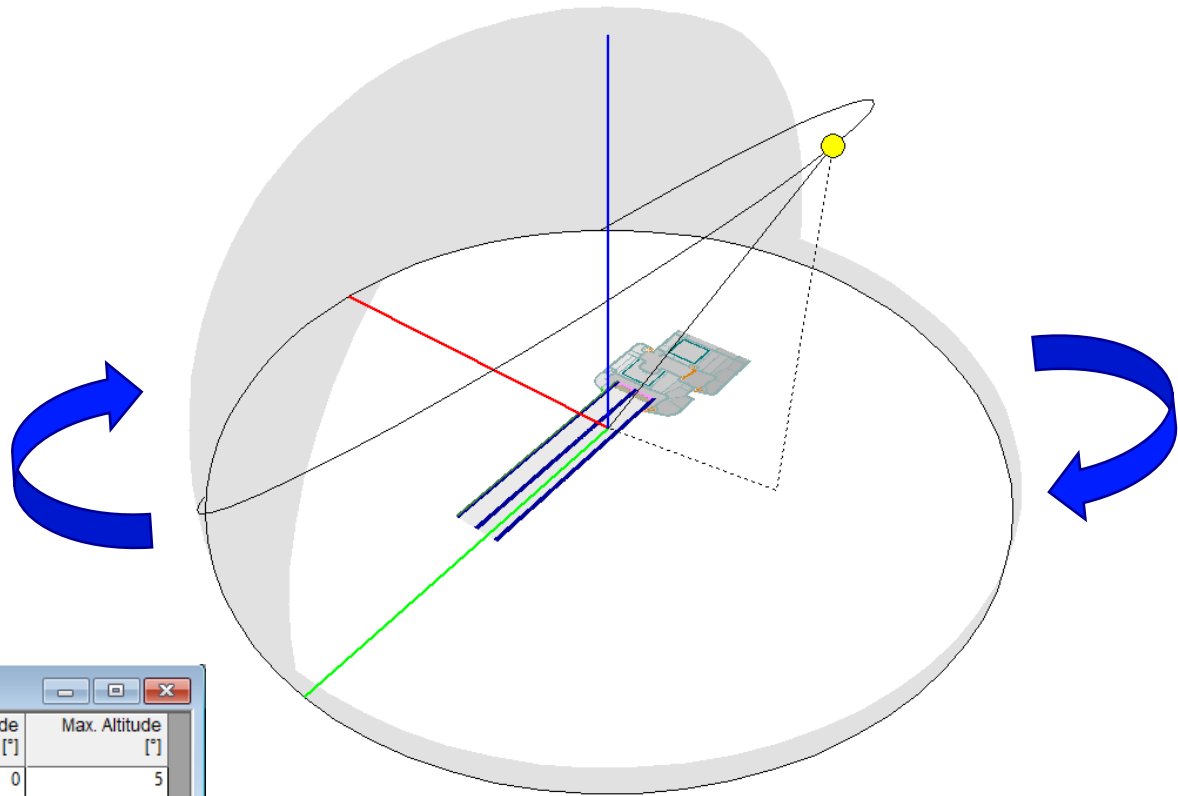
[overview](#)

- Cursor colour adjusted for background colour
- Zoom and draw function buttons moved to Bitmap window
- Pan: drag mode changed to 'drag object'
- Mouse scroll to navigate through grid control (e.g. Colours Window)
- 'Change Colour...', 'Split Zones...' and 'Copy Row' are available with active Image Window

E.1 Graphic output – Sun position

[overview](#)

- Visualisation of Sun Obstacles in Sun Position view  
- Rotation possible in Sun Position view (left mouse click or keyboard arrows)

