# Thermal bridges, shading and other thermal complications

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**R6** 





**R6** 

story

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**Heat Flow Basics** 

#### Presentation

#### • Heat Flow

- Basics: One D
- Two D
- Three D
- Walls + Windows
- Practical Detailing Applications
- Window Solar Gain Control

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### Why control heat flow?

- Occupant Comfort
- Energy Savings
- Control surface and interstitial condensation
- Save duct and heating plant costs (Capital)
- Meet Codes and specs



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#### **Heat & Temperature**

- Heat
  - A form of energy (like Light & Sound)
- Temperature
  - A measure of the amount of thermal energy
- Heat Flow
  - From more to less energy

#### What about the old metric?

#### **R-Value**

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- Property of a material
- Measurement of resistance to heat flow
- Proposed in 1945 by Everett Schuman, Penn State's Housing Research Institute



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#### **Benefits of R-Value**

- Widely Accepted
  - FTC Regulation
- Simple to Measure
  - Commercially available test machines
- Easy to Communicate
  - ONE Number at standard temperature
  - Lumps all 3 modes of heat transfer into an *effective* conductivity
    - Conduction
    - Convection

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 Radiation
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#### **Heat Flow**

- Always moves from more to less
- Rate of flow depends on
  - Temperature Difference
  - Material Properties
  - Type & Mode of Heat Flow

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#### **Categories of Heat Flow**

- Mode of Heat Flow
  - Conduction
  - Convection
  - Radiation

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- Type of Heat flow
  - steady-state or dynamic
  - . one-, two- or three-dimensional
  - . We usually use 1-D static!

#### Conduction

- Heat Flow by direct contact
- Vibrating molecules
- Most important for solids



#### Convection

- · Heat Flow by bulk movement of molecules
- Most important for liquids and gases
- E.g. air flow (forced air furnace)



#### Convection

- · Also heat flow from solid to liquid or gas
- Critical for surface heat transfer (e.g convectors, hot + cold surfaces)



#### Radiation

- Heat flow by electromagnetic waves
- Heat radiates from all materials, e.g. campfire
- Passes through gases and vacuum (NOT Solid)



#### Radiation

- Important for surfaces, air spaces, voids
- Foil faced insulation, radiant barriers only work when facing an air space
- Radiation within *pores* important for high void insulation (e.g., glass batt)
- e.g. Thermos bottle
- Critical for low-E windows

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#### **Calculating Heat Flow**

- Conduction
  - $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{k}/\mathbf{I}\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{T}_1 \mathbf{T}_2) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}\Delta\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{A}\Delta\mathbf{T}/\mathbf{R}$
  - k = conductivity f(T, MC, density, time?)
  - C = k/l conductance
  - R = resistance = 1/C
- Convection
  - E.g. q = 1.42 (ΔT/L)<sup>0.25</sup>A(ΔT)
  - Typical County=2 to 20 W m2K
- Radiation

= E.g.  $q = F_F A_1 o(T_1^4 - T_2^4)$ 

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Calculating Heat Flow Q = CA(\DeltaT) C= k/l R = 1/C

- . Where
  - Q = heat flow rate (Btu/hr, W = J/s)
    A = area heat is flowing through (ft<sup>2</sup>, m<sup>2</sup>)
    ΔT = temperature difference (°F, °C)
  - » C = conductance of the layer (W/m2K)
  - . U = conductance of an assembly (Btu/hr/ft2/°F)

k = thermal conductivity (Btu/ft/F, W/mk)

I = length of flow path (ft, m)

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### Example

0.144 Btu·in /  $(hr·ft^2·\circ F) = W / m·K$ 6.944 W/mk = Btu·in /  $(hr·ft^2·\circ F)$ 

- Insulation
  - k= 0.20 Btu·in / (hr·ft<sup>2</sup>.°F) (= 0.029 W/mK)
- R5 /inch (= 1 / 0.20)
- 3 inch thick layer
- $T_{in} = 70$  °F
- $T_{out} = 20$  °F
- Q= k/L (T<sub>in</sub>-T<sub>out</sub>) = 0.20/3 (70 20)= 0.0667 \* 50 = 3.33 Btu/hr/sf

