

# Feasibility of micro-DH networks in scattered urban areas using local sources: analyses of technical and non-technical barriers of a case study Ralf-Roman Schmidt

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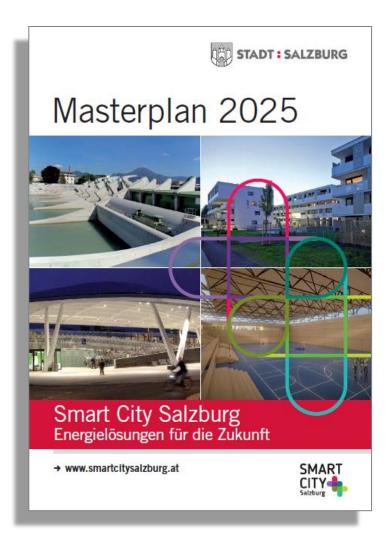
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#### **Motivation**

- An ambitious "Masterplan Smart City Salzburg" has been accepted by the municipal council in 2012
  - Municipal buildings should be realized as <u>"plus-energy-building"</u>, exploiting local energy sources as much as possible in order to reach <u>CO2 neutrality for the whole</u> <u>district</u>.
- In this context, the new build "Bildungscampus Gnigl" (BCG) should be a pilot project!
  - an innovative educational concept including a Kindergarten, a primary school and a club house

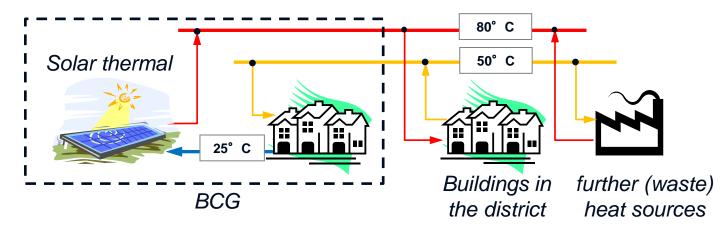


More information: www.smartcitysalzburg.at



## Project "Smart District Gnigl"

- National funded research project ("feasibility study"), aim:
  - Scientific planning support for the BCG → implement plus-energy standard (as far as possible)
  - Development of an energy concept for the district → utilize local resources (incl. surplus energy from BCG) as much as possible
- One possible concept: implementation of a **micro district heating network**





<sup>1</sup> This project is supported with funds from the Climate and Energy Fund and Implemented in line with the "Smart City Demo" programme.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salzburg

# Salzburg-Gnigl

http://www.salzburg.com/wiki/index.php/Gnigl

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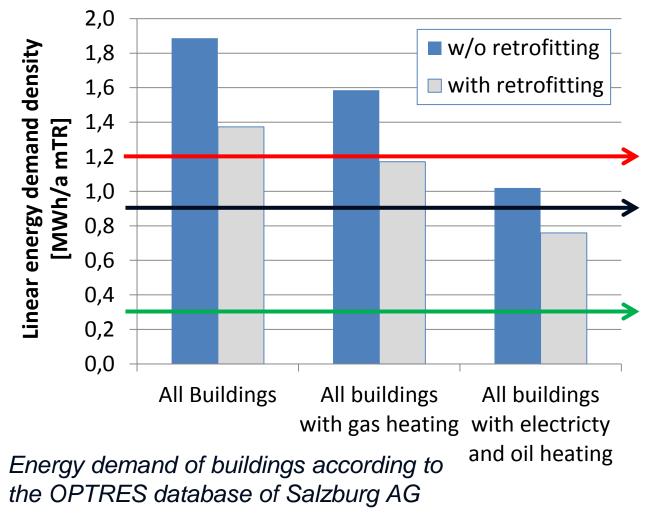


#### Area under investigation





## Pre-evaluation of the feasibility of a local micro DH network



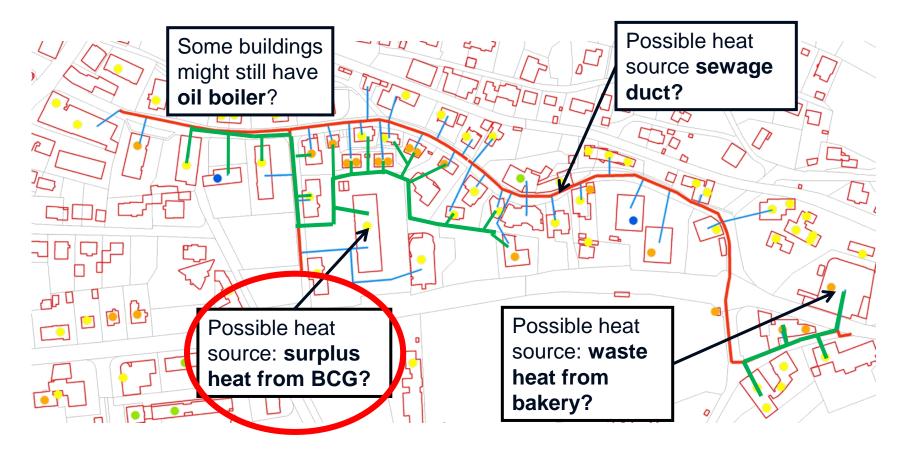
**Threshold a)** ÖKL, Bund-Länder-Arbeitsgruppe Ökoenergiefonds, Merkblatt Nr. 67, Technischwirtschaftliche Standards für Biomasse-Fernheizwerke, 1. Auflage,1999

