

# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

## Optimal Thermal-Hygric Performance of Materials

### Considering Different Climate Zones



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# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

## Questions

1. What are typical construction / window connecting joint movements and is it possible to define a useful movement absorption capacity for joint sealing products?
2. Can an optimal diffusion behavior be defined for joints, i.e. which product is to be used on the exterior respectively interior?
3. Is there a difference for various climate zones – in this context for Seattle, WA and Miami, FL
4. What is the influence of a minor water penetration acc. to ASHREA 160 [2] on questions 2 & 3?
5. Can general parameters / recommendations be set / made based for these questions?



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Insulation was always possible



During Bronze Age around 3,400 years ago, the r-value of a wall was approximately  $20 \text{ h}\cdot\text{ft}^2\cdot^\circ\text{F}/\text{Btu}$  (U-Value of  $0,3 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$ ).

Were air tightness and raintightness unknown?

NO, since walls were plastered with clay every year!

Annual = durable?  
„only“ airtight?



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

„First Passive House“



**THE FRAM - late 19th century...**

...technically a passive house: The rooms were kept warm well through numerous layers of different insulating materials and airtight construction.



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

## Reduction of Energy Losses



US-Building example with clay and glass used as example for the „Landstuhl-Project“ in 1979 - first results only published in 1989.

Approach: Sufficient insulation, but also use the solar power with vapor open materials!



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

## Reduction of Energy Losses



"DTH-Nullenergiehaus" by [Prof. Vagn Korsgaard](#) (Kopenhagen, 1973)



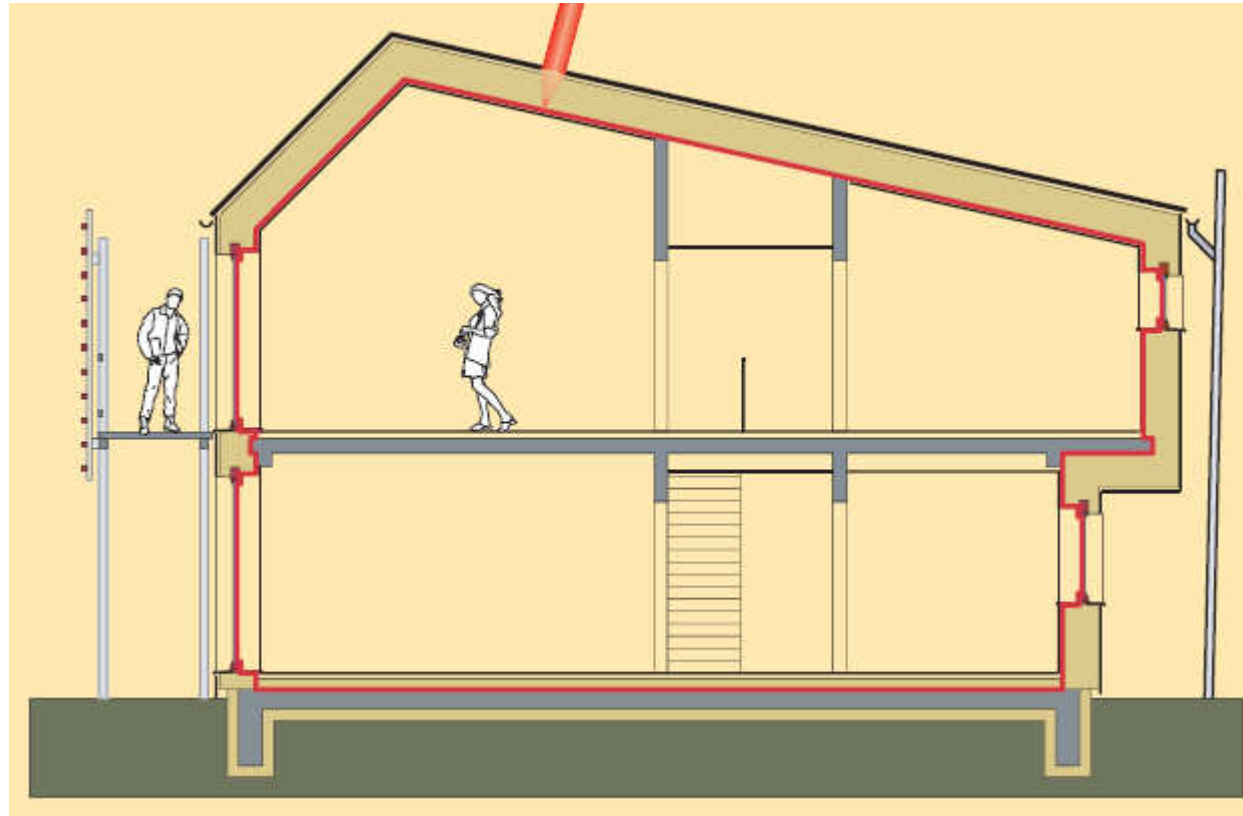
Amory Lovins 1982:  
In 2164m (7,100feet) altitude he built in Old Snowmass, Colorado, an extremely well thermally insulated and also passive solar house.



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Air tightness – tight, but how?

Air tightness must be planned and verified via blower door testing!



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

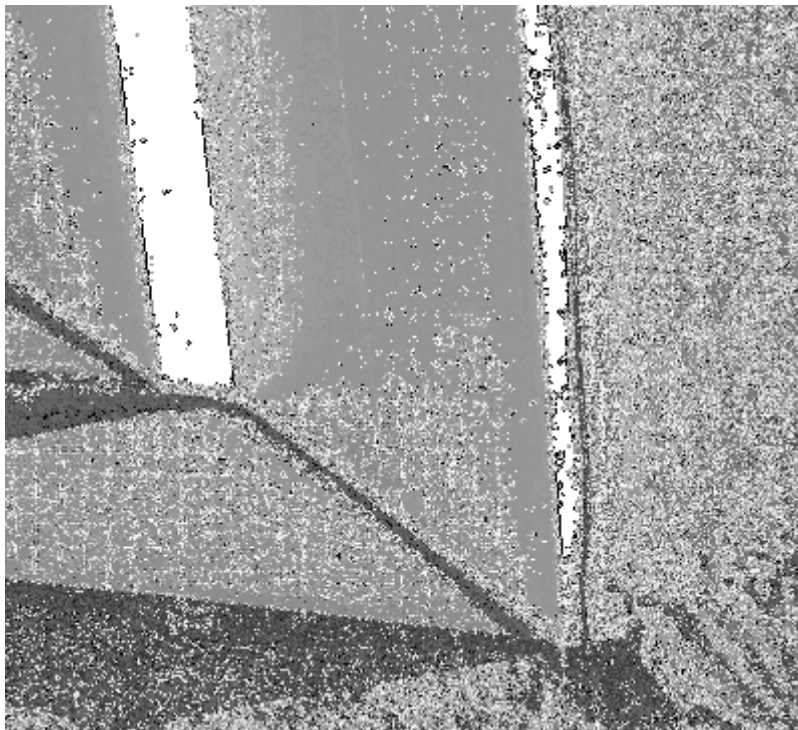
Triple Layer Sealing System – Durable Rain Tightness





# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Triple Layer Sealing System – Durable Rain Tightness



„Caulk and walk“

# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Triple Layer Sealing System – Durable Rain Tightness



PU based Volume Adhesive



Multi-functional Tape

Initial joint measurement was 15mm (11/32") – joints were charged with 100, 200 and 500 cycles of 3mm (15/64") movements (common movements for standard windows)



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Triple Layer Sealing System – Durable Rain Tightness



