



## An industry perspective on daylight calculations

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# MicroShade A/S

## Introduction



### Spin-off from Danish Technology Institute in 2003

- Venture company since 2008
- Commercial for 10 years

### Business overview

- Work with the major glass manufactures
- >100 Projects in Europa, start-up in middle east and Australia
- Projects with known architects

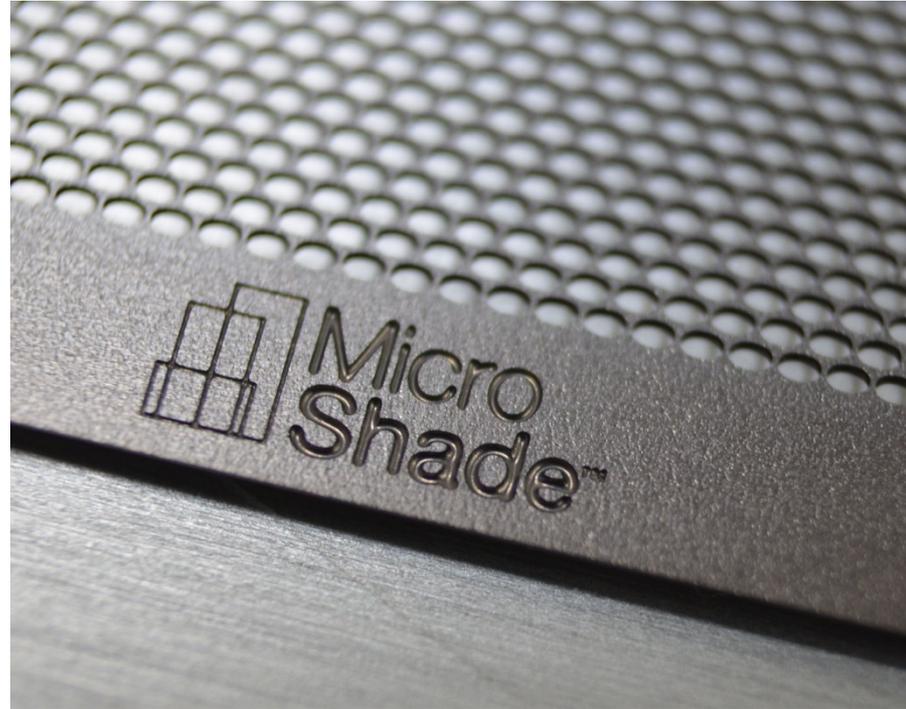
### Partners



# What is MicroShade®



- A high-end solar shading product
- Consisting of a thin (0,175 mm) steel membrane with microlamellas
- Build into the glazing – complex fenestration system (CFS)