**Threshold b)** Kommunalkredit, Umweltförderung im Inland, Infoblätter zu allen Förderschwerpunkten, Biomasse-Nahwärme, Referenzdokument 10, KPC, Version 1.1, 2009

#### Threshold c) Zinko H. et al.,

District heating distribution in areas with low heat demand density, IEA IA DHC-CHP, Annex VIII, 2008 **AND** Fröling, et al., Environmental performance of district heating in surburban areas compared with heat pump and pellets furnace, 10th International Symposium on DHC, September 3-5, 2006







## BCG: Scientific planning support

- 1. Step: developments of criteria for the selection of candidates
- 2. Step: development of requirements for the architectural competition
  - Maximize surfaces for <u>solar energy production</u>
  - Minimize energy demand  $\rightarrow$  passive or low energy standard
  - Low temperature heat distribution system
  - Heat storage/ storage capacity in the building mass
- 3. Step: quantitative evaluation of 22 design proposals from the architectural competition according to the above requirements
  - Translation into a easy understandable qualitative evaluation for the jury

Bad Ok, modifications necessary Good

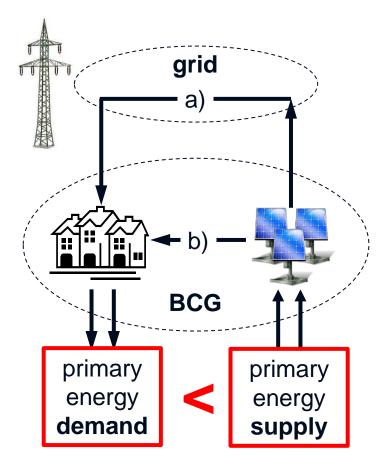


## BCG: winner of the architectural competition





### BCG: requirements for plus-energy-standard



**Definition**: the primary energy demand is lower than the energy supply from local renewable sources (on a yearly basis). Two cases:

- a) PV surplus is supplied to the grid and taken at a later point in time
   → Primary energy factor = 2,1
- b) PV supply is simultaneously to the energy demand of the BCG
   → Primary energy factor = 1,0
- → minimum PV area required for plus-energy standard is between 1700 and 2400 m<sup>2</sup> (depending on energy standard and heating system)

Source: 2. Call of the national research programm "Haus der Zukunft plus"

according to pr EN 15603



## **BCG:** recent technical specifications

- Heat consumption
  - no proper energy performance certificate available
    - Glass surfaces are dominating  $\rightarrow$  high consumption is expected
- Heating system
  - Ground water heat pump (3 x 40 kWth) + gas peak load boiler (90 kWth) (Thermal response test has been payed by the city of Salzburg)
  - Heat distribution: concreate core activation and floor heating
  - Room ventilation with heat recovery
- Local energy production:
  - (500 m<sup>2</sup> PV)+ 40 m<sup>2</sup> Solar Thermal  $\rightarrow$  no "Plus-Energy Building"!!

#### The work has not been started, so there is still room for improvement!



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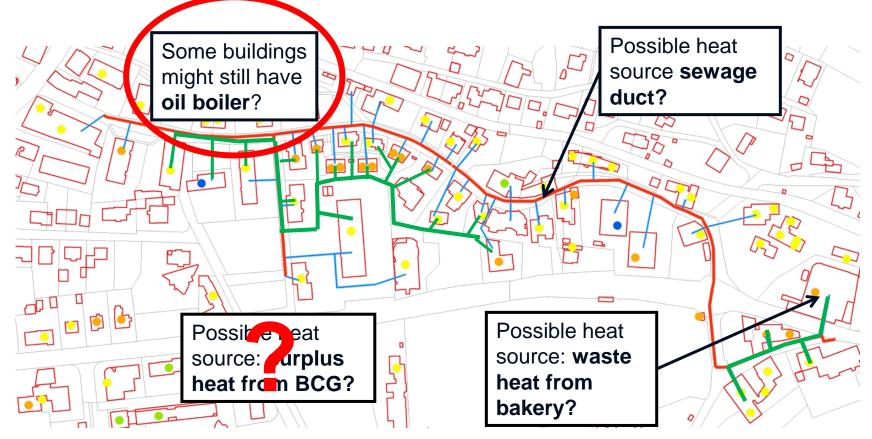




