

Carbon emission reduction model: a new GIS-based approach

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Background to the study

Overview of DECoRuM®

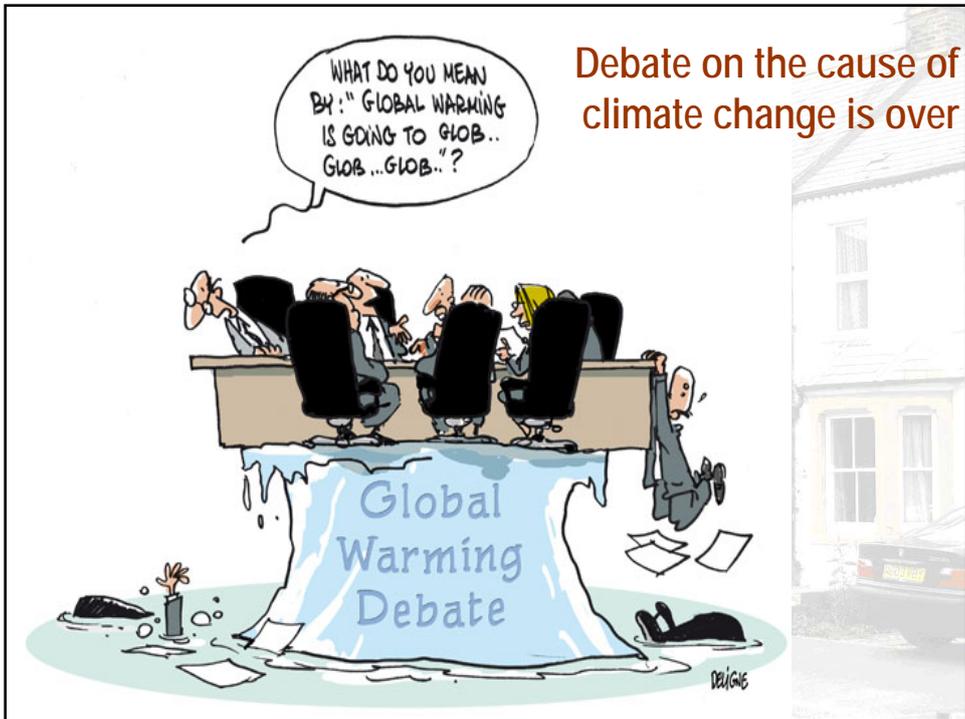
DECoRuM: estimating baseline energy and CO₂ emissions

DECoRuM: predicting CO₂ emission reductions and cost-benefits

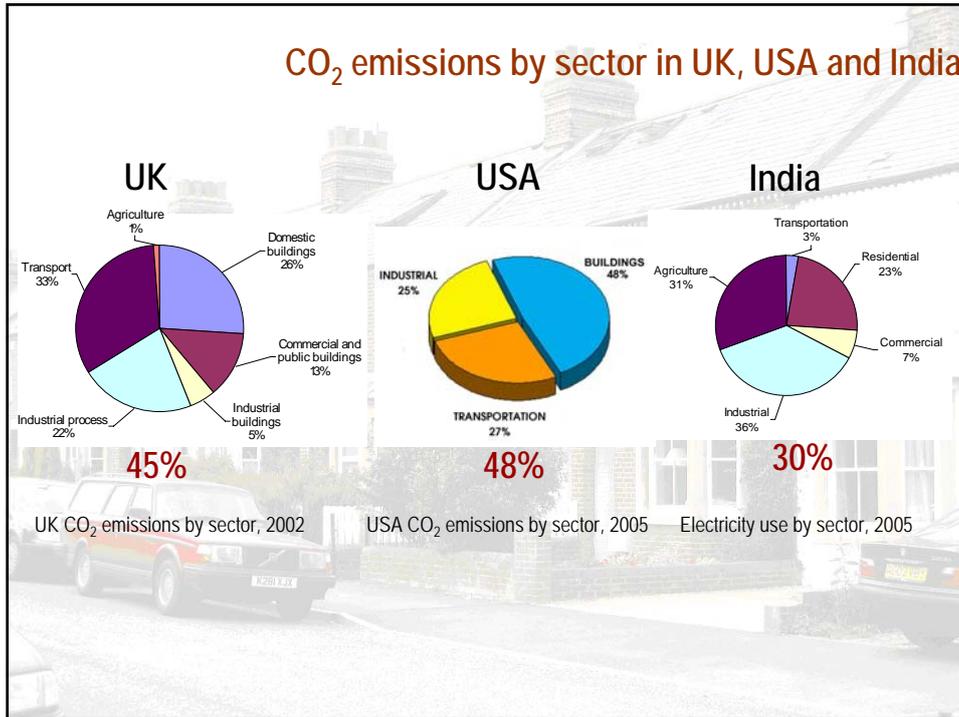
Application of DECoRuM to a case study in Oxford