# How does it work?

## Progressive g-value

g-value, summer = 0.10

g-value, winter = 0.35

## Stabil and smooth daylight

LT<sub>0</sub> 0.50

sDA<sub>300,50</sub> more than 50%

Excellent colour rendering, Ra > 96%

## Free view out

Always transparent

## Removal of direct sunlight

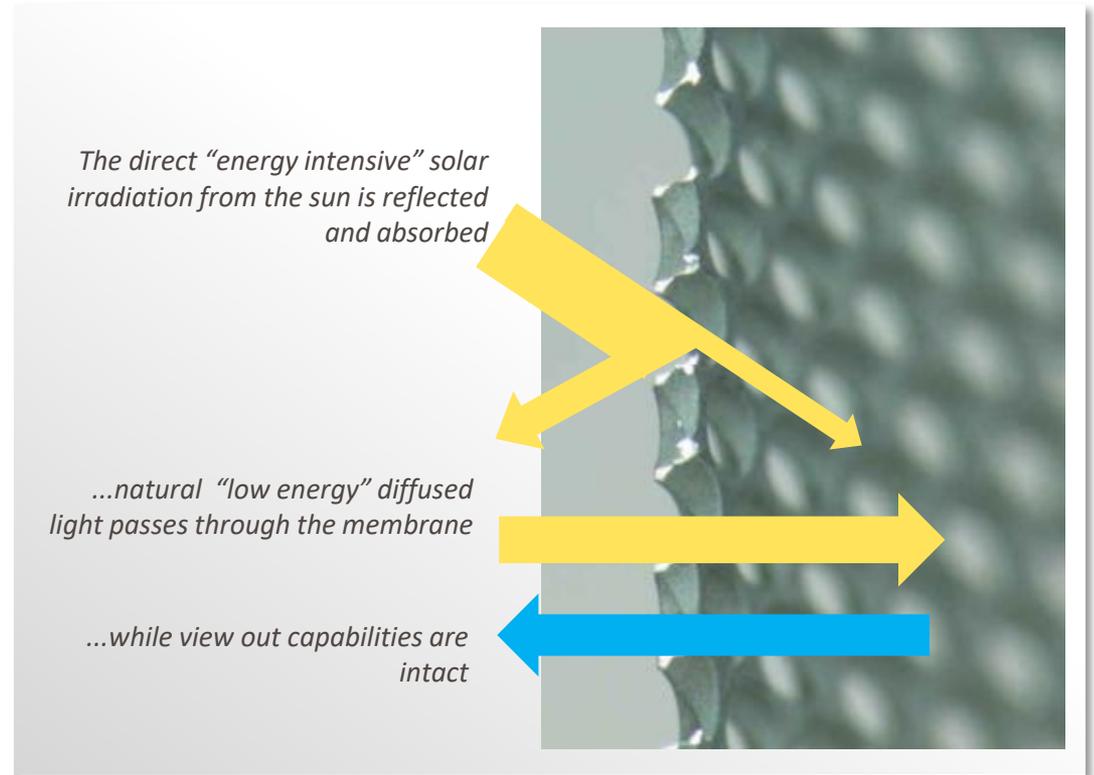
Partial shadow

## Passive technology

No user interaction

Predictable and efficient

No maintenance



# Consequences of the EU EPBD Directive



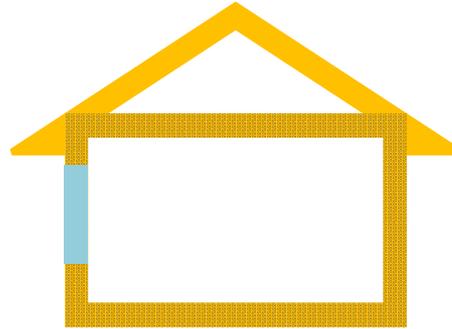
Typical existing buildings  
(EU)



- Low level of insulation
- Single or 2-layer glazings
- High air leakage



Typical buildings in existing  
building codes 2018 (EU)



- High level of insulation
- Low-e glazings (2- or 3-layer)
- Low air leakage
- Solar irradiation needs to be minimized in summer
- Some solar irradiation can be accepted in winter



Future buildings (EU)  
ZEB



- Highly insulated windows
- Increased demand for progressive, movable or switchable solar shadings
- Optimized designs and orientations
- Daylighting

# Calculations by the advisors



Typical existing buildings (EU)



- Stationary heat transfer calculations
- No or simple daylight calculations



Typical buildings in existing building codes 2018 (EU)



- Dynamic/climate based energy and indoor climate calculations
- Simple daylight calculations
  - DF
  - WFR



Future buildings (EU) ZEB



- Dynamic/climate based energy and indoor climate calculations
- Climate based daylight calculations
- **Coupled indoor climate and daylight calculations based on the same assumptions**





# Daylight

## Legislation & standards



- Demand in the market for CBDM is driven by
  - legislation
  - standards
  - building certification schemes (only high-end)
  - time
- Climate based metrics are moving into legislation and standards, e.g.
  - LEED (sDA)
  - BREEAM (sDA)
  - New EN 17037 Daylight standard (sDA)
  - Danish building regulation (BR18) as already adopted EN17037 - before it was voted through





# Challenges

## Climate Based Daylight Modelling (CBDM)



- Simulation software for advisors
  - Requires expert skills
  - Radiance parameters are difficult to choose
  - Shading devices are difficult to model
  - Long simulation time
- Need for **easy to use** and **fast** simulation software

# Example

## Comparison of facade systems



### Static shading solutions



Low energy glazing (LowE)