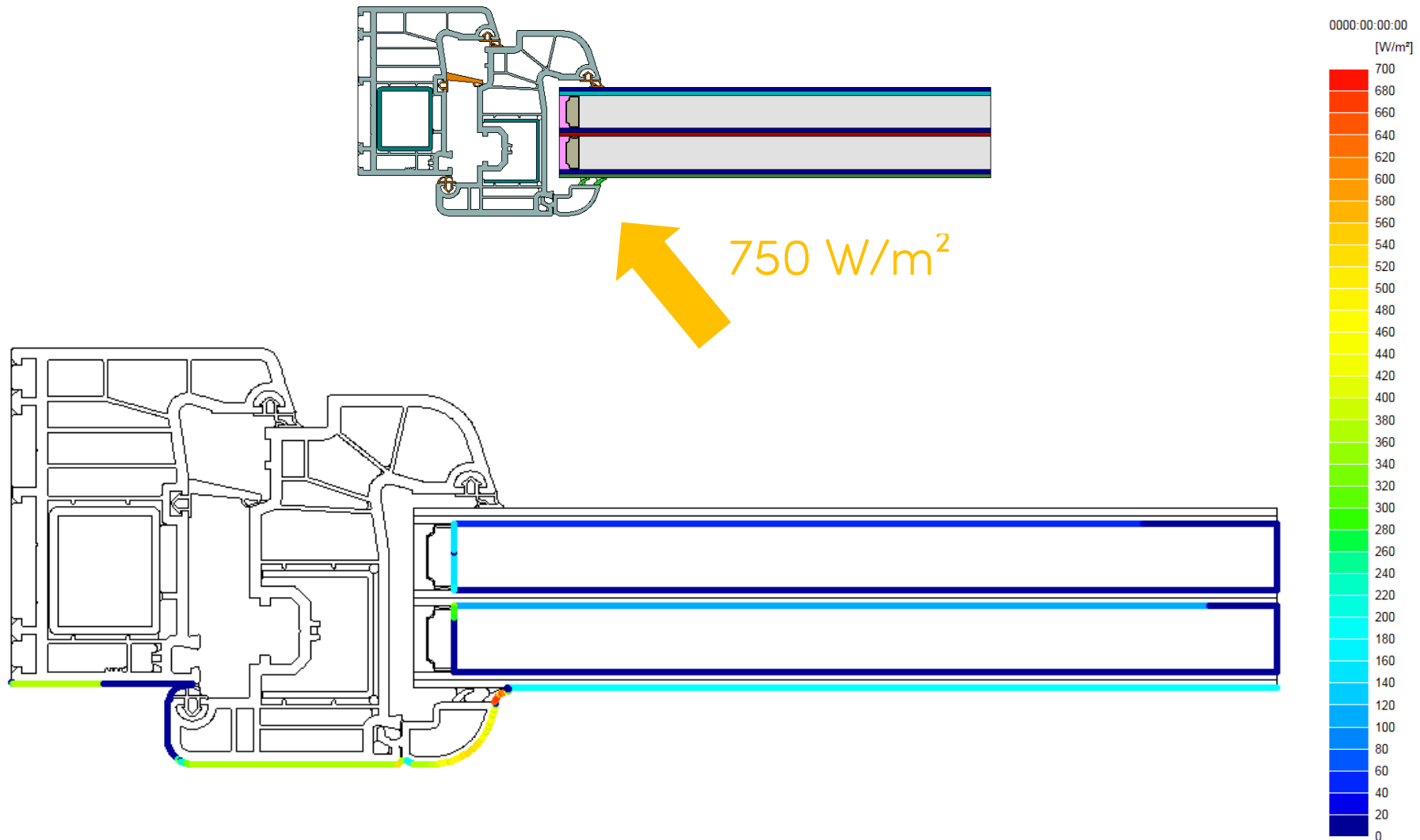


Sun Obstacles				
No.	Min. Azimuth [°]	Max. Azimuth [°]	Min. Altitude [°]	Max. Altitude [°]
1	-180	180	0	5
2	90	270	0	90

E.2 Visualisation of absorbed solar radiation

- Visualisation of absorbed solar radiation ☀

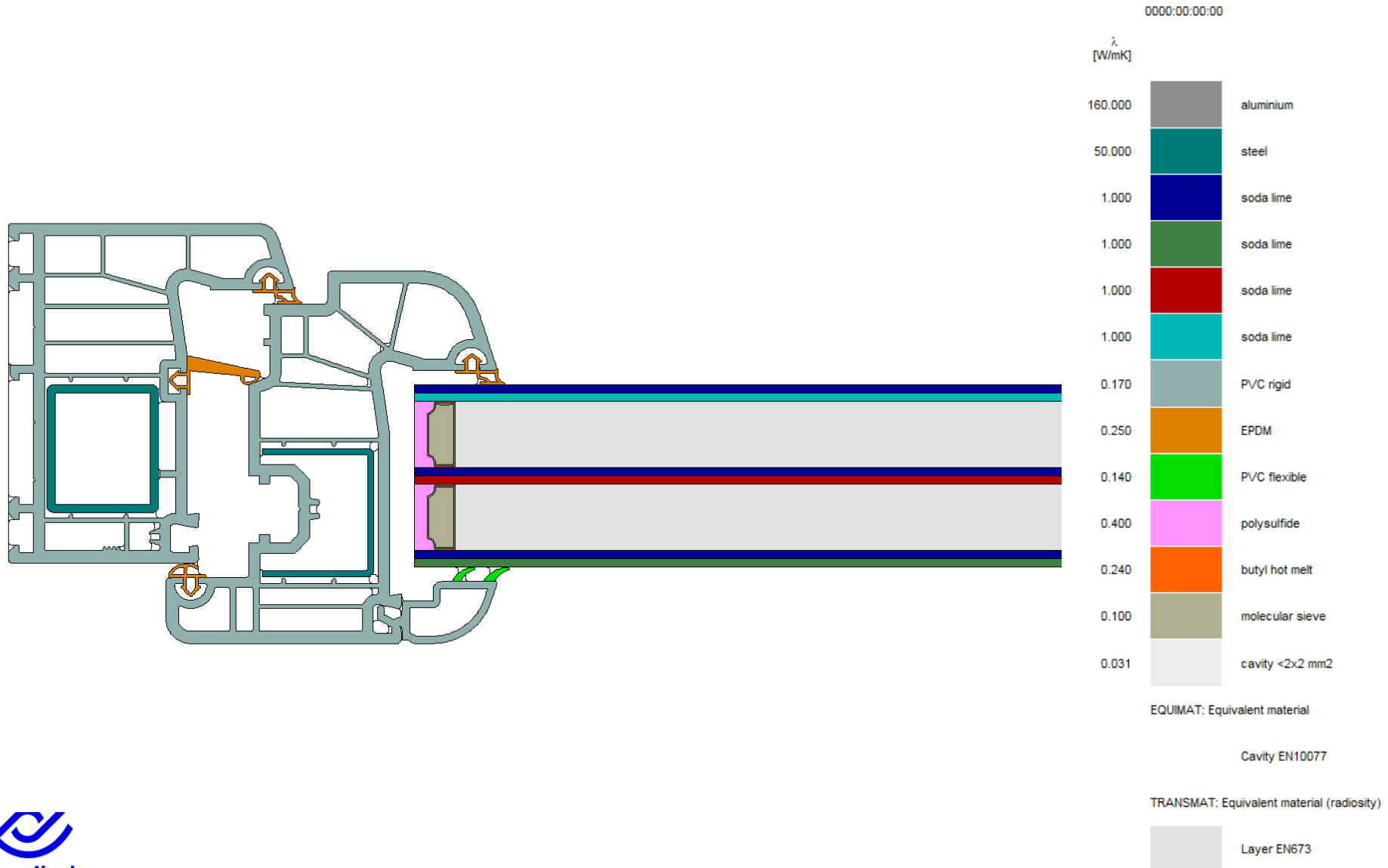
Example of PVC window profile under solar exposure (315° , 750W/m^2)