Extrapolation to UK housing stock.

Benefits and applications of DECoRuM.



CO₂ emissions by sector in UK, USA and India

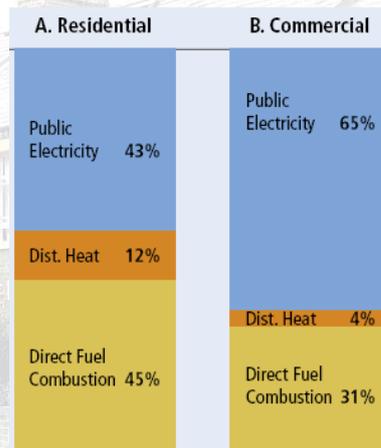


CO₂ emissions from building energy use

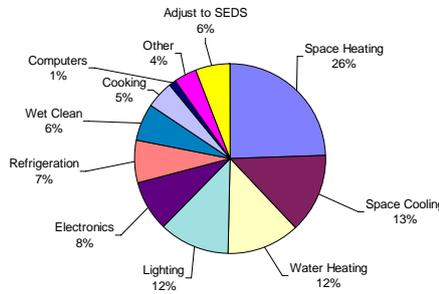
Direct (on-site): Emissions from fuels combustion (space heating)

Off-site: Emissions from public electricity use and district heat consumption.

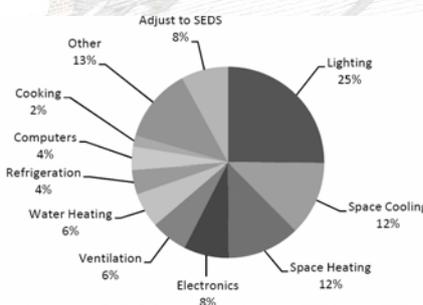
Globally, the building sector is responsible for 42% of electricity consumption more than any other sector.



Carbon footprint: Domestic and Non-domestic buildings



US residential CO2 emissions



US commercial CO2 emissions

Residential sector consumed 37% of all electricity produced in US

About 80% of all CO2 attributed to the commercial sector comes from electricity consumption.

Most of the focus has been on new-build...

UK



Building A Greener Future:
Towards Zero Carbon Development

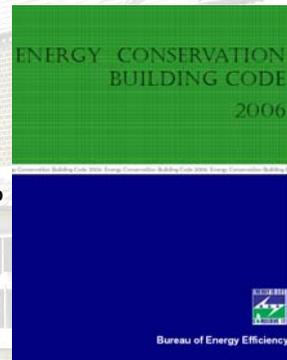


USA

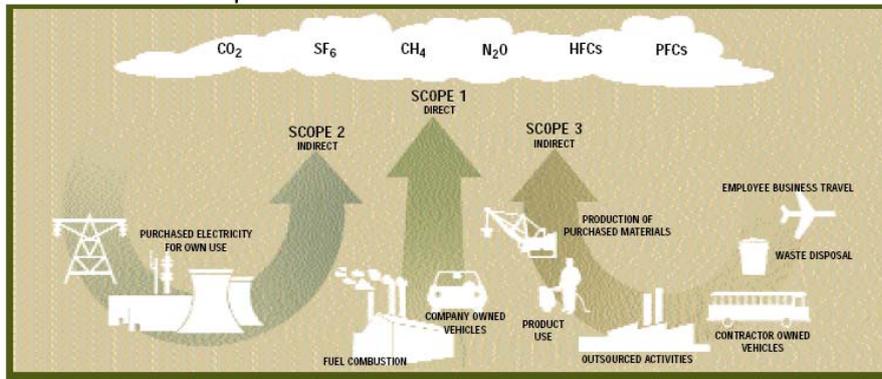


3 New Buildings - 50%
 2010 – 60%
 2015 – 70%
 2020 – 80%
 2025 – 90%
 2030 - Carbon Neutral
 (no fossil fuel energy to operate)