Erläuterung Bewegungen

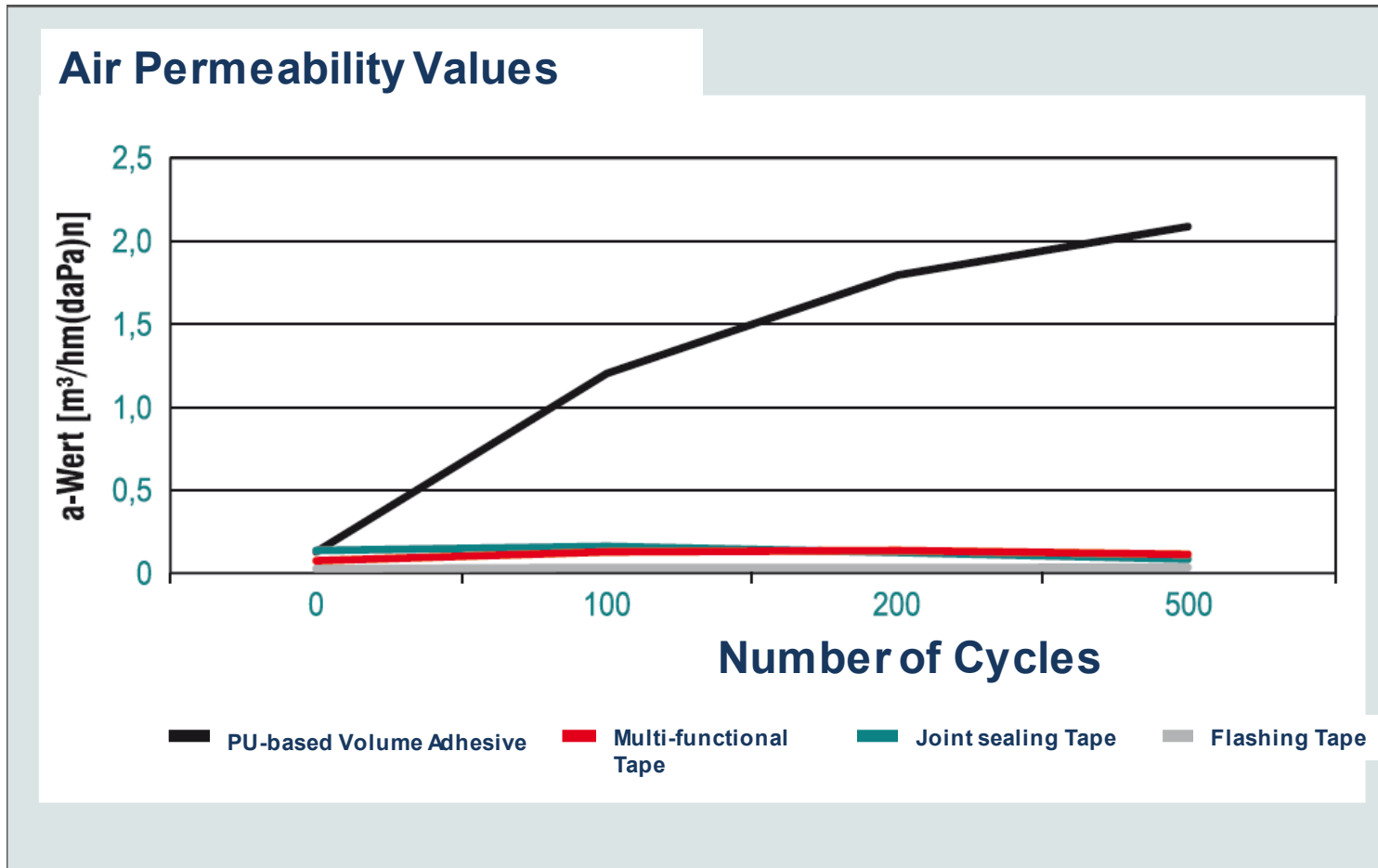
**PU based Volume Adhesive**

Initial joint measurement was 15mm (11/32“) – joints were charged with 100, 200 and 500 cycles of 3mm (15/64“) movements (common movements for standard windows)

**Multi-functional Tape**

# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

## Long-lasting Air Tightness – Evaluation of Joint Movements

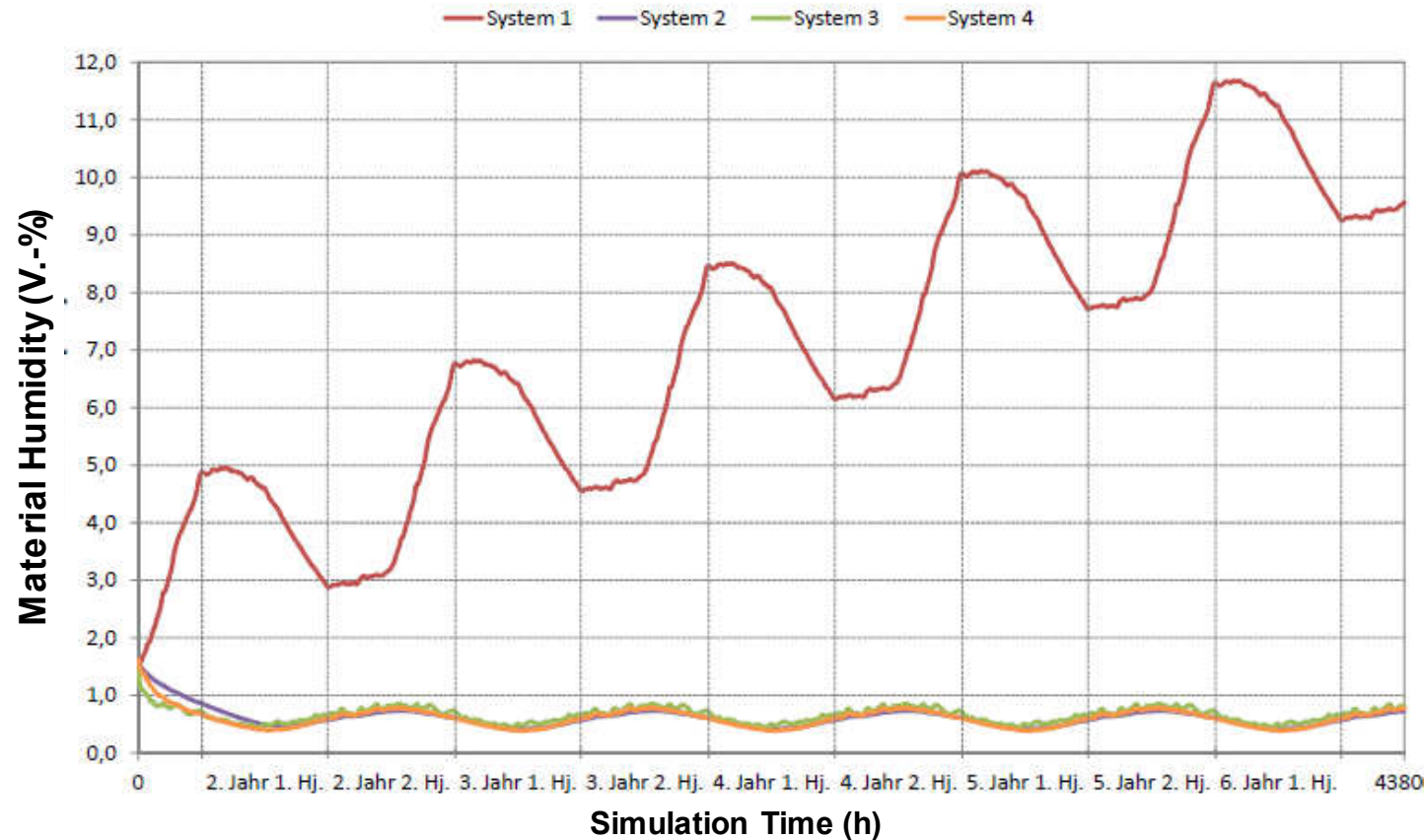


# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Thermic-Hygric Simulation – What happens in the Joint?



Material Humidity inside Joint



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Air Tightness – always tighter, but how?