#### BCG: Identification of non-technical barriers

- Although the city of Salzburg was involved in the project, the support of the SD Gnigl project team was a "suggestion" and <u>not mandatory</u>
- Higher <u>investment costs</u> for a "Plus-Energy-Building" (e.g. higher costs for additional PV area) were not considered in the initial budget for the BCG
  - However, other design proposals could have reached plus-energy standard within the given budget
- For the <u>members of the jury</u> of the architectural competition energy supply and demand was not the focus (urban layout, visual appearance ...)
- → The City of Salzburg is now adapting the procurement and construction processes for municipal buildings in order to avoid similar problems

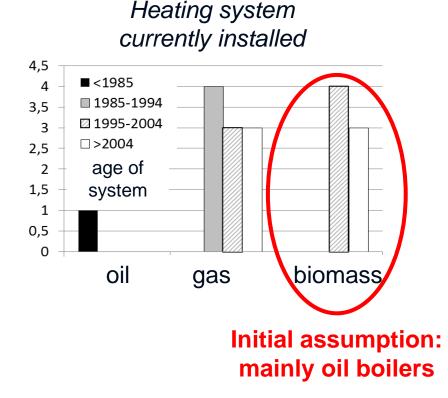




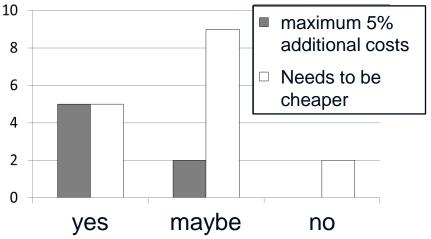


#### Analyses of customer structure

- Questionnaire to the property owners, Feedback: 18 out of 41 buildings
- side survey of selected buildings

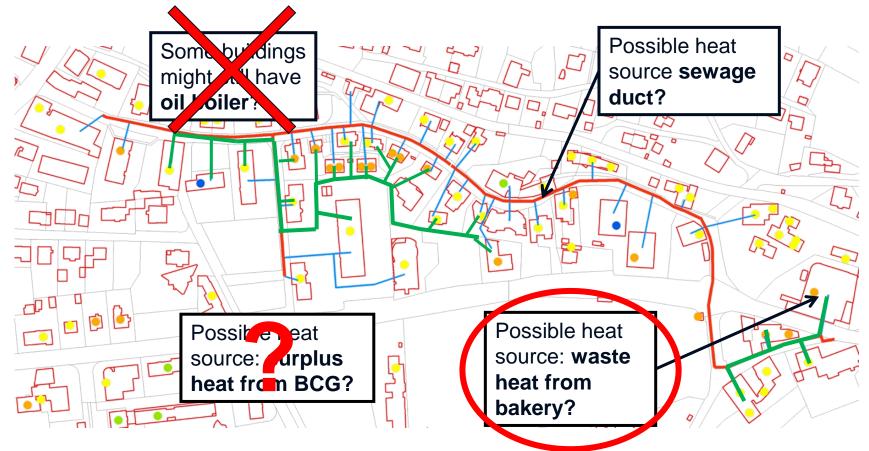


#### Willingness to connect to a local DH network



+ some buildings without central heat distribution system







#### Waste heat from production bakery

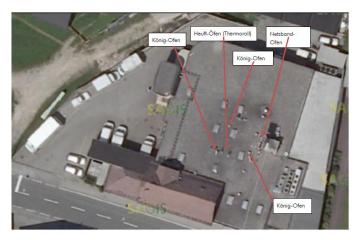
 Waste heat potential between 353 and 390 MWh/a (extraction at 80-90° C supply temp.)

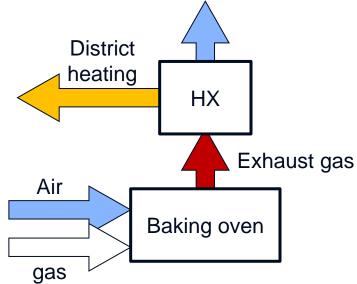
 $\rightarrow$  about 10% of the heat demand in the district

#### Payback period:

- about 7,5 years (353 MWh/a)
- about 6,9 years (390 MWh/a)
  (heat price 4,44 ct/kWh, without any subsidies)