E.3 Graphic output – Legend

[overview](#)

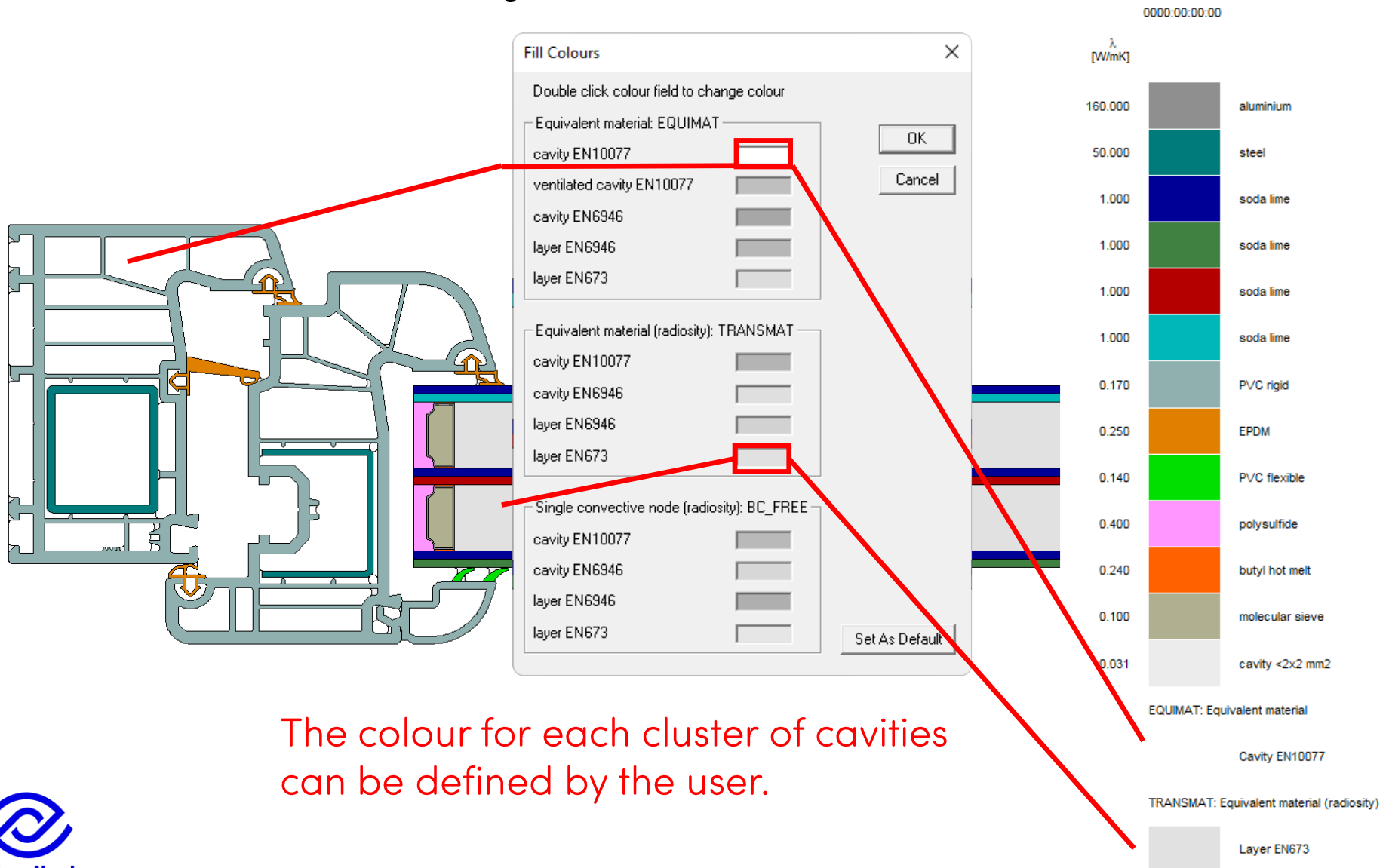
Fill materials → revised legend: material name + clustered cavities