NEW



## Certification of airtightness systems

*Preliminary requirements*

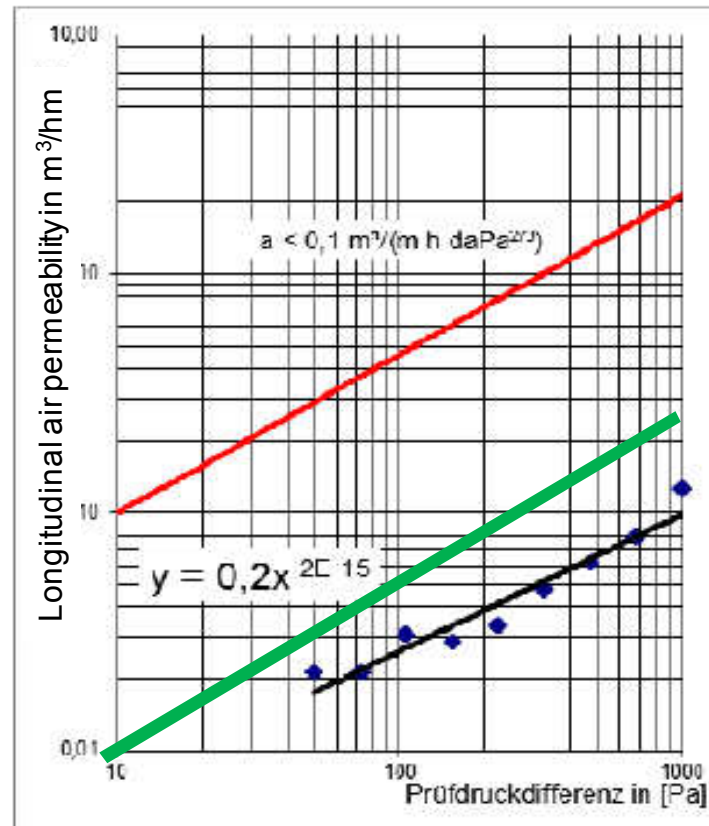
### Airtightness Window connection

Products for air tight and thermal bridge reduced installation of windows in wall openings.

The evaluation of the airtightness of window-to-wall connections takes place for both massive and framed walls. Wooden and plastic window frames are examined.

The requirements for the PH-certification category *window connection* are listed in the table below.

class	Permeability per unit length @ 50 Pa [m <sup>3</sup> /(hm)]
A+	≤ 0,05
A	≤ 0,30
B	≤ 0,50
C	≤ 0,80



At 50 Pa **HB 3E with 0,03**  
 Tested at ift Rosenheim → result: A+



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

## Triple Layer Sealing System

### 1. Weather protection layer :

Wind & rain tight, open for vapour diffusion

### 2. Function layer :

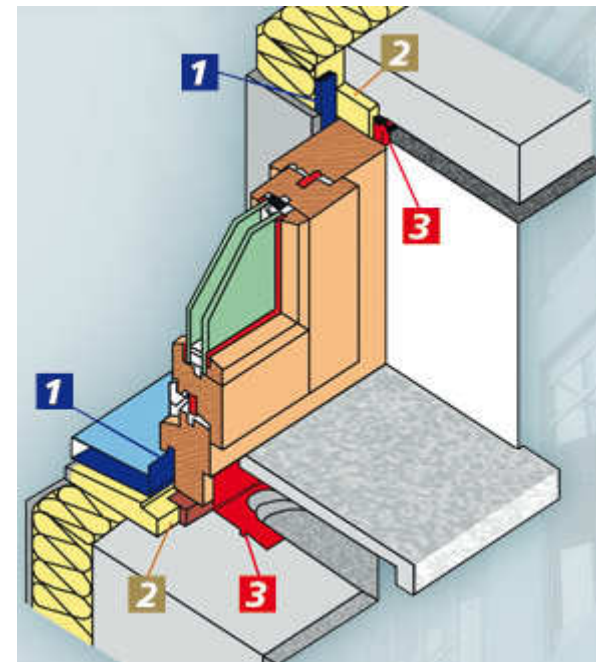
Thermal insulation & soundproofing

### 3. Inner layer :

Airtight & more vapour tight than on the outside

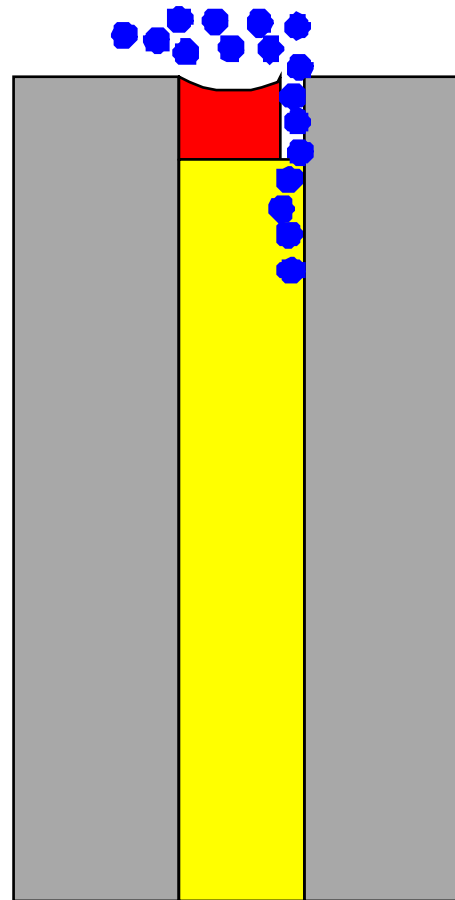
HANNO's product portfolio to achieve this:

- Joint sealing tapes
- Foil tapes
- Complementary products such as Sealing compounds, glues & PU-foam



# Durable Construction Joint Sealing

Joint sealed only with Caulk



Water penetration from exterior





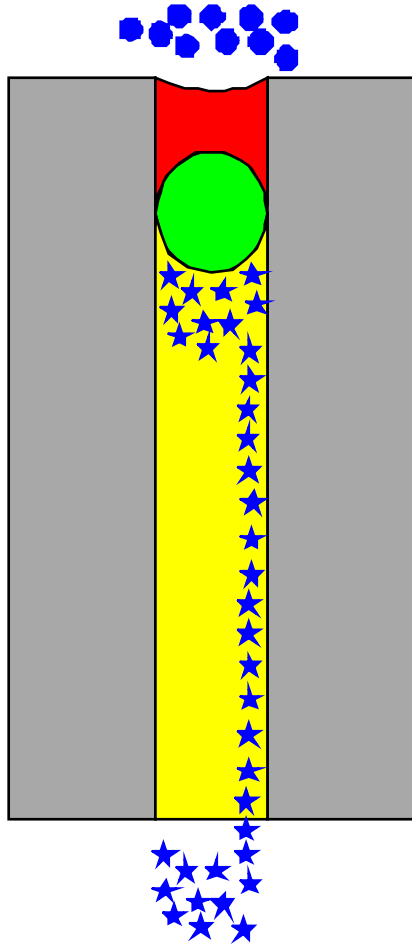
# Triple Layer System

Joint Sealed only with Caulk – Issues with Water Penetration



# Triple Layer System

## Joint Sealed with Caulk and Backer Rod



No water penetration from the exterior, but:

- proper preparation and cleaning of joint necessary
- plenty of high quality caulk has to be applied
- backer rod has to be placed behind caulk
- primer has to be applied to surrounding wall

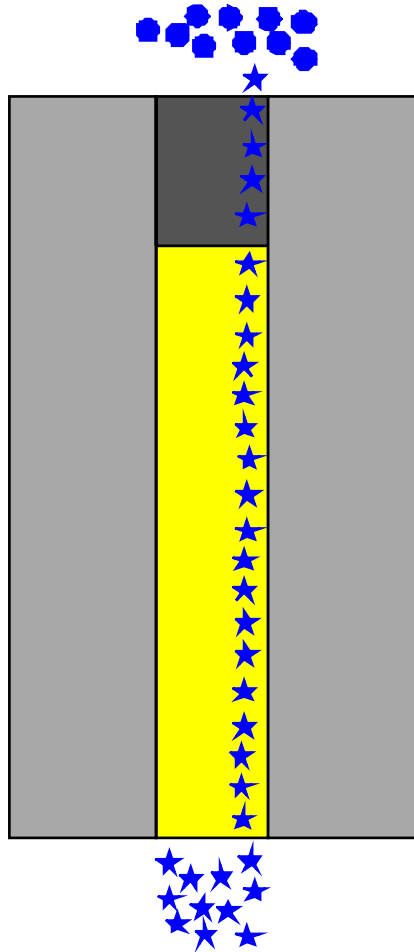
Possibility that vapor penetrates joint insulation from the interior and accumulates behind the caulk because it is vapour-tight

- insulation becomes wet
- reduced insulation functionality and mold may develop



# Triple Layer System

## Joint Sealed with Hannoband



No water penetration from the exterior

Only little vapor accumulation behind Hannoband because the tape is vapour open so that most of the vapour can pass through the joint!