India

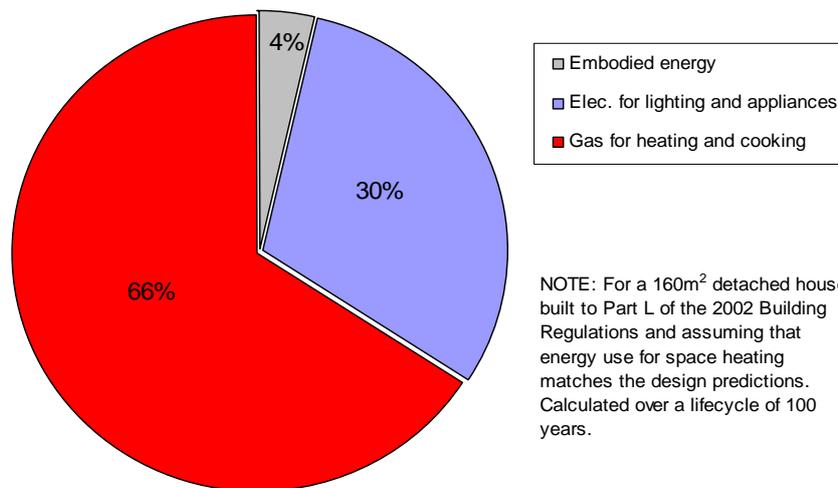


How do you set boundaries for carbon counting?



Life cycle energy use in a typical new house

LIFECYCLE ENERGY USE, NEW HOUSE



Key principles: energy efficiency and carbon intensity

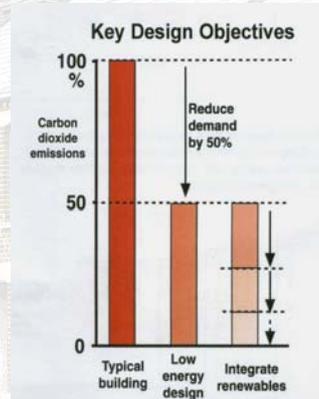
Reduce the demand for energy (heating, cooling, lighting or ventilation).

Provide the reduced demand through low carbon and zero carbon technologies

Decarbonising the electricity supply.

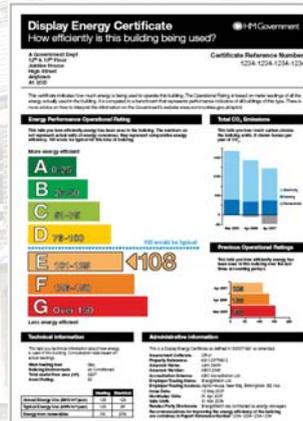
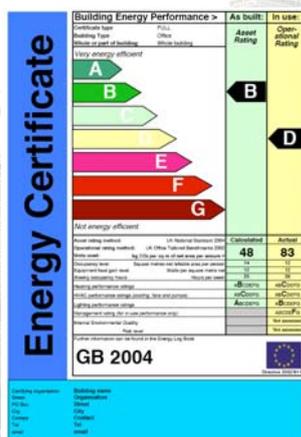
Feedback on actual energy used in buildings through smart metering.

Regular post-occupancy evaluation studies of refurbished projects to provide evidence-based lessons for the building community and users.



EU Directive of Building Energy Performance (EPBD)

- Introducing energy performance certificates (EPCs) when buildings are let, sold, built or refurbished.
- Requiring public buildings to display energy certificates (DECs); and
- Requiring inspections for air conditioning systems.



Environmental Sustainability: National Indicators

Following consultation in 2007, the Government has issued a national indicator set (198) against which local councils will begin to report their performance from April 2008.

NI 185 Percentage CO₂ reduction from LA operations

NI 186 Per capita CO₂ emissions in the LA area

NI 187 Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating

NI 188 Planning to Adapt to Climate Change

It is within this context that our research is undertaken...

Carbon emission reduction planning approach for cities

5-step approach:

- Assessing baseline (existing) CO₂ emissions from all energy-related sectors in cities.
- Establishing ambitious (and realistic) citywide CO₂ emission reduction targets.
- Identifying robust actions to achieve those targets.
- Developing incentives and programmes for implementing the actions.
- Monitoring and verifying the reductions achieved as a result: sharing experiences.



DECoRuM: a next generation domestic energy model

Capability to estimate baseline CO₂ emissions from individual dwellings using a locally-relevant approach, and well-established methodologies to ensure credibility.

Aggregates these to an urban scale – street, district or city level.

This enables it to evaluate the potential for domestic CO₂ emission reductions from a whole range of measures on both the demand and supply sides of energy.

An additional and unique feature of assessing the cost-benefits of individual CO₂ reduction measures and putting a financial cost to CO₂ emission reduction.

A mapping tool for representing domestic CO₂ emissions and reductions.

DECoRuM provides local authorities and energy advisers with a tool to address the barrier of counting and reducing emissions locally.

Core methodologies used in DECoRuM

Methodology used	Details of methodology	Outputs	
Building Research Establishment Domestic Energy Model (BREDEM) -12	Industry standard to calculate energy use for different dwelling types in UK.	Annual energy use (GJ/year)	Underlying physically-based energy models: BREDEM – 12 linked to SAP 2005.
	Estimates annual energy requirement for space heating, water heating, lights & appliances and cooking	Annual CO ₂ emissions (kg/year)	
	Requires 95 input parameters	Running costs (£s/year)	
Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) 2005	Government's recommended system for home energy rating based on energy costs for space and water heating.	SAP rating (scale of 1-100)	
Net annual cost method	Used by BRE to assess cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency measures.	Net annual cost/tonne of CO ₂ saved	Cost-benefit analysis approach

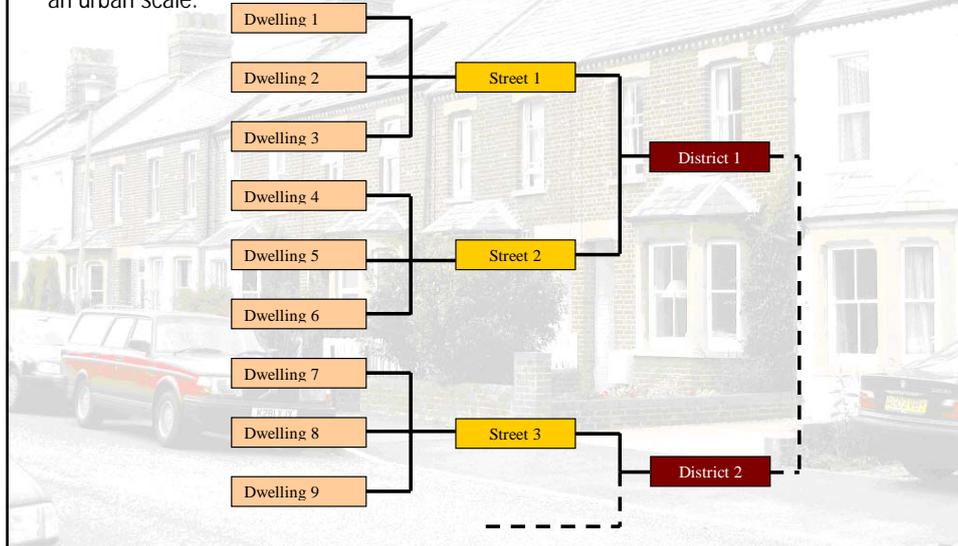
Outputs from DECoRuM

	Outputs	Expressed as
Energy use	Total annual energy use	kWh/year kWh/m ² /year
	Annual energy use by end use	kWh/year
CO ₂ emissions	Total annual CO ₂ emissions	kgCO ₂ /year kgCO ₂ /m ² /year
	Annual CO ₂ emissions by end use	kgCO ₂ /year
Fuel costs	Total annual running (fuel) costs	£/year
	Annual running (fuel) costs by end use	£/year
Energy rating	SAP rating	Scale of 1 to 100

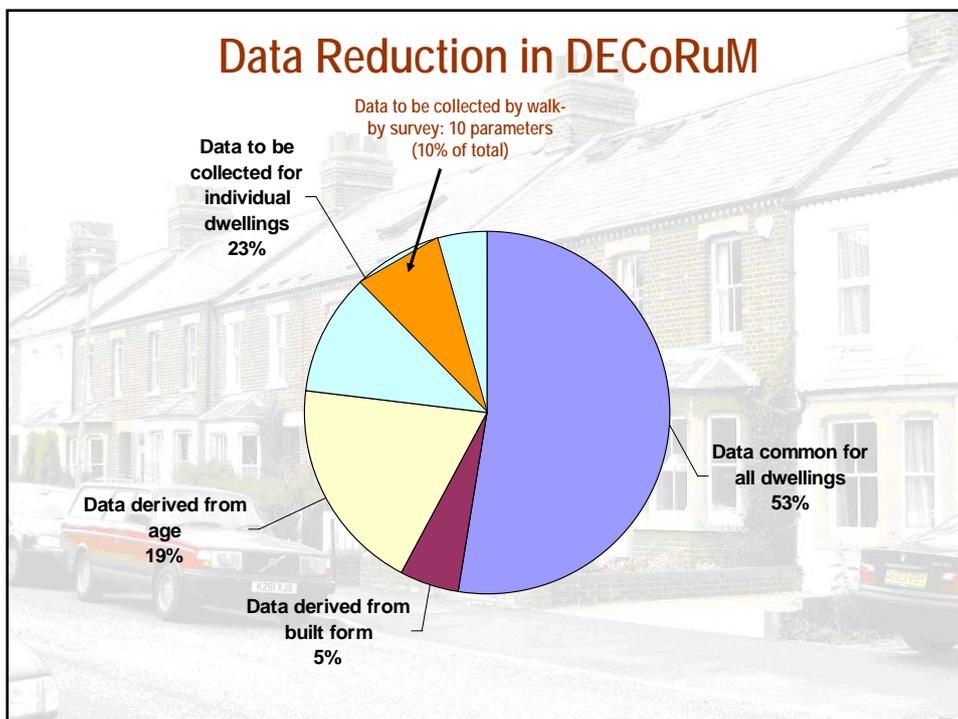
DECoRuM: estimating baseline energy and CO₂ emissions

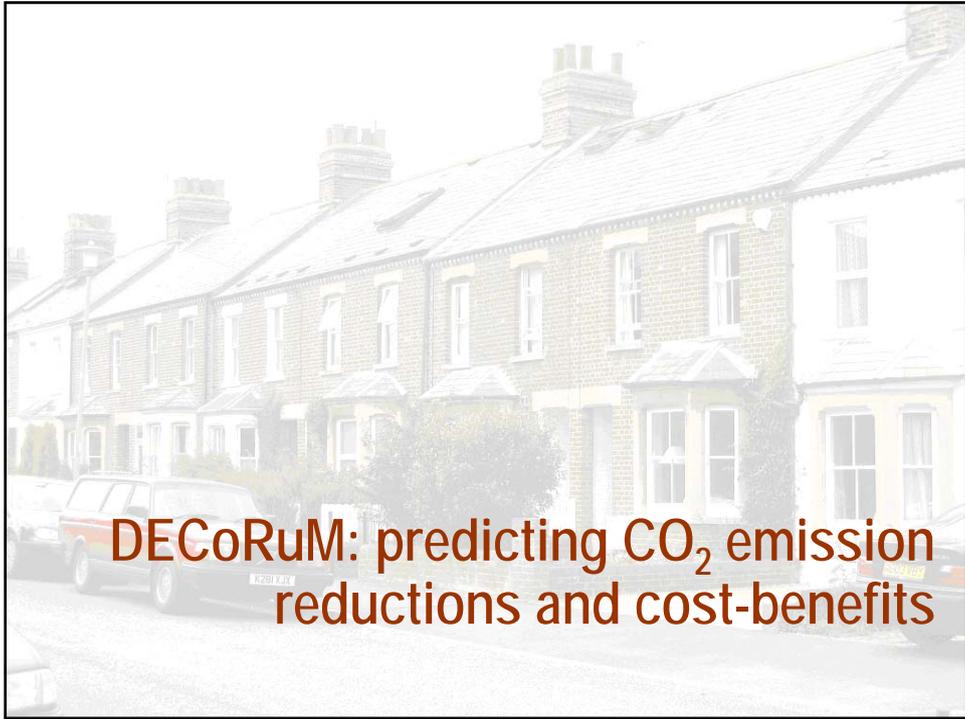
Framework for baseline predictions

DECoRuM baseline energy model estimates energy consumption and CO₂ emissions of individual dwellings as the basic component for calculation, and then aggregates these to an urban scale.



Data Reduction in DECoRuM

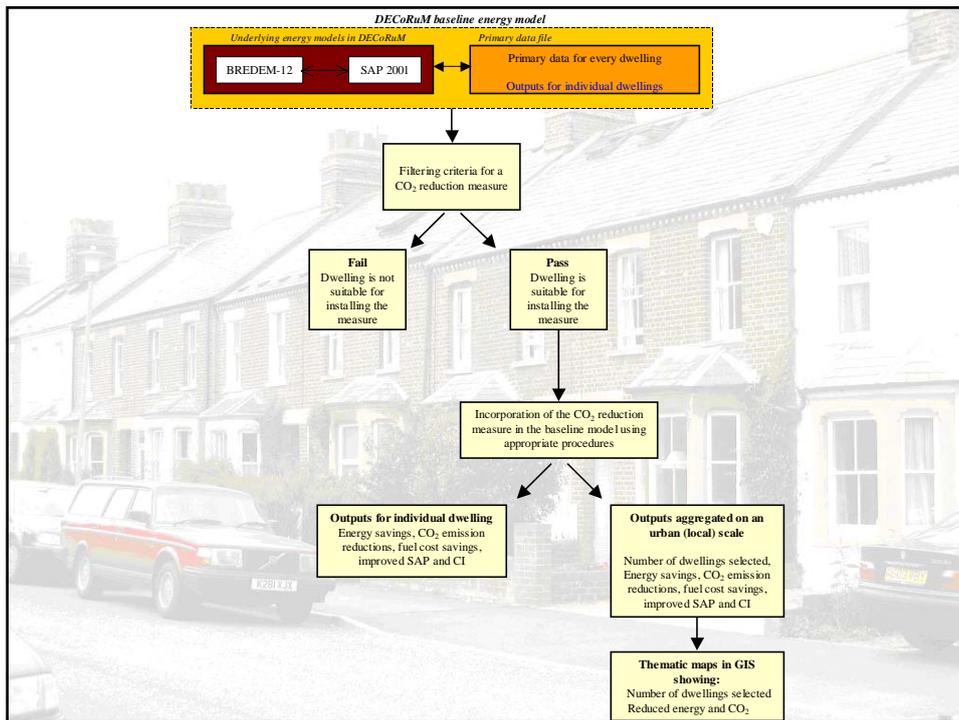




DECoRuM: predicting CO₂ emission reductions and cost-benefits

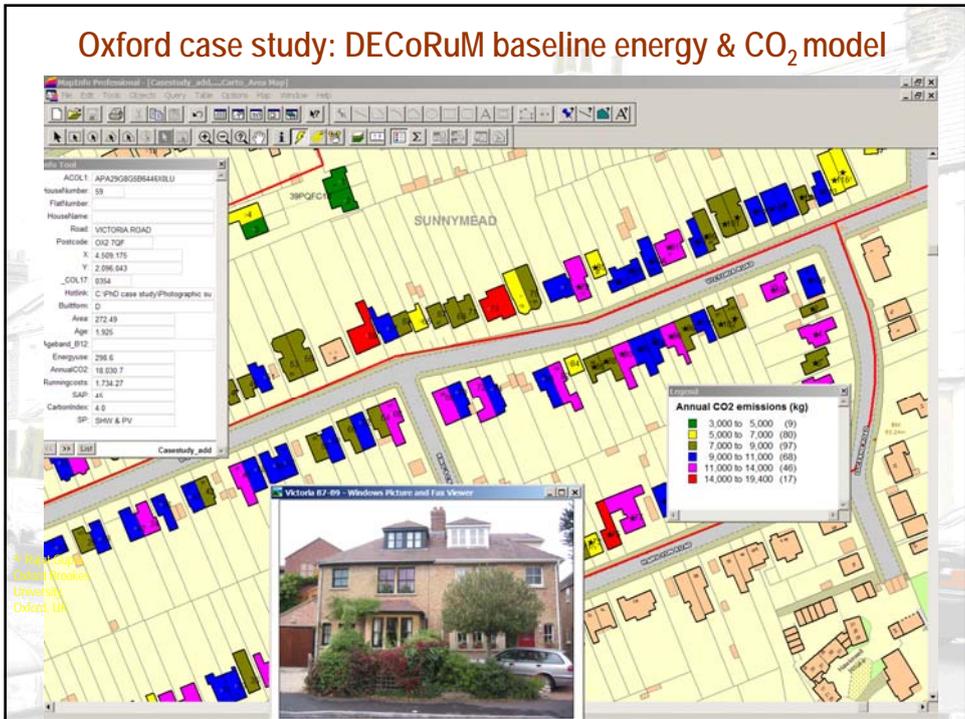
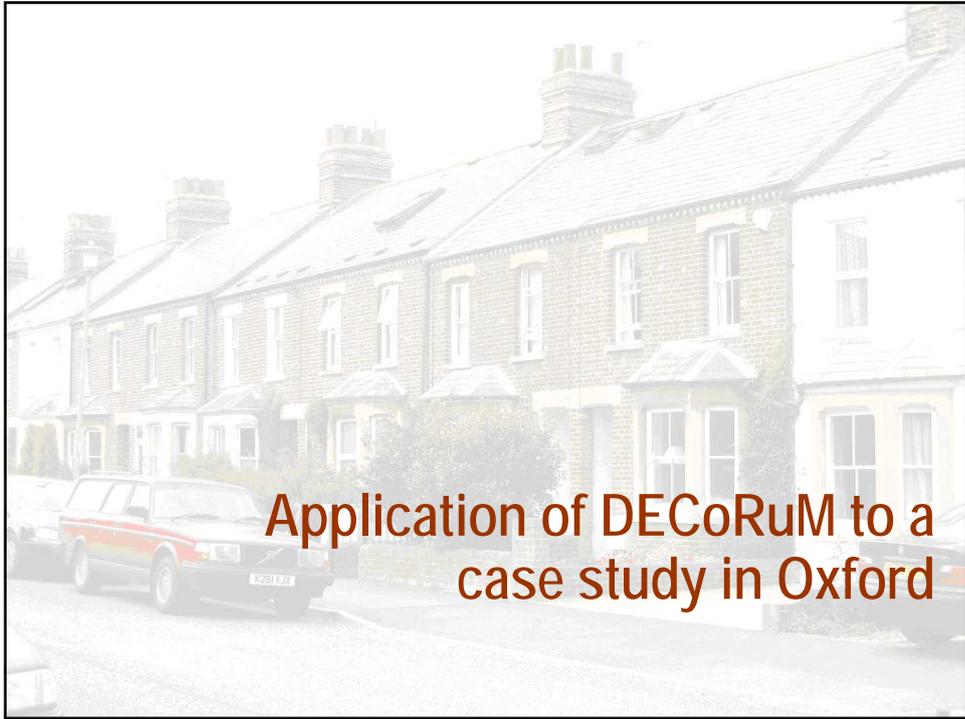
DECoRuM: 30 CO₂ reduction strategies

Strategies for CO ₂ reduction	END-USES OF ENERGY IN A TYPICAL UK DWELLING				
	Space heating	Water heating	Lighting	Appliances	
Energy use in 2000 ¹	60 %	23 %		12 %	
CO ₂ emissions 2000 ²	54 %	21 %		20 %	
Fuel used	Mostly gas	Mostly gas		Electricity	
DEMAND SIDE OF ENERGY	Energy efficient measures	<i>Insulation</i>		<i>Low energy lighting</i>	<i>Energy efficient appliances</i>
		Roof insulation	Hot water tank insulation	CFLs	<i