E.3 Graphic output – Legend

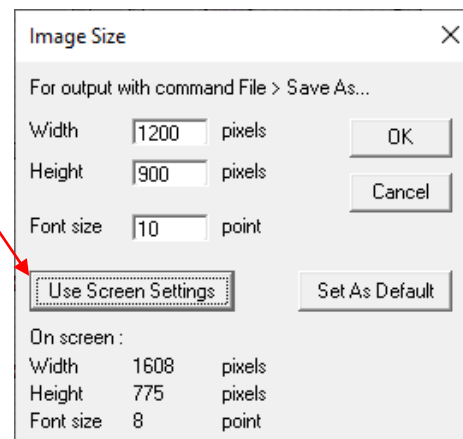
[overview](#)

Fill materials → revised legend: material name + clustered cavities



E.4 Graphic output – Miscellaneous

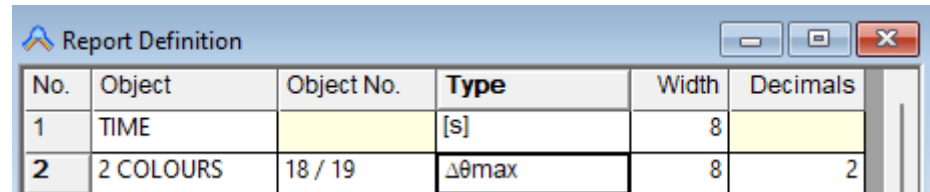
- Triangulation mesh only visible when image has relevant scale
- Faster image processing algorithm (for complex files)
- Improved algorithm for visualizing BC_FREE in graphic output resulting in higher rendering speed
- Image Size: possible to use Screen Settings for image output



F.1 New report definitions: $\Delta T_{\max}$, E_{tot} , E_{diff} , E_{dir} , E_{gr}

[overview](#)

- $\Delta T_{\max}$: maximum temperature difference within 1 or 2 colours

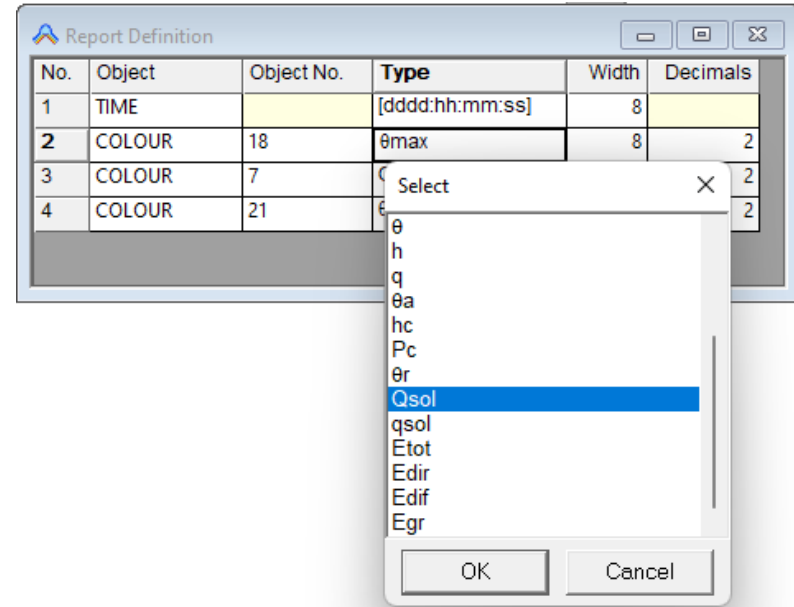


No.	Object	Object No.	Type	Width	Decimals
1	TIME		[s]	8	
2	2 COLOURS	18 / 19	$\Delta\theta_{\max}$	8	2

Solar radiation received on materials exposed to a solar zone

- E_{tot} : Total irradiance (W/m^2)
- E_{diff} : Diffuse sky irradiance (W/m^2)
- E_{dir} : Direct irradiance (W/m^2)
- E_{gr} : Ground reflected irradiance (W/m^2)

F.2 Absorbed solar flux/energy into materials (q_{sol} , Q_{sol}) overview



The report definitions Q_{sol} and q_{sol} allow to report the energy and heat flux absorbed into materials (not limited to materials facing the solar zone)

F.2 Absorbed solar flux/energy into materials (q_{sol} , Q_{sol}) overview

Application: effective solar absorption according to EN 410

Fixed sun position

Total solar radiation:

☐ Function

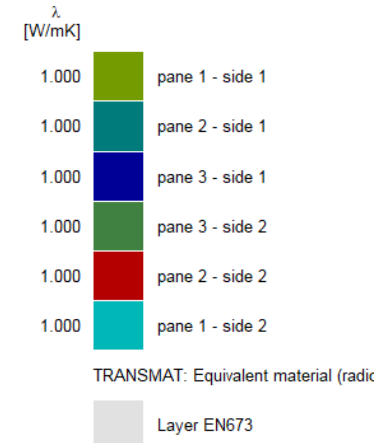
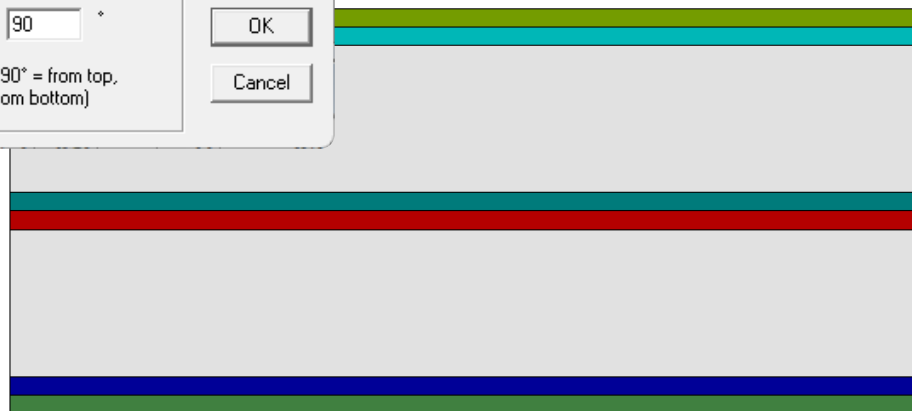
☒ Constant value W/m²