#### • Owner of the bakery interested!







### Waste heat from production bakery

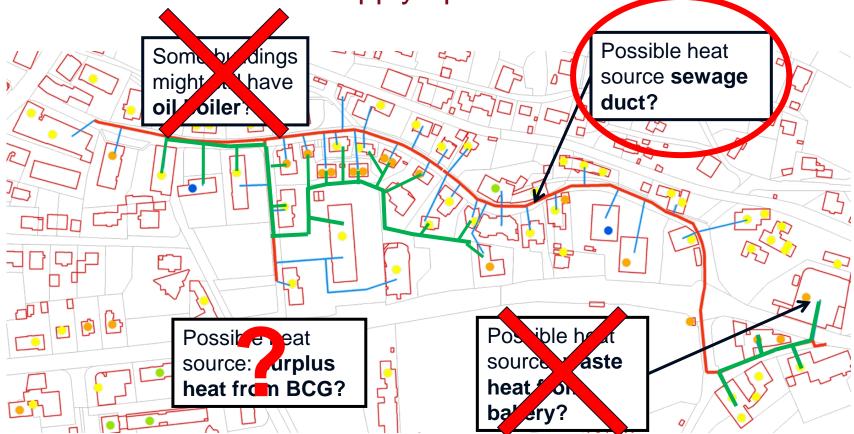




#### Waste heat from production bakery



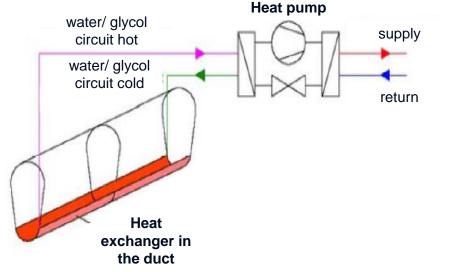






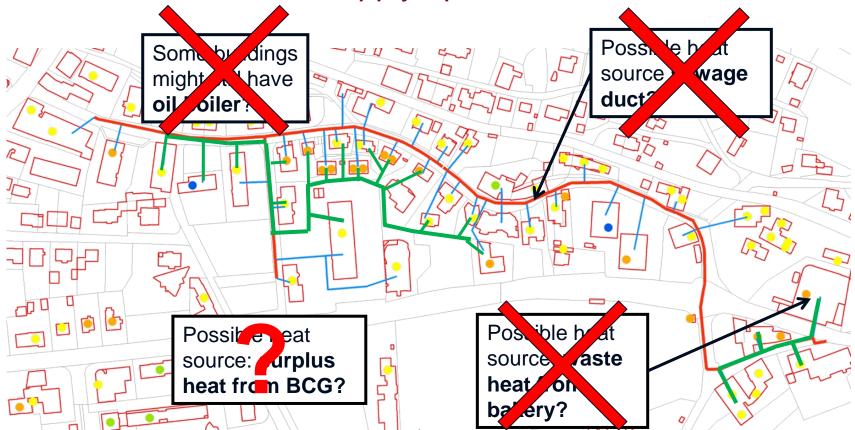
#### sewage duct as heat source

- Usable flow rate: 3,7 l/s,
- temperature: 10 12° C
- Cooling down to 4° C
- max. capacity: ca. 92 kW
- Potential: 230 MWh/a (average max. usage time 2.500h/year)
- COP of the WP > 4 for  $T_{supply} < 40^{\circ}$  C
- Channel: Ø: 0.3 m, depth: 3,5 m



- Costly inlet structure and bypass necessary  $\rightarrow$  high investment costs
- High <u>effort for maintenance</u> (cleaning the heat exchanger)
- → The economic feasibility of using the waste water is not given under this conditions.







### Alternative pathways towards zero-emissions?



exchange of heating systems + thermal retrofitting

- 100% biomass → ~ 0% CO2
- 100% heat pumps → 15% CO2 (if supply temp. are low!)
- in combination with retrofitting, both measures are often profitable (40 years time horizon)
- → the results are significantly different when using data from the TABULA project

http://episcope.eu/ (TABULA energy demand is

~ factor 2 larger than OPTRES data)



Installing PV on the BCG/ on all available roof areas

- 2.000 m<sup>2</sup> PV → 74% CO2
- 7.387 m<sup>2</sup> PV → 39% CO2
- Higher values can be achieved, if the electric loads could be synchronized to the PV supply



#### Conclusions and recommendations

- To reach ambitious goals, "business as usual" is not an option
  - Planning and development processes of buildings require significant adaptations e.g. mandatory requirements for energy production and demand, a qualified jury, appropriate financing ...
- Not every random district is suitable to become "zero emission" by integrating a new building
  - The distribution of demand structures and the <u>usable</u> potential of local energy sources is highly individual and needs to be assessed throughout the city <u>in advanced</u> for identifying suitable areas
  - Even small businesses can supply waste heat
    - Its potential needs to be assessed and the supply needs to be supported (e.g. subsidies) and secured (e.g. drop out insurance)
  - A small number of buildings doesn't allow superficial analyses
    - individual assessment of the building stock is required



# Thank you for your attention!

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