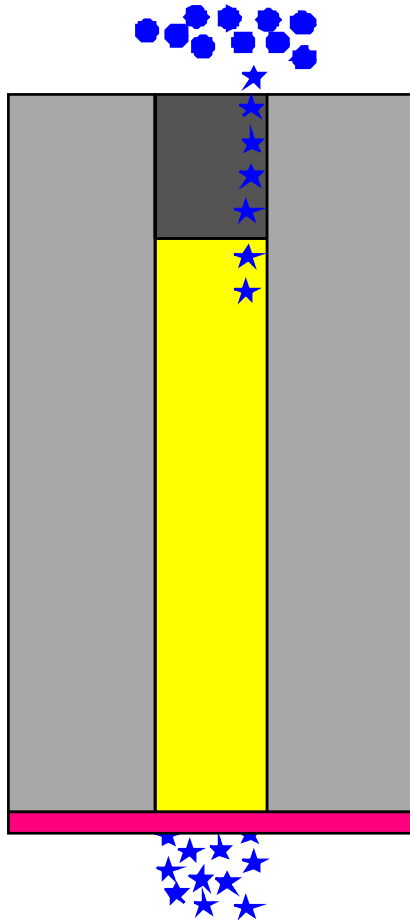
# Passive House Component Development

Air Tightness – always tighter, but how?



# Triple Layer System

Joint Sealed with Hannoband + Flashing Tape DUO Easy  
or Alternatively Sealed just with Hannoband 3E



No water penetration from the exterior

No vapor behind the Hannoband

Potential water accumulation in joint will  
evaporate to the exterior



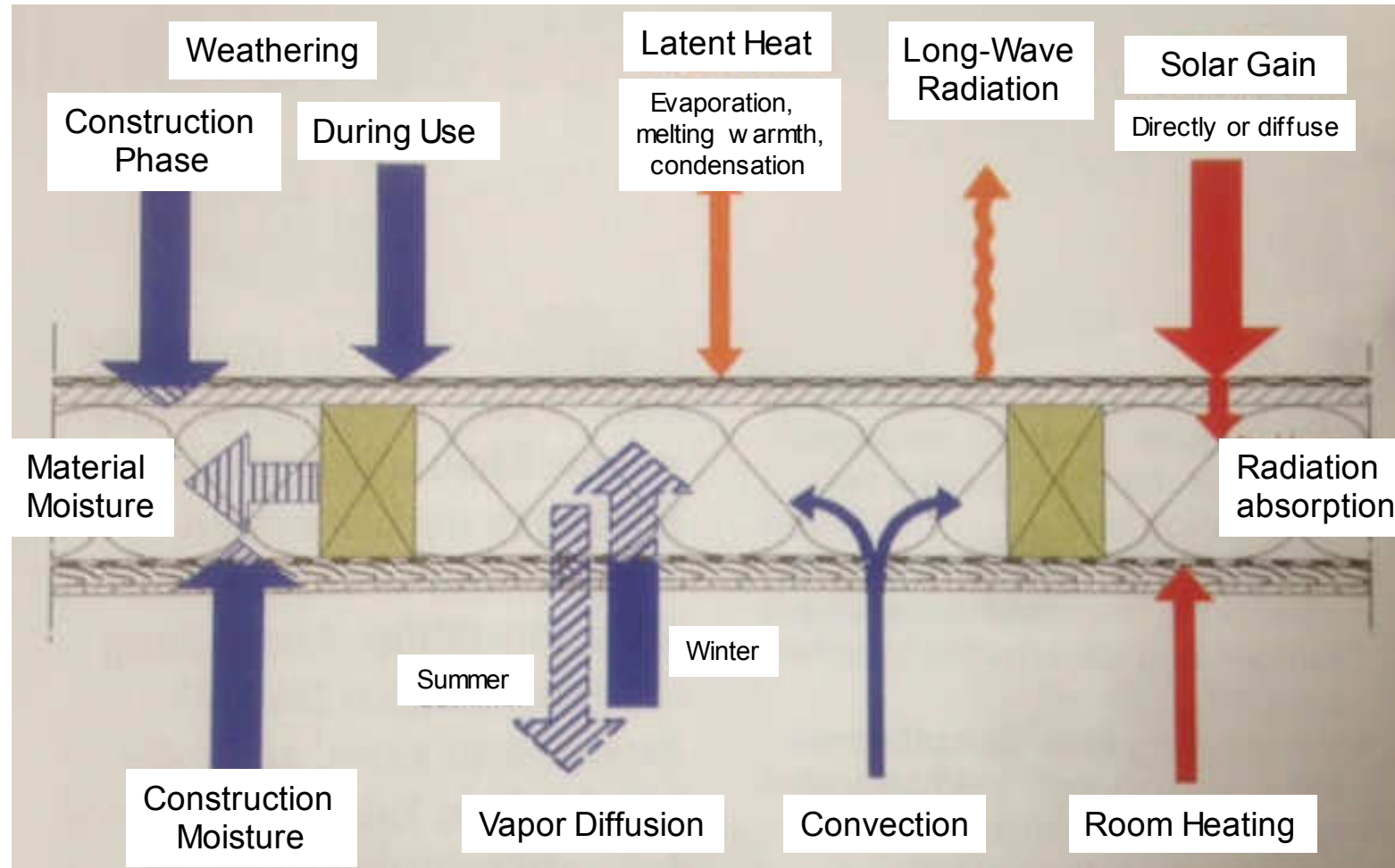
# HANNO Passive House Study Part 4: Diffusion Behaviour

So far based on 1,000 Wufi Calculations!



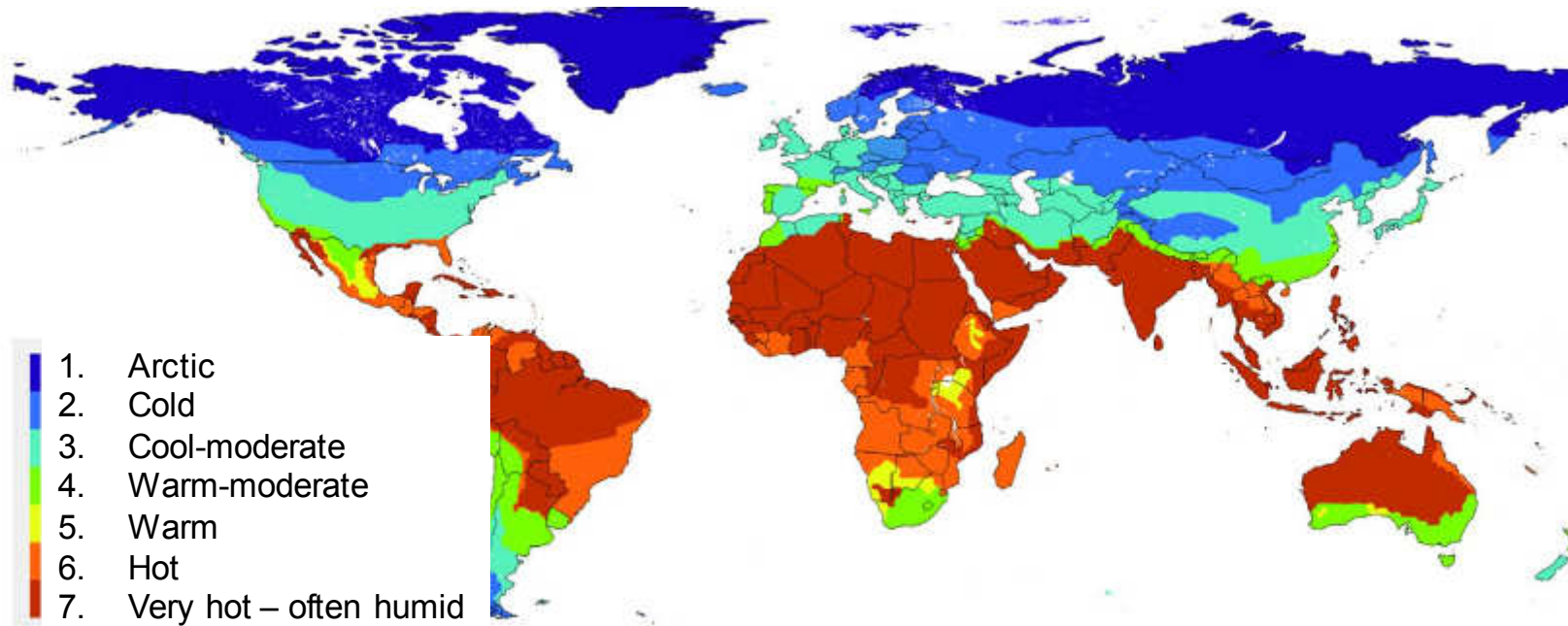
# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

Consider the Influence and Flow of Moisture!