Angle of incidence of solar radiation °

(0° = radiation from right, 90° = from top, 180° = from left, 270° = from bottom)

OK Cancel

No.	Object	Object No.	Type	Width	Decimals
1	TIME		[s]	8	
2	COLOUR	11	qsol	8	2
3	COLOUR	21	qsol	8	2
4	COLOUR	13	qsol	8	2
5	COLOUR	20	qsol	8	2
6	COLOUR	18	qsol	8	2
7	COLOUR	19	qsol	8	2



BISTRA - Report Output

BISTRA data file: glazed.bst

```

Column 1: Time [s]
Column 2: Colour 11 (pane 1 - side 1), absorbed solar flux [W/m²]
Column 3: Colour 21 (pane 1 - side 2), absorbed solar flux [W/m²]
Column 4: Colour 13 (pane 2 - side 1), absorbed solar flux [W/m²]
Column 5: Colour 20 (pane 2 - side 2), absorbed solar flux [W/m²]
Column 6: Colour 18 (pane 3 - side 1), absorbed solar flux [W/m²]
Column 7: Colour 19 (pane 3 - side 2), absorbed solar flux [W/m²]

```

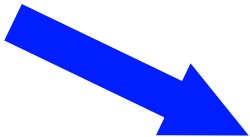
0 360.00 23.96 198.22 10.34 108.57 0.00

F.3 Option to save data as .csv

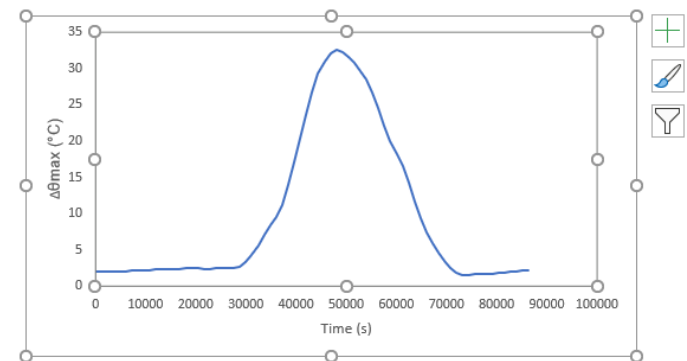
Report data is also saved in .csv format allowing to simplify post-processing

```

1 Time [s],Colour 10 (ext glazing ): temperature difference [°C]
2 0,1.96
3 1200,1.96
4 2400,1.96
5 3600,1.96
6 4800,2.00
7 6000,2.05
8 7200,2.11
9 8400,2.16
10 9600,2.21
11 10800,2.25
12 12000,2.27
13 13200,2.27
14 14400,2.26
15 15600,2.31
16 16800,2.41
17 18000,2.52
18 19200,2.53
19 20400,2.46
20 21600,2.39
21 22800,2.39
22 24000,2.43
23 25200,2.50
  
```



Time [s]	Colour 10 (ext glazing): temperature difference [°C]
0	1.96
1200	1.96
2400	1.96
3600	1.96
4800	2
6000	2.05
7200	2.11
8400	2.16
9600	2.21
10800	2.25
12000	2.27
13200	2.27
14400	2.26
15600	2.31
16800	2.41
18000	2.52
19200	2.53
20400	2.46
21600	2.39
22800	2.39
24000	2.43
25200	2.5

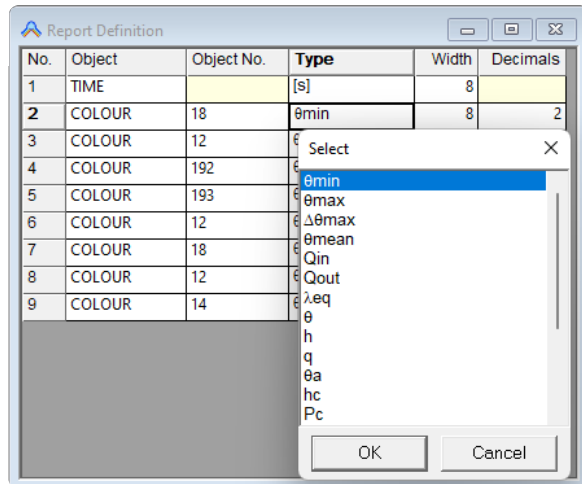


F.4 Miscellaneous

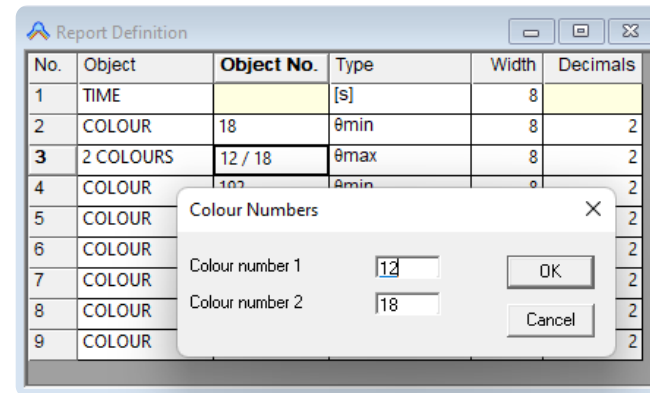
[overview](#)