CoolLite Xtreme 60/28 (CLX)  
Saint Gobain



MicroShade® MS-A (MS-A)  
MicroShade A/S

### Dynamic shading solutions



External lamellas generic  
Tilt of lamellas 30°



External roller blind generic  
Transmittance 0,15



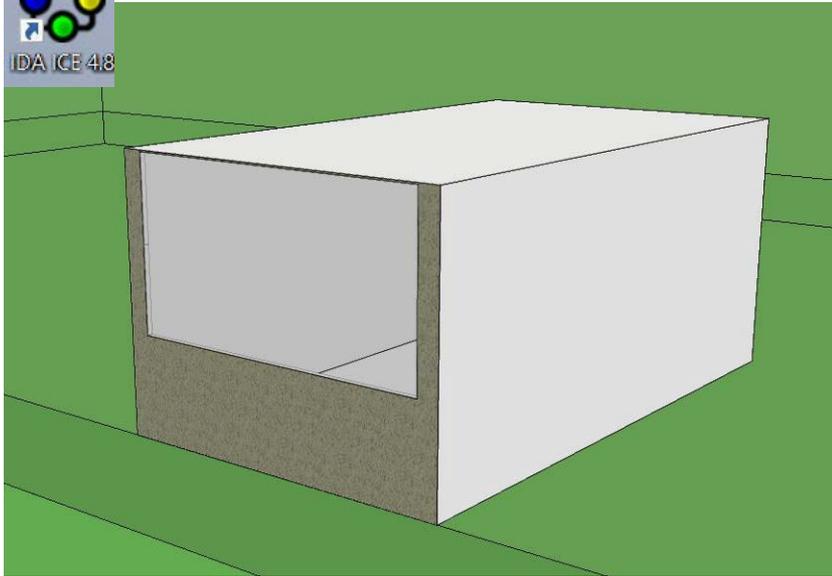
Integrated blinds generic  
Tilt of lamellas 30°

# Example

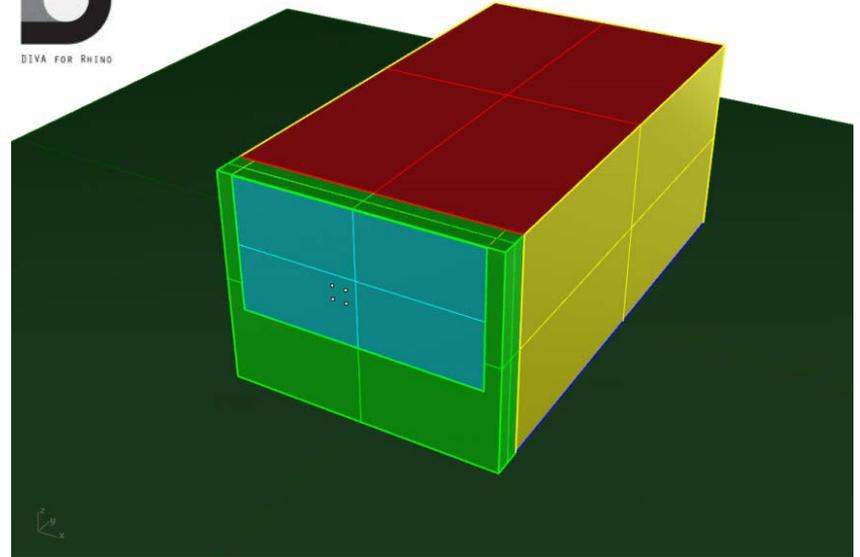
Choice of software(s)



## Indoor climate simulations in IDA ICE



## Daylight simulations in DIVA for Rhino

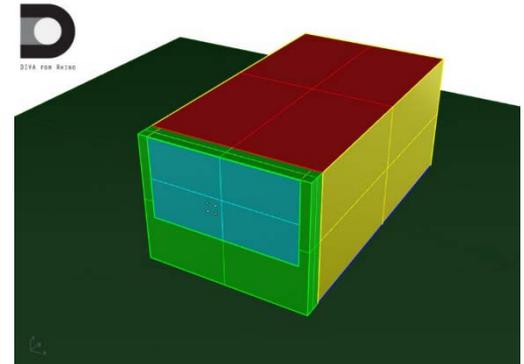
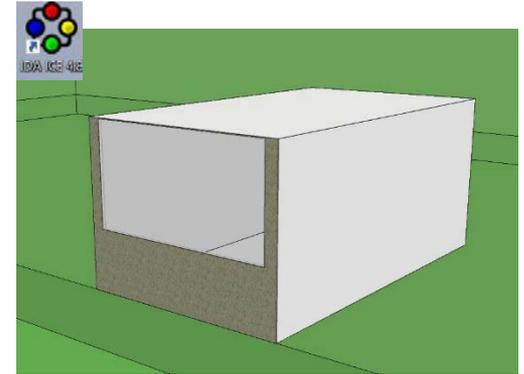