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

Considering Specific Climate Zones!



Climate zones classified by Passve House Institute Darmstadt

e.g. Seattle

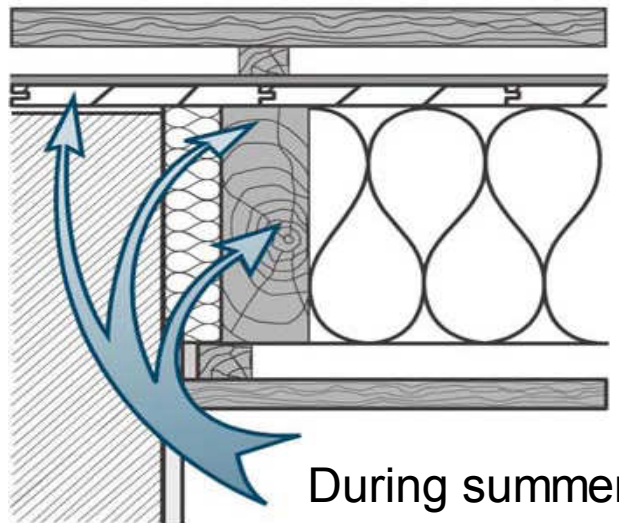
Vancouver – comparable to Tromsoe, Norway



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

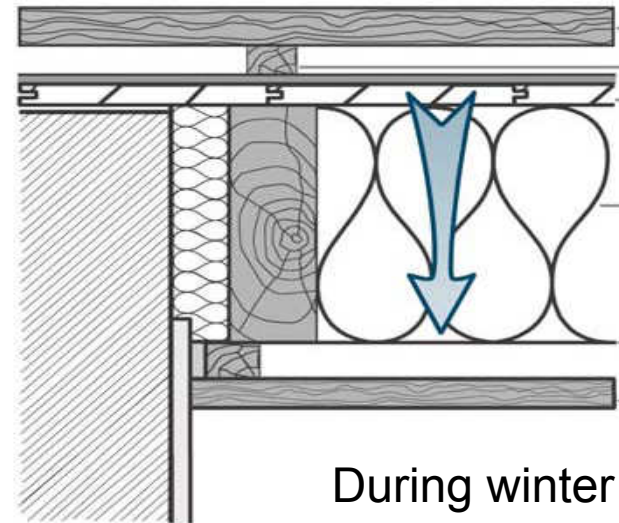
## Consider the Influence and Flow of Moisture!

The impact of moisture has long been ignored. In roofs and window joints damages occurred, which were investigated! Prof. Feldmeier has acknowledged the influence of moisture in this context.



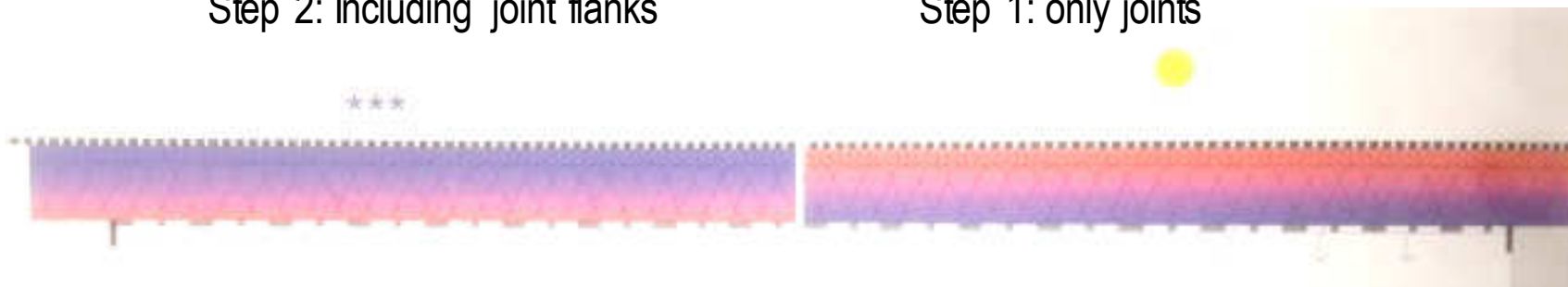
During summer

Step 2: Including joint flanks



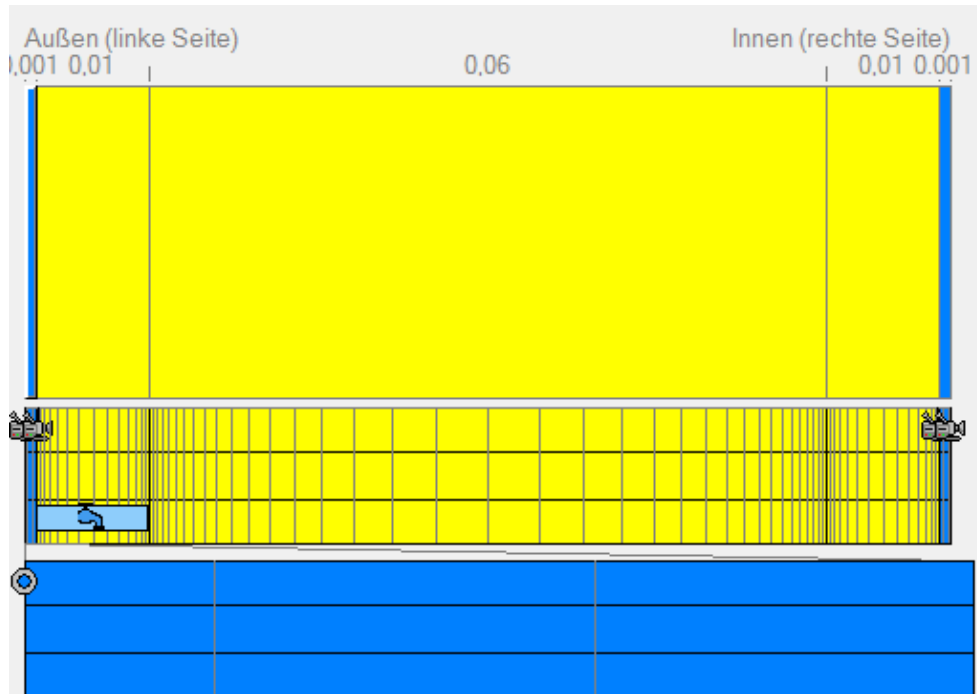
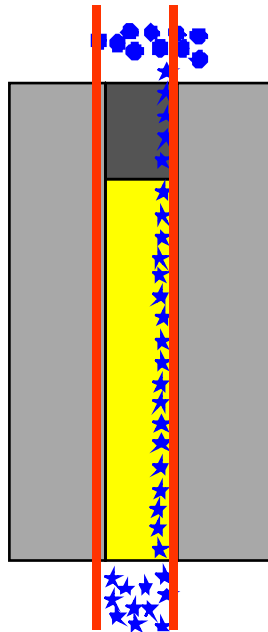
During winter

Step 1: only joints



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Influence of Diffusion Behaviour

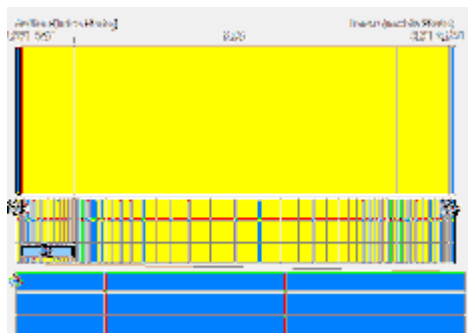


Step 1: Initial focus purely on joints to determine the diffusion behaviour for different combinations of loads – primarily:

- Rain acc. to ASHREA 160 incl. influence of solar gain depending on the location
- Air leakages

# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Influence of Diffusion Behaviour



Consideration of 25 combinations with different sd-values ( $\mu$ -values) for the interior and exterior – including five sealing examples:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. sd-value of 0.01 m | e.g. HANNOBAND BG1   |
| 2. sd-value of 0.1 m  | e.g. HANNOBAND 3E / flashing tape DUO Easy (variable)        |
| 3. sd-value of 1.0 m  | e.g. slightly diffusion inhibiting competitor flashing tapes |
| 4. sd-value of 10 m   | e.g. flashing tape DUO Easy (variable) / sealant             |
| 5. sd-value of 1,500m | e.g. fleece tapes coated with metal / aluminum               |

US-definition perm: one grain of water vapor per hour, per square foot, per inch of mercury;

Definition Fraunhofer Institute: 1 mm thick layer = 1 US-Perm ~ sd-Wert 3,3

1.0 US perm = 1.0 grain/square-foot·hour·[inch of mercury](#)  $\approx$  57 SI perm = 57 ng/s·m<sup>2</sup>·Pa



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

ASHREA 160/2009 – Useful Approach Applied in EU, too!