1. Introduction of Listbox to select Report Definition 'Type'
2. Temperature outputs of combination of 2 colours possible
3. Colour name included in header of Report output
4. Text output: always entirely visible (no memory caps)
5. Text output: column with non-valid results show '-' (e.g. θ_a for BC_SKY)

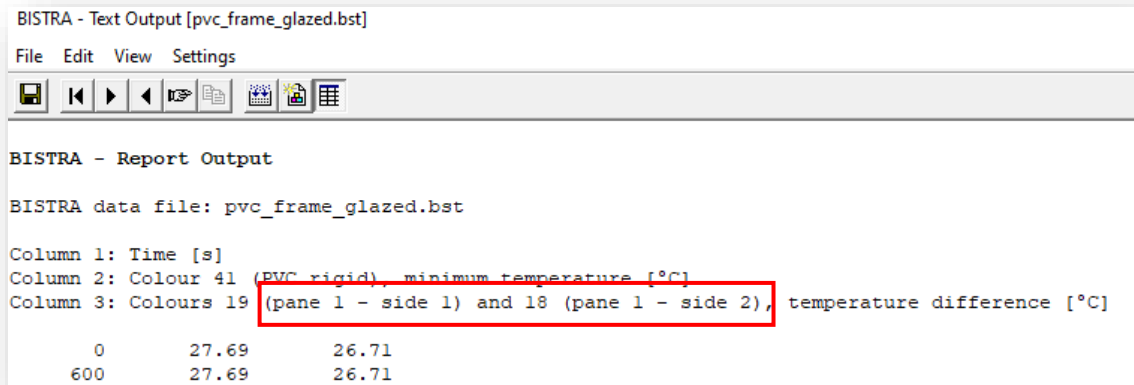
1



2



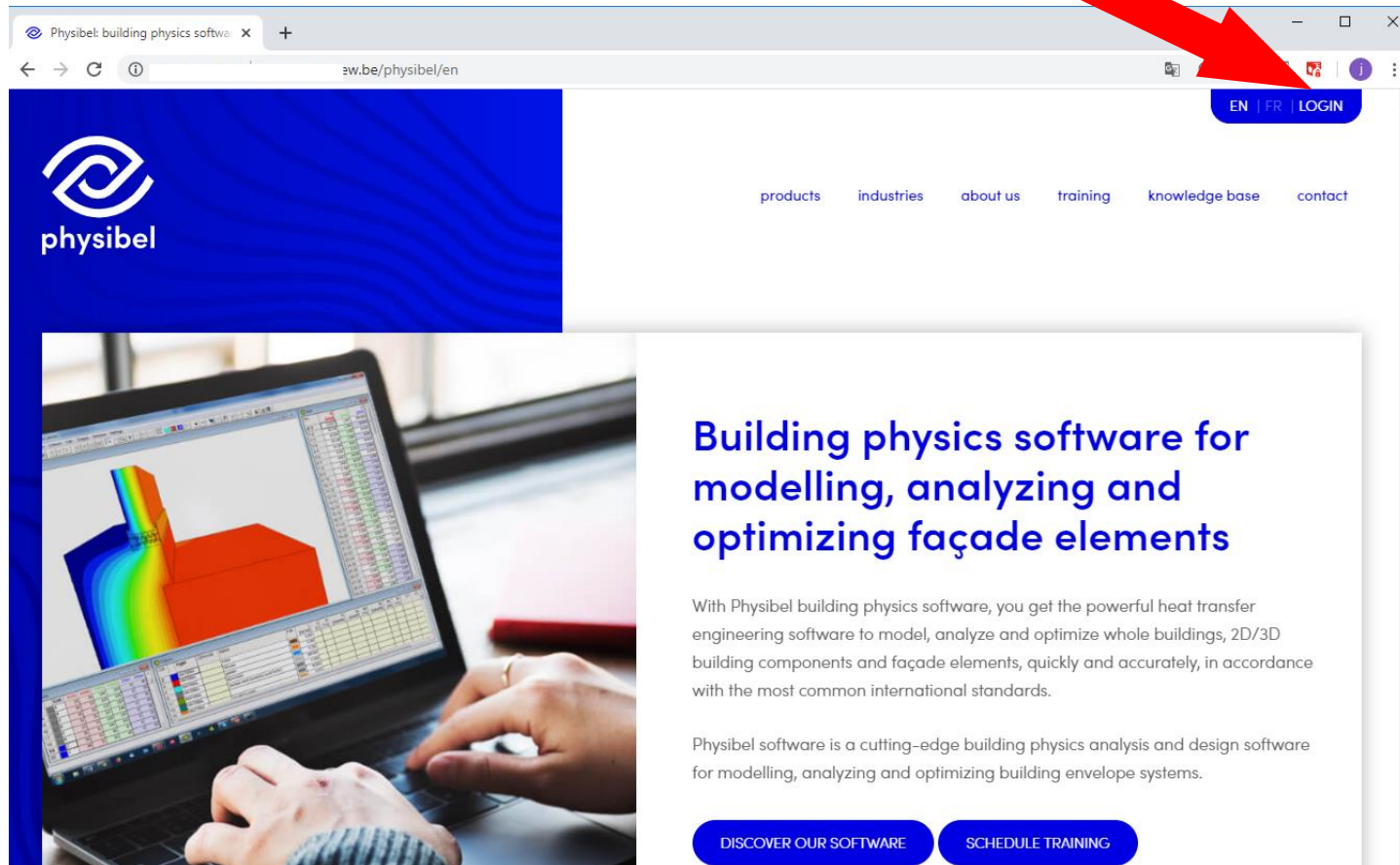
3



G.1 Online Physibel Portal

[overview](#)

log in to portal via www.physibel.be



The screenshot shows the Physibel website in a web browser. The browser's address bar displays 'aw.be/physibel/en'. A red arrow points from the text 'log in to portal via www.physibel.be' to the 'LOGIN' button in the top right corner of the website. The website features a blue header with the Physibel logo on the left and a navigation menu on the right. The main content area includes a large image of a laptop displaying a 3D building model with a color-coded heat transfer analysis, and a text block describing the software's capabilities. At the bottom, there are two blue buttons: 'DISCOVER OUR SOFTWARE' and 'SCHEDULE TRAINING'.

Physibel: building physics software

aw.be/physibel/en

EN | FR | LOGIN

products industries about us training knowledge base contact

Building physics software for modelling, analyzing and optimizing façade elements

With Physibel building physics software, you get the powerful heat transfer engineering software to model, analyze and optimize whole buildings, 2D/3D building components and façade elements, quickly and accurately, in accordance with the most common international standards.

Physibel software is a cutting-edge building physics analysis and design software for modelling, analyzing and optimizing building envelope systems.