# Example

## Experiences

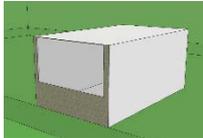


- Model export was difficult, didn't succeed → time consuming
- Building two models were faster (simple model)
- Window and shading description was very different in the two softwares
  - IDA ICE – spectral glazing data, generic shadings in library
  - DIVA – transmissivity of the glazing, shadings needed to be modelled physically
- Shading control is done differently in the two software
  - IDA ICE –  $W/m^2$  irradiation on the facade
  - DIVA – lux level inside the room



# Example

## Data handling

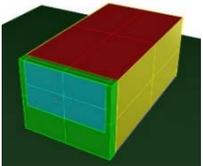
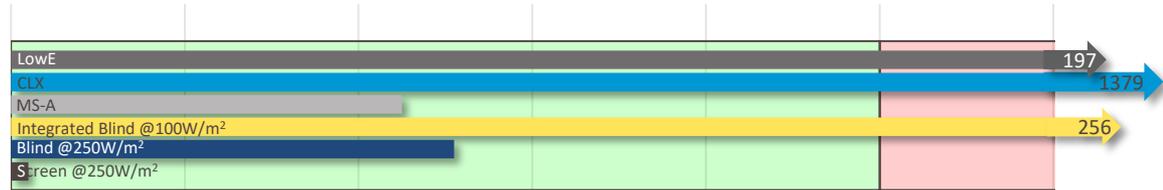


### Thermal Indoor Climate

Hours above 26°C

Demand acc. to EN15251

Max. 100 hours >26°C

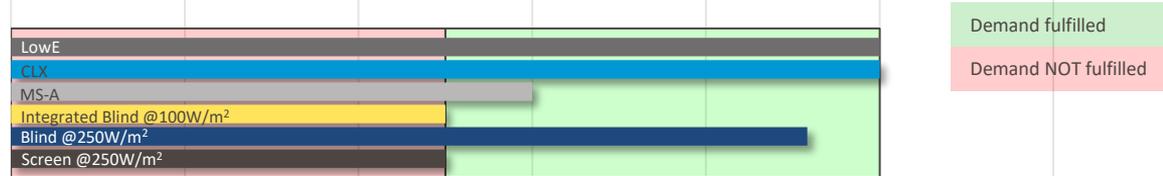


### Daylight

Percentage of area with min. 300 lux in 50% of daylight hours

Demand acc. To EN17037

Min. 50% sDA<sub>300,50</sub>



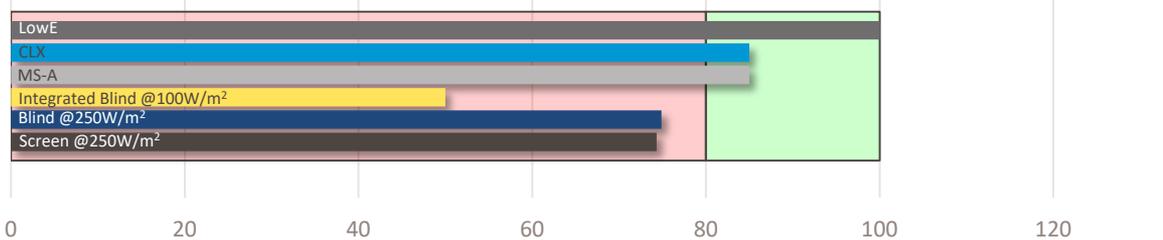
IDA ICE control was used on DIVA raw-data

### Weighted View Out

Percentage of workhours with a view out (weighted acc. to EN14501)