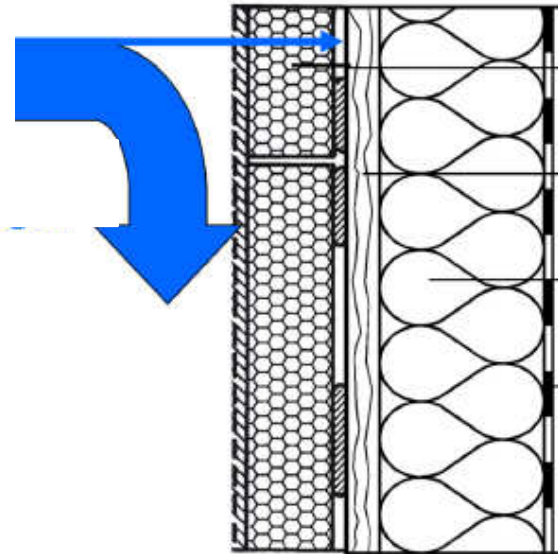
Construction damages due to high moisture levels

- Frost
- Decay



ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 160  
1% water leakage

Driving rain

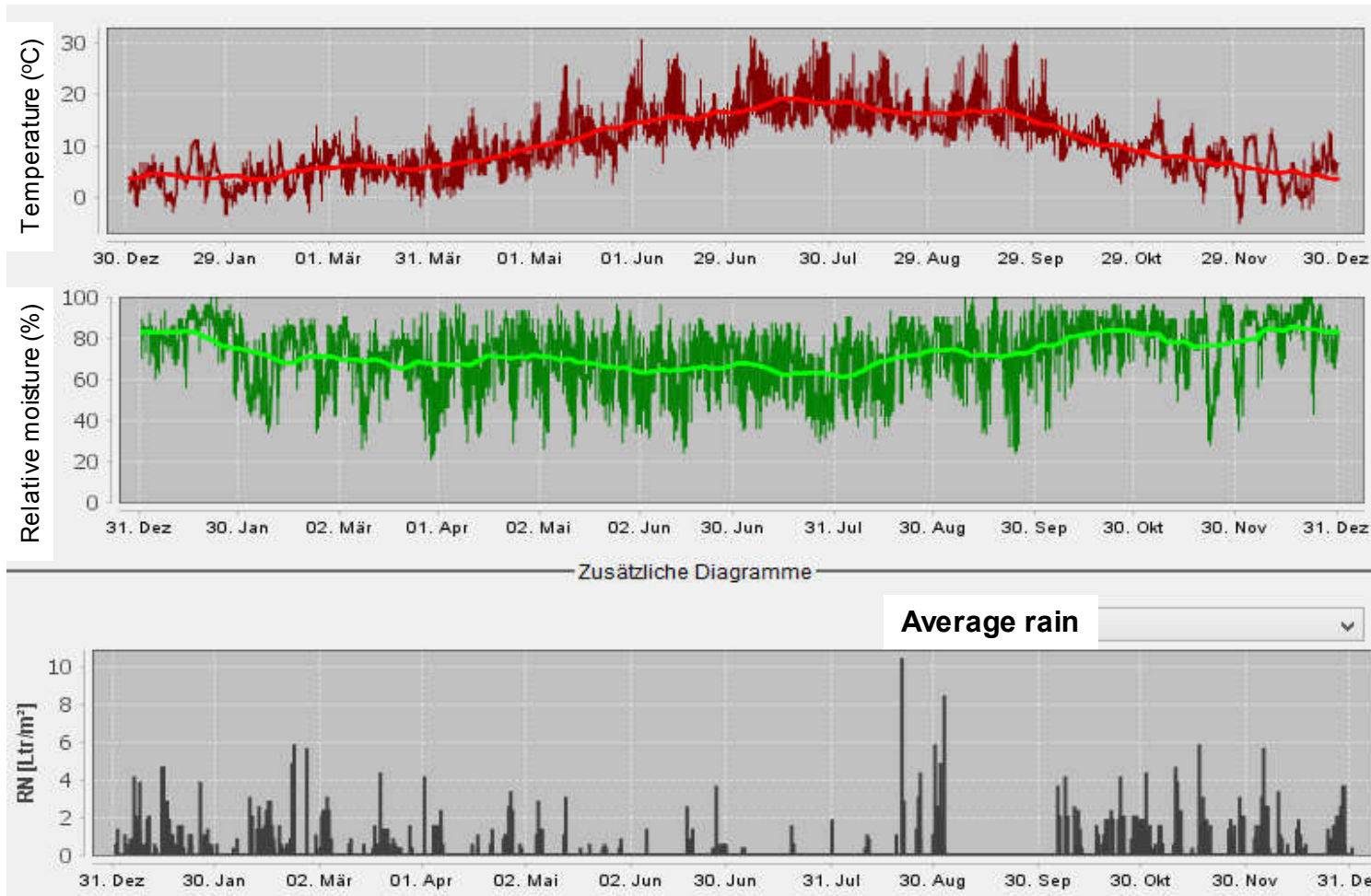


Penetration of rain water behind integrated insulation system



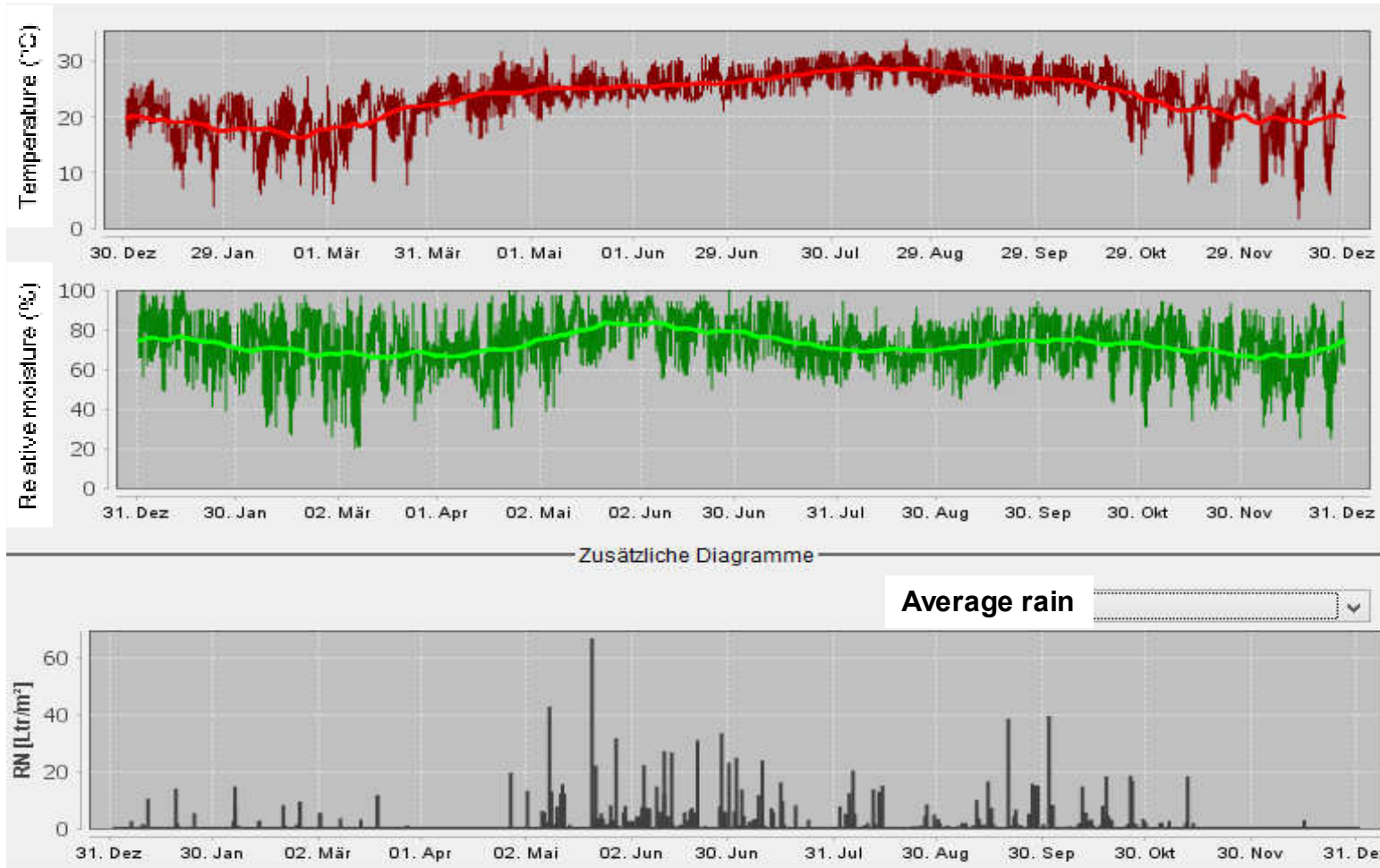
# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Climate for Seattle



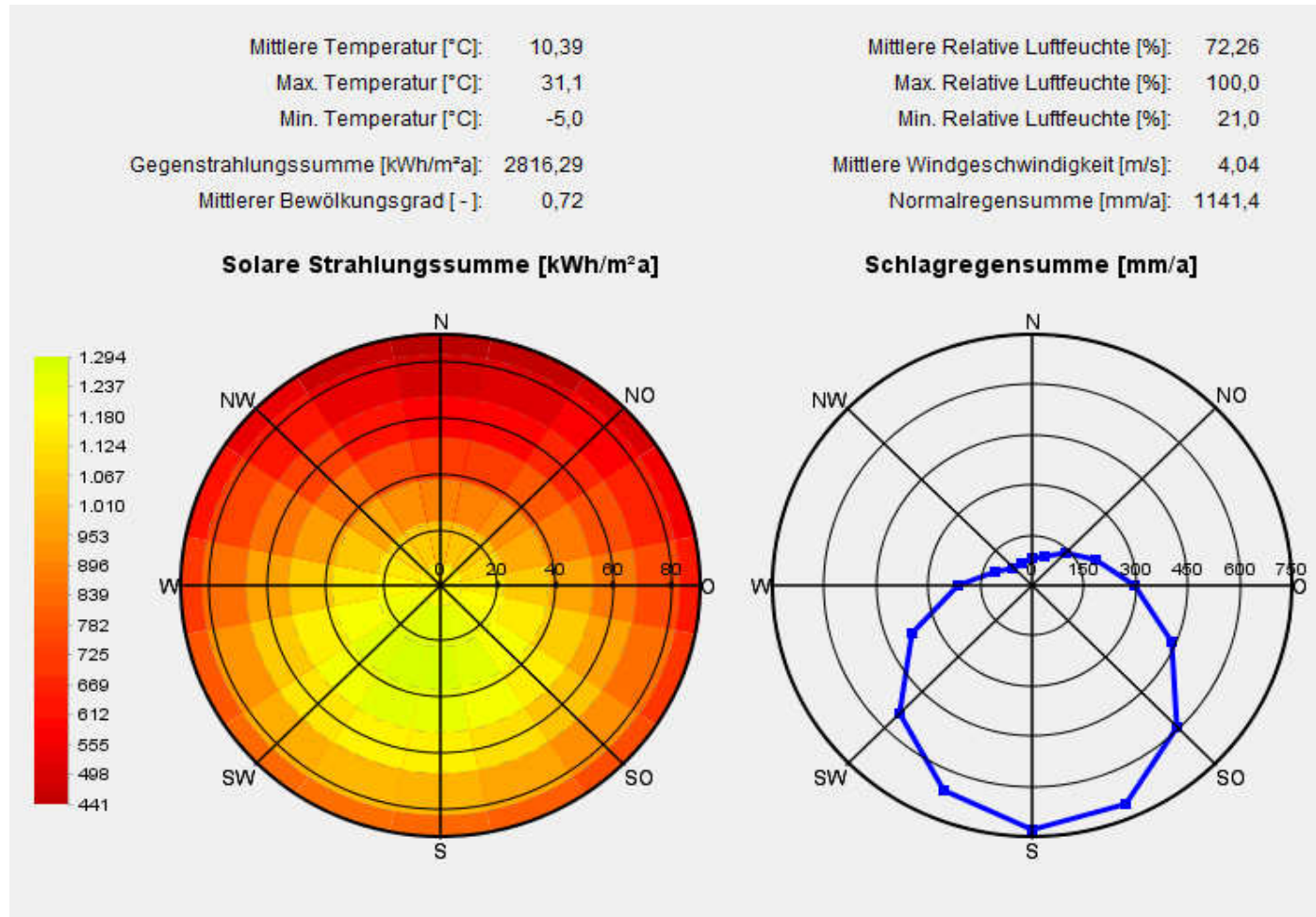
# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Climate for Miami



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Climate for Seattle



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Climate for Miami

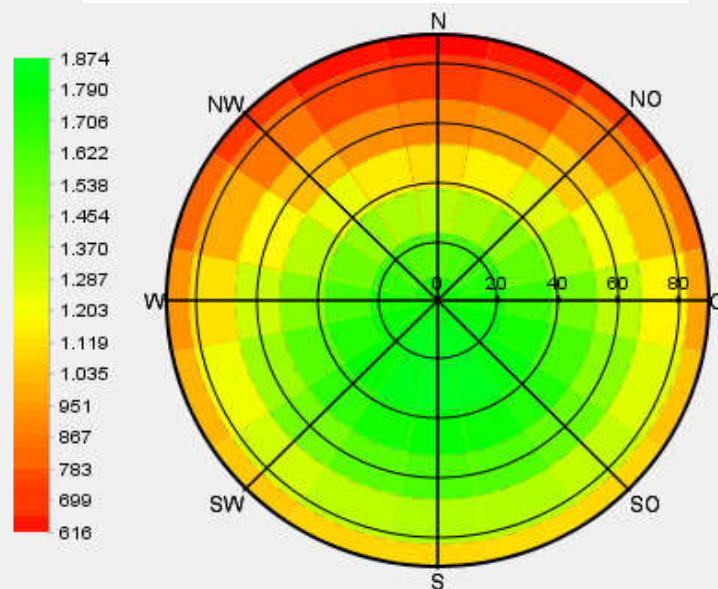
Average temperature (°C): 23.43  
Max. temperature (°C): 33.9  
Min. temperature (°C): 1.7

Average relative humidity (%): 72.38  
Max. relative humidity (%): 100.0  
Min. relative humidity (%): 20.0

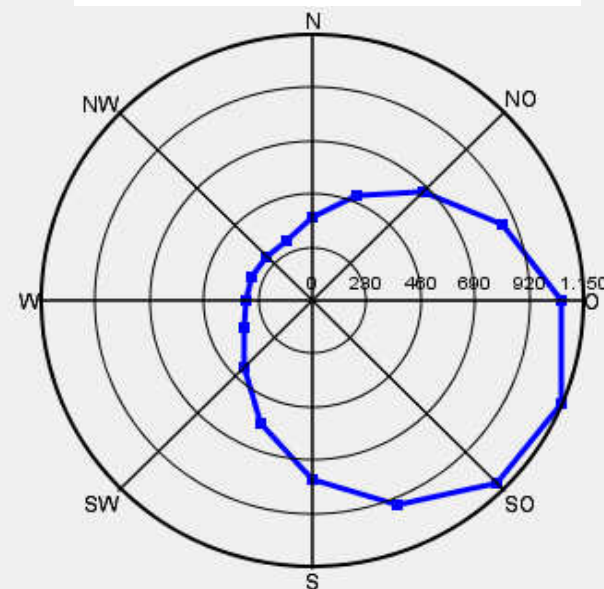
Accumulated back radiation (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>a): 3,278.69  
Average cloud index (-): 0.53

Average wind speed (m/s): 3.94  
Average rain accumulation (mm/a): 2,125.5

Accumulated solar radiation (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>a)



Accumulated driving rain (mm/a)





# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Goal of this Study / Questions

1. Is the rule „tighter on the interior than on the exterior“ justified and does it apply to all climate zones?
2. Can the rule „tighter on the interior than on the exterior“ even be applied, if there is already a very high diffusion resistance on the exterior respectively how could an optimal „diffusion more open on the exterior“ design look like sign
3. Up to what diffusion resistance can a „tighter on the interior“ effect be detected and is an sd-value of 1,500m useful / necessary for standard connecting joint applications?
4. Is there an optimal sd-value respectively  $\mu$ -value for the interior / exterior based on questions 2 & 3?
5. Does a moisture variable diffusion behaviour have advantages and if it does, for which climate respectively constructions situations?



# Scenario 1:

## Joint construction:

Sealing on the interior:

1 mm layer with different  $\mu$ -values (sd-values)

Thermal insulation layer:

80 mm layer made of mineral wool

Sealing on the exterior:

1 mm layer with different  $\mu$ -values (sd-values)

Exterior influence factors:

actual Temperature conditions during the course of the year;  
actual relative humidity of the exterior air during the course  
of the year;

interior climate EN 15026 based on normale occupancy

Initial material humidity:

80% moisture



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Scenario 1: Seattle, Washington

Scenario 1 final total moisture: Initial moisture 0.14 kg/m <sup>3</sup>		Diffusion resistance on the exterior:				
		$\mu=10$	$\mu=100$	$\mu=1000$	$\mu=10000$	$\mu=1500000$
Diffusion resistance on the interior:	$\mu=10$	0,06	0,07	0,08	0,09	0,09
	$\mu=100$	0,06	0,06	0,08	0,09	0,09
	$\mu=1000$	0,05	0,05	0,06	0,08	0,09
	$\mu=10000$	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,06	0,12
	$\mu=1500000$	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,13

Scenario max. moisture: Initial moisture 1.79 kg/m <sup>3</sup>		Diffusion resistance on the exterior:				
		$\mu=10$	$\mu=100$	$\mu=1000$	$\mu=10000$	$\mu=1500000$
Diffusion resistance on the interior:	$\mu=10$	5,99	21,03	203,71	260,64	267,10
	$\mu=100$	4,72	10,24	97,39	151,77	158,18
	$\mu=1000$	3,65	3,59	8,73	30,89	37,22
	$\mu=10000$	3,57	3,44	4,72	8,60	12,15
	$\mu=1500000$	3,56	3,45	4,74	8,23	10,37



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Scenario 1: Miami, Florida



Scenario 1 final total moisture: Initial moisture 0.14 kg/m <sup>3</sup>		Diffusion resistance on the exterior:				
		$\mu=10$	$\mu=100$	$\mu=1000$	$\mu=10000$	$\mu=1500000$
Diffusion resistance on the interior:	$\mu=10$	0,10	0,07	0,05	0,05	0,05
	$\mu=100$	0,12	0,09	0,05	0,05	0,05
	$\mu=1000$	0,27	0,15	0,08	0,05	0,05
	$\mu=10000$	0,30	0,17	0,12	0,07	0,05
	$\mu=1500000$	0,30	0,17	0,13	0,12	0,14

# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Scenario 1: Miami, Florida

### Vapor Barrier Placement By Geographical Location

In most cold climates, vapor barriers should be placed on the interior (warm-in-winter) side of walls. However, the map shows that in some southern climates, the vapor barrier should



be omitted, while in hot and humid climates, such as along the Gulf coast and in Florida, the vapor barrier should be placed on the exterior of the wall.

### Perm Ratings of Different Materials

(Rating of 1 or less qualifies as a vapor barrier)

Asphalt-coated paper backing on insulation	0.40
Polyethylene plastic (6 mil)	0.05
Flywood with exterior glue	0.70
Plastic-coated insulated foam sheathing	0.4 to 1.2
Aluminum foil (.35 mil)	0.05
Vapor barrier paint or primer	0.45
Drywall (unpainted)	5.0
Drywall (painted - latex paint)	2-3



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Conclusions Scenario 1:

### Seattle:

1. A higher diffusion resistance on the interior has in general a positive influence on all parameters
2. The material moisture level behind the exterior seal increases for all installations except for the one with a very low sd-value of 10. Therefore this is the recommended material property on the exterior.

### Miami:

1. The recommendation in this case is clearly „tighter on the exterior than on the interior“!
2. In addition materials with a very high diffusion resistance ( $> \mu=1,000$ ) increase the negative effect of the traditional German rule „tighter on the interior than on the exterior“.



# Senario 2:

Joint construction:

Sealing on the interior:

Thermal insulation layer:

Sealing on the exterior:

1 mm layer with different  $\mu$ -values (sd-values)

80 mm layer made of mineral wool

1 mm layer with different  $\mu$ -values (sd-values)

Exterior influence factors:

Same as for scenario 2, but in addition...

+ short waved solar absorptivity 0,4 [-]

+ long waved solar absorptivity 0,9

+ joint orientation „North-East“ und „South-West“

+ Driving rain 1% acc. to ASHREA 160 (resp. WTA data sheet 6-2)

Initial material humidity:

80% moisture



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Scenario 3: Seattle, Washington



Scenario 3 max. moisture: Initial moisture 1.79 kg/m <sup>3</sup>			Diffusion resistance on the exterior:				
			$\mu=10$	$\mu=100$	$\mu=1000$	$\mu=10000$	$\mu=1500000$
Diffusion resistance on the interior incl. joint direction (NE / SW):	$\mu=10$	V1	5,99	21,03	203,71	260,64	267,10
		NO	11,98	71,35	371,83	433,28	440,04
		SW	43,98	92,54	446,78	510,08	517,26
	$\mu=100$	V1	4,72	10,24	97,39	151,77	158,18
		NO	11,73	33,90	260,29	323,46	330,61
		SW	44,00	58,93	412,32	484,15	493,08
	$\mu=1000$	V1	3,65	3,59	8,73	30,89	37,22
		NO	11,44	11,44	148,60	574,85	672,28
		SW	44,02	55,51	390,78	665,15	704,05
	$\mu=10000$	V1	3,57	3,44	4,72	8,60	12,15
		NO	11,38	15,36	129,77	728,55	786,33
		SW	44,03	55,42	451,44	720,03	751,71
	$\mu=1500000$	V1	3,56	3,45	4,74	8,23	10,37
		NO	11,37	15,17	127,49	739,77	793,90
		SW	44,03	55,41	461,90	726,60	762,16



# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Scenario 3: Miami, Florida



Scenario max. moisture: Initial moisture 1.79 kg/m <sup>3</sup>			Diffusion resistance on the exterior:				
			$\mu=10$	$\mu=100$	$\mu=1000$	$\mu=10000$	$\mu=1500000$
Diffusion resistance on the interior incl. joint direction (NE / SW):	$\mu=10$	V1	5,29	2,82	2,93	3,37	3,43
		NO	41,47	42,83	43,87	43,92	43,93
		SW	38,18	40,12	40,42	40,44	40,44
	$\mu=100$	V1	4,68	2,79	3,01	3,68	3,77
		NO	42,37	43,46	43,61	43,63	43,63
		SW	42,03	42,59	42,58	42,56	42,55
	$\mu=1000$	V1	5,41	3,47	2,53	3,18	3,46
		NO	42,54	42,54	117,64	283,41	313,00
		SW	42,14	42,80	64,11	107,48	113,12
	$\mu=10000$	V1	5,60	4,01	2,79	3,25	3,94
		NO	42,57	43,85	514,43	836,99	854,22
		SW	42,16	42,85	194,21	752,18	780,55
	$\mu=1500000$	V1	5,63	4,10	3,18	4,90	6,83
		NO	42,57	43,86	589,85	884,22	896,53
		SW	42,16	42,86	229,16	816,69	843,30

# Sealing Development for Passive Houses

## Conclusions Scenario 3:

### Seattle:

1. Drying appears realistic on the exterior ( $sd < 1.0$ )
2. The rule „tighter in the interior“ applies only to a certain level. If the interior and exterior become too tight, an accumulation of moisture will happen in the joint!

### Miami:

1. At least on one side a drying of the joints is possible ( $sd < 1.0$ ) even though the maximum moisture increases in the joint, but can dry out again and does not accumulate.
2. As soon as the joint is relatively tight, the maximum moisture level increases quickly and a construction damage is likely!

**Acc. to ASHREA the joint must be able to completely dry out!**