DISCOVER OUR SOFTWARE SCHEDULE TRAINING

G.1 Online Physibel Portal

[overview](#)

Access to

- Knowledge Base with example projects, tutorials and videos

The screenshot displays the Physibel Knowledge Base portal. The browser address bar shows 'physibel-portal/public/knowledge'. The page features a search bar with the text 'floor' entered, highlighted by a red box and a red arrow labeled 'Search tool'. Below the search bar, the results for 'Bisco validation EN ISO 11855-2 floor heating' are shown. This result includes a 2D cross-section diagram of a floor heating system, a color-coded temperature scale, and a description of the test example. A red box highlights the 'Download Pdf' and 'Watch video' buttons, with a red arrow pointing to them labeled 'Access project files, document and/or video'. Below this, another result for 'Thermal analysis of a floor heating system' is partially visible, featuring a 3D diagram of a floor slab and a color-coded temperature scale.

Knowledge | Physibel portal

physibel-portal/public/knowledge

physibel Portal

Licences Users Knowledge base Support Website Jelle

Knowledge Base

Search tool

floor

All software

All categories

Search

Bisco validation EN ISO 11855-2 floor heating

EN 15377 Annex D of the standard EN ISO 11855-2:2015 contains a test example that must be used to verify a steady state numerical calculation program. The program BISCO is used to simulate the test example.

keywords: BISCO, EN ISO 11855-2, floor heating, validation, standard

Download Pdf Watch video

Thermal analysis of a floor heating system

For a floor heating system, the water temperature course and the floor temperature distribution are simulated using the transient programs BISTRA and VOLTRA, both in steady and transient state.