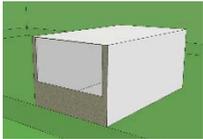
Danish guidance:

Min. 80% weighted view out



# Example

## Control strategies for dynamic shadings



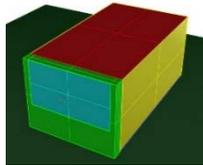
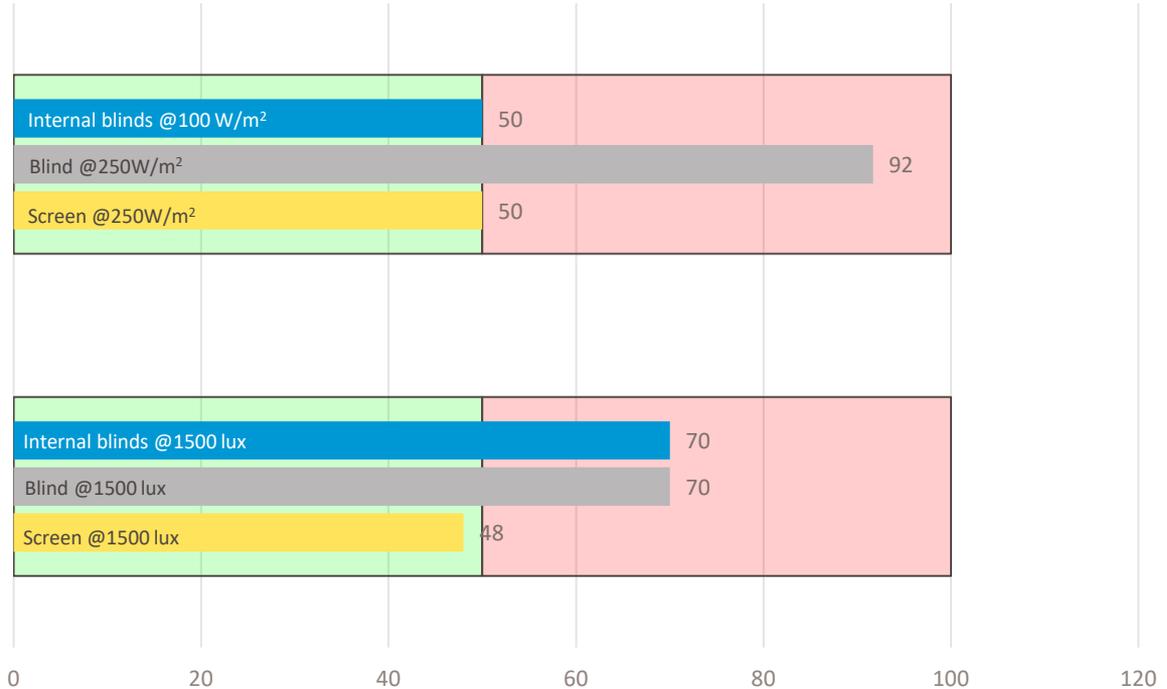
IDA ICE control  
was used on  
DIVA raw-data

### Daylight

Percentage of area with min.  
300 lux in 50% of daylight  
hours

### Demand acc. To EN17037

Min. 50% sDA<sub>300,50</sub>



DIVA control  
was used

### Daylight

Percentage of area with min.  
300 lux in 50% of daylight  
hours

### Demand acc. To EN17037

Min. 50% sDA<sub>300,50</sub>



# Challenges

## Combined indoor climate and CBDM



- Very few simulation software are able to do **both** indoor climate and CBDM
  - Model exports are often difficult and time consuming
  - Building two models take twice the time
  - Window and shading description is not shared between software
  - Shading control is not shared between software
  - Weatherdata requires specific format for each software
  - Often two separate advisors are doing indoor climate and daylight/CBDM and assumptions get lost
- Need for simulation software that can do;
  - both indoor climate and daylight/CBDM
  - using the same window and shading description
  - using the same shading control

# Conclusions

Designers



- Solar shading **must** be taken into account when evaluating daylight in future low energy buildings
- The **same control of shading** must be used in both indoor climate and daylight simulations
- Evaluate the view out with the planned solution





# Conclusion

Software developers



We need your help to make CBDM  
easy to use  
faster  
combinable with indoor climate  
simulations