 $Q = \Delta T/R = 50 / 15 = 3.33$ 

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### **Measuring Thermal Conductivity**

- A material property
- Measure heat flow through a unit thickness and unit area of material under a unit temperature difference
- Heat flow Btu/h, J/s
- Area sq ft, sq m
- Thickness ft, m

ASTM C518 ASTM C166

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#### **ASTM C518**



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#### **Thermal Performance Metrics**

- Conduction Only:
  - Thermal Conductivity k
  - Conductance C = k / thickness
  - **Resistance = thickness / conductivity**
- "Effective" conductivity includes other modes
  - ASTM "R-value" includes all three modes
  - ASTM picks "standard" conditions

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#### **Effective Conductance**

• A layer property

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• Expresses how easily heat can flow through a layer of the material

> k// = = 1/R

Conductance = Conductivity / Thickness = 1 / Resistance

• R-Value is an expression of how well a layer of the material resists heat flow = 1 / C

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### **Apparent Conductance**

- Measurements are actually a result of conductivity, radiation, convection
- Typical batt is
  - 35-45% radiation
  - 40-60% conduction
  - 0-20% convection
- Depending on orientation, temperature, etc



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#### **Thermal Insulation**

Insulation	R-value/inch	k (W/mK)
Empty airspace 0.75"-1.5" (20-40 mm)	R2.0 - 2.75	0.36 -0.50 W/m <sup>2</sup> K
Empty airspace 3.5"-5.5" (90-140 mm)	R2.75	$0.50 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$
Batt (mineral fiber)	3.5-3.8	0.034 - 0.042
Extruded polystyrene (XPS)	5.0	0.029
Polyisocyanurate (PIC)	6.0-6.5	0.022 - 0.024
Expanded polystyrene (EPS)	3.6-4.2	0.034 - 0.040
Semi-rigid mineral fiber (MFI)	3.6-4.2	0.034 - 0.040
Spray fiberglass	3.7-4.0	0.034 - 0.038
Closed-cell spray foam (2 pcf) ccSPF	5.8-6.6	0.022 - 0.025
Open-cell spray foam (0.5 pcf) ocSPF	3.6	0.040
Aerogel	8-12	0.012-0.018
Vacuum Insulated Panels (VIP)	20-35	0.004-0.008

### **Design vs Actual**

• "Safe" k or "Actual" k







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#### **Multi-layer Assemblies**

- Building enclosures are typically assemblies of several layers of different materials
- R-value of each layer

#### $R_1 = l_1/k_1 = 1/C_1$

• The overall resistance must be calculated

#### $R_{tot} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 \dots$

• The conductance of the assembly is then

#### $U = 1/R_{tot}$

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#### Air Spaces & Surface Films

- All 3 modes of heat transfer play a large role
- The effects are lumped into a coefficient, h<sub>o</sub> which can be used in the conduction equation as an

effective conductance



conduction

gap size



**Air Spaces** 

- Airspaces are important in windows and old buildings
- Heat flow depends on heat flow *direction* and surface *emissivity*

Situation (poorly vented or sealed)	R/ RSI Value	Conductance
Heat Flow Down (20-100 mm)	1.0 / 0.18	5.5
Heat Flow Across (20-100 mm)	0.96 / 0.17	5.9
Heat Flow Up (20-100 mm)	0.85 / 0.15	6.5
Reflective Airspace (Fe=0.05)	3.46 / 0.61	1.6

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#### **Surface Films**

- "Surface film" is a fictitious layer with a thermal property that represents resistance to heat flow from the air to the surface
- Surface films are important to define surface temperature at poorly insulated components
  - E.g. thermal bridges, windows, old building walls
- Convection PLUS radiation
  - Both convection and radiation coefficient vary

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#### Surface Films

Surface Position	Flow Direction	Resistance	Conductance
Still Air (e.g. indoors)		R / RSI	[W/m <sup>2</sup> K]
Horizontal	Upward	0.61 / 0.11	9.3
(i.e. cellings & floors)	Downward	0.93 / 0.16	6.1
Vertical (i.e. walls)	Horizontal	0.68 / 0.12	8.3
Moving Air (e.g. outdoors)			
Stormy 6.7m/s (winter)	Any	0.17 / 0.03	34
Breeze 3.4m/s (summer)	Any	0.25 / 0.04	23
Average Conditions	Any	0.33 / 0.06	17

Look to *ASHRAE Handbook* or *Bldg Sci for Bldg Enclosures* for more detailed data. www.buildingscience.com

#### **But there are Complications**

- Add up the R-values of the layers to get the total R-value of the assembly
- BUT the actual thermal resistance of an assembly is affected by
  - **Thermal Bridges**
  - **Thermal Mass**
  - Air Leakage

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Calculating Heat Flow through an Assembly

• To calculate assembly, add layers: materials, air gaps and surface films



#### How much Insulation

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- Heat Flow = Area \*  $(T_{inside} T_{outside})$ R-value
- Double R-value, halve heat flow. Always.
- Optimum depends on
  - Cost of energy over life of building
  - Cost of adding more insulation
  - Savings in mechanical equipment, controls

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Insulation and Thermal

### What is a thermal bridge?

- A local area with significantly higher heat transmission (lower heat flow resistance) than
  - intended for the assembly, or
  - than the majority of the area

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#### **Types of Thermal Bridge**

**Thermal Bridges** 



### **Types of Thermal Bridges**

- Occurrence
  - A) Repeating
    - Non-interacting, but numerous
  - B) Unique/Special Case • non-interacting, but few
- Geometry
  - 1) Linear
  - 2) Point

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- 3) complex
- Can be A1 or B2 or B3, etc

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### **Calculating Impact**

- Simple area-weighted average for materials without very dissimilar properties
- Often computer calculations needed
  - 2D (linear)

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- 3D (point, complex)
- Results presented as either
  - Additional heat flow/unit
  - Total heat flow of specific area around TB



<image>











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### Two-dimensional heat flow

• Works for wood studs



Fig. 3 (A) Wall Assembly for Example 3, with Equivalent Electrical Circuits: (B) Parallel Path and (C) Isothermal Planes

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### **Thermal Bridging**

- Steel is 400 times more conductive than wood
- Steel studs are about 40 times thinner







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Assumes no floor slabs, no double studs etc. Best-case R-values for stud walls



#### AISI





#### Solutions?

- A continuous layer of insulation not interupted by structure
- E.g. insulated sheathing on the exterior



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### **Special Cases**

- Relieving angles
- Balconies
- Canopies







#### **Relieving Angles**















#### **Balconies**



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Insulation and



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Insulation and Thermal



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Windows

... such a pane.

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#### Windows

- Our most expensive thermal bridges
- Aluminum is 4-5 times as conductive as steel
- Or 1600 times more than wood
- Difficult to buy commercial aluminum windows / curtainwall over R3.
- Allow solar heat in
  - Useful in cold weather
  - Requires cooling in summer

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www.BuildingSci ence.com Frames

- A large amount of heat can also be conducted through the frame
  - Conductivity of the material (lower = better)
  - Geometry of the frame

Frame Material	Conductivity W/mk	Conductivity R/inch
Wood	0.10 to 0.18	0.8 to 1.4
PVC	0.17	0.8
Fiberglass	0.30	0.5
Bronze	93	0.002
Aluminum	221	0.001
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Windows and Curtainwalls

#### **Gas Fills**

- Gas fills reduce the amount of heat transferred by conduction and convection through the space in the glazing unit
- Gas fills leak about +/-1% per year

Fill	Conductivity W/mK	Conductivity R/inch	Reduction in Conduction
Air	0.0241	6.0	-
Argon	0.0162	8.9	33%
Krypton	0.0086	16.8	64%
Xenon	0.0051	28.3	79%
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Windows and Curtainwalls

#### Window U-values

- Window U-value = 1 /R-value
- Window values usually include airfilms • Inside and outside R-1.0
- Hence, single-glazed, R1
- A still air space adds R1
- Change to argon, another R1
- Add low-e, another R1

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Full-Frame R-values



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Windows and Curtainwalls

### **Thermal Break**

• Critical for alu windows

Thicking as in

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• <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" should be min thermal break





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#### Flanking

- Defined as heat flow around a window
- Includes the rough opening and any special flashing, fasteners, etc.
- Wood bucks often have R-value of 1/inch
- Plywood bucks usually 0.75/inch
- Air gaps >1/4" have low R-value

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• Gaps filled with spray foam, R4-6/inch







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#### Don't do this: it traps leak water





















**Total Window** 

- Remember for total window installed, need to consider
  - IGU
  - Spacer
  - Window frame
  - Rough opening

#### Window Overall U-value



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0.80

.78

0.40 0.55

0.30

0,25

0.90

0.80

70

75

80



#### **Glazing size matter**

- Example: curtainwall 4' x4' lite size (4' x 4') = 16Total Area: (4'2.5" x 4'2.5") =17.71 Percent Vision: 90%
- Example: punched window  $2^{\circ}6^{\circ}$  x6' clear glass size = 15 Total Area: (2'6"+5") =18.71 Percent Vision: 80%





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Straube





System U-Factors for Spandrel Glass 0.70 0.65 0.60 0.55 0.60 1.00 Spandre Fi-Value He's ĂQ, 2.00 (0.35) ž ir.t 1.00 (0.53) 1:30 4.00 (2.70) 0.25 5.00 (5.00) 63.0 0.15 11.00 (1.94) 15.00 (2.64) 6.10 19.00 (3.54) 30.03 (5.28) 0.05 75 70 90 65 60 Spandrel Area / Total Area (%)

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### **Total System Impacts**

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#### Solar Heat Gain Control

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### Solar Control and Shading

- Solar Control Glass
- Fixed exterior
- Operable Exterior
- Operable interior

#### Solar Heat Gain

 SHGC = Ratio of Solar Incident to Heat Gain within Building

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#### Solar Gain

- Solar gain useful during cold sunny weather
- But ... least heating is needed during daytime for commercial buildings
- Overheating discomfort is a real risk
- Must size glass Area x SHGC carefully
  - High values = air conditioning and discomfort

#### **Impact of Angle**



Fig. 8 Variations with Incident Angle of Solar-Optical Properties for (A) Double-Strength Sheet Glass, (B) Clear Plate Glass, and (C) Heat-Absorbing Plate Glass

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### **Solar Properties**

1	able 10	Visible Transmit Back Reflectar	tance (T,), ace (R <sup>b</sup> ), a	, Solar I nd Layı	iest G r Abs	orptan Cent	nce (A	faring	HGC Glas	), Solaring a	ar Tra nd Wi	nsmit ndow Total at N	Syste Syste Wine ormal	(T), ems ( low 5 locid	Fron Conti HGC lence	t Refl nucd) Tot No	at Win	ndow Incide	T, at
		Glazing System					Incid	tence A	ingles			Ahun	uinum	Or Fra	ber mirs	Alum	tinum	Or Fri	her unes
ID	Glass Thick,		Center Glazin T.	8	Normal 0.00	00700	50.00	90'09	10.00	80.00	Nemis, Deffuse	Operable	Placed	Operable	Find	Operable	Placed .	Operatile	Placed
Low	e Double	Glazing, e = 0.2 on s	meface 2	_									-				-	-	
374	3	LECLR	0.76	SHOC	0.65	0.64	0.61	0.56	0.43	0.23	0.57	0.59	0.60	0.53	0.58	0.68	0.68	0.61	B.61

0.59 0.56 0.54 0.48 0.36 0.18 0.50 0.15 0.16 0.18 0.24 0.37 0.61 0.22

0.17 0.18 0.20 0.26 0.38 0.61 0.24 0.20 0.31 0.21 0.21 0.20 0.16 0.20 0.07 0.07 0.08 0.08 0.07 0.05 0.01

**K**<sup>k</sup>

R. R.

#### **Spectrally Selective**

- Allows low SHGC and high VT
- Coolness Factor (LSG)
  - VT / SHGC
  - Look of 1.7-2.0
  - E.g. VT=0.60, SHGC=0.30, LSG=2

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Windows and

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### **Fixed Shade**

- Only work some of the time
- Allow all diffuse light in
  - This is good for daylight and view!
- Limits solar reduction to about 50-60%
- Often can get shoulder season over heating

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### Solar Gains - July 21 @45 N



## Mother Nature is try to tell you something









#### **Interior or Exterior Shade**

- Operable Solar Control of windows may be necessary for ultra-low energy buildings
- Exterior Shades always beat low SHGC glazing
- But increased cost capital and maintenance
- Interior shades don't work well with good windows



	U = 1.1 W/m <sup>2</sup> K	
example	SHGC = 0.30 U = 0.8 W/m <sup>2</sup> K SHGC = 0.45	Doub SB70
	U = 14 WimiK SHGC = 0.60 U = 18 WimiK SHGC = 0.70	Summ
y dan. I light polors/beige-	White/reflective U = 3.0 W/m <sup>2</sup> /K SHGC = 0.80	
Solar Reflectance of Interior Blind adance is used since any solar energy trans a absorbed, remains in the building	un un	Winte
	Glazing Type	
	U = 1 1 Wim <sup>3</sup> K SHGC = 0.30	Triple SB702
	U = 1.4 Wim <sup>2</sup> K SHGC = 0.60	Summ
Solar control glazing		
Well ensulation		
		180-1-

Glazing Type

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Reduction Fac GC

st all that is absorbed, remains in the bu

0.15 0.20 0.26 0.30 0.35

Solar Transmission of Sunshade

nemission is used since any solar energy is absorbed, remains outside the building

0.45 0.50

Note: Solar n

0.9 0.8

0.7

Reduction Factor 0. 0.5 0.4 0.3 HGC I

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Using Vision 5.0 (U of Waterloo) Solar Control + shades

	and the second second	11000110			
B70XL	Strph-6	(5439) &	Clear 6.PPG	(5012), Low-e 2	
	I.C.		Meaning		

	Case	Measure	0	rb	vb30	vb60	vb85
ummer	Interior	U-Value	4.3	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
	Shade	SHGC	0.27	0.2	0.24	0.2	0.16
	Exterior	U-Value	4.3	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.3
	Shade	SHGC	0.27	0.13	0.2	0.07	0.02
	Shade	U-Value	4.3	6.0	6.9	7.6	8.2
	Between	SHGC	0.27	0.16	0.23	0.16	0.11
inter	Interior	U-Value	4.2	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.4
	Shade	SHGC	0.27	0.19	0.23	0.19	0.16
	Exterior	U-Value	4.2	5.5	5.5	5,6	5.6
	Shade	SHGC	0.27	0.13	0.2	0.07	0.02
	Shade	U-Value	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
	Belween	SHGC	0.27	0.15	0.22	0.15	0.09

Gas fill is 90% Ar Glazing Results

SB70XL	Strph-6 (5439).	LoE272-6.	CIG (2014),	Clear_6.P	PG (5012),	Low-e 2 & 4
						and the second sec

	Case	Measure	0	rb	vb30	vb60	vb85
Summer	Interior	U-Value	7.2	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7
	Shade	SHGC	0,18	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.13
	Exterior	U-Value	7.2	8.0	7.8	8.2	8.5
	Shade	SHGC	0.18	0.09	0.13	0.05	0.01
	Shade	U-Value	72	7.5	7.0	6.9	7.2
	Between	SHGC	0.18	0.11	0.15	0.1	0.06
Winter	Interior	U-Value	8.1	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.3
	Shade	SHGC	0.18	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.13
	Exterior	U-Value	8.1	9.5	9.3	9.5	9.5
	Shade	SHGC	0.18	0.09	0.14	0.05	0.01
	Shade	U-Value	8.1	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4
	Determent	FLICE	0.19	0.41	0.44	.0.1	30.0



### Kawneer 1600 SHGC

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