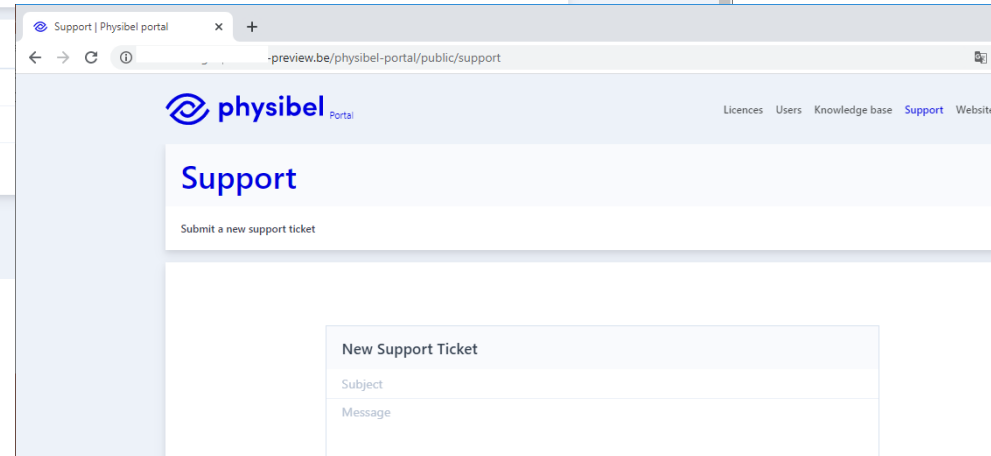
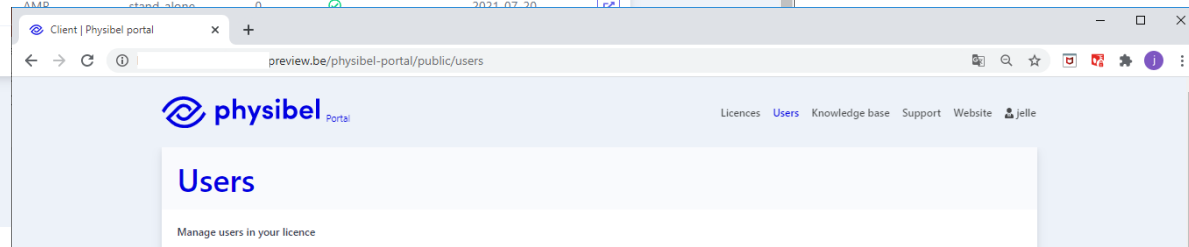
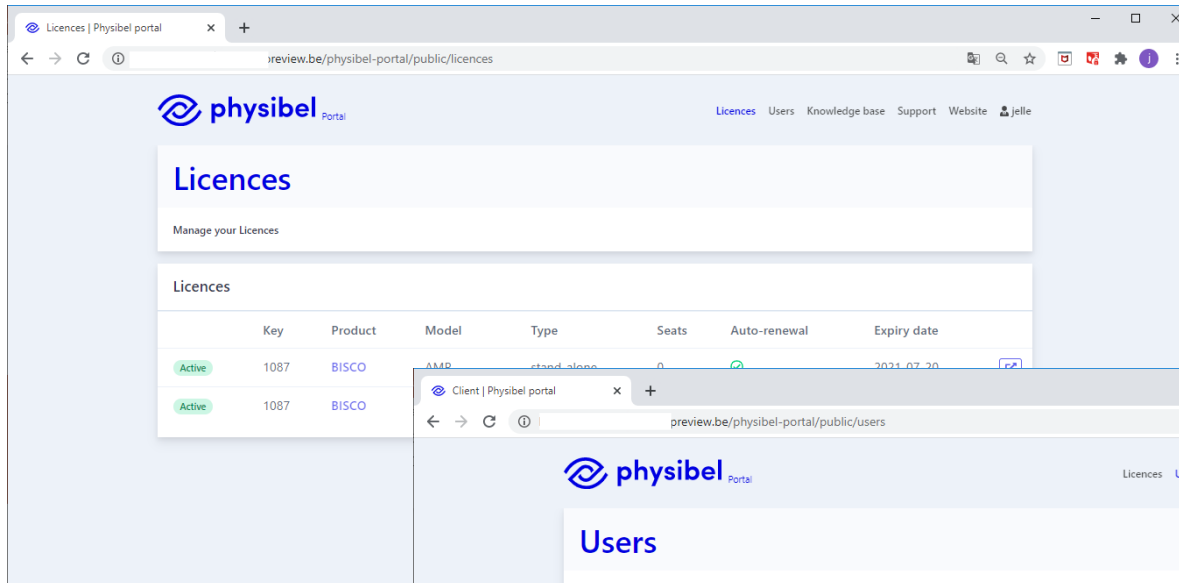
Keywords: BISTRA, VOLTRA, floor heating, cooling, inertia

G.1 Online Physibel Portal

[overview](#)

Access to

- Licence and user management
- Support



H Licencing options

[overview](#)

Option 1: hardware key

- Stand-alone
- Model: perpetual
- Updates and support via Annual Maintenance Plan (AMP)



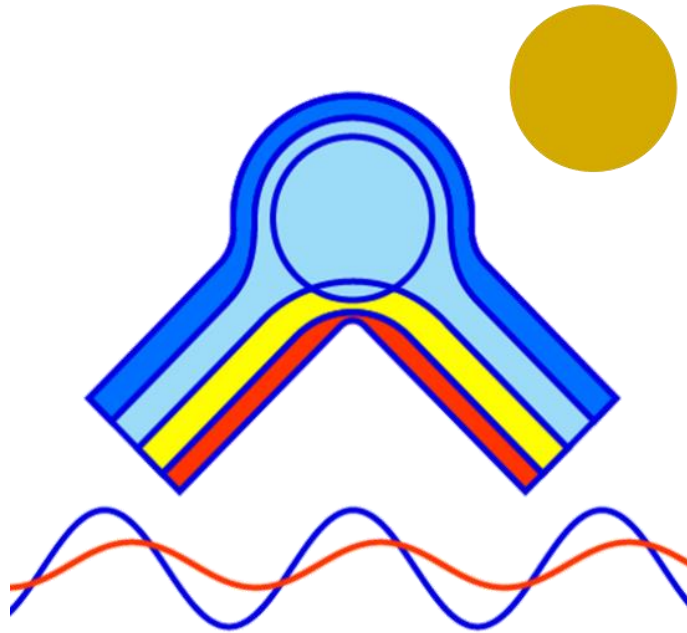
Option 2: Software licence

- Stand-alone / network floating / cloud-based floating
- Model: subscription (1 or 3-yearly)
- Updates and support included in subscription





BISTRA v5 New program performances



www.physibel.be/bistra

downloadable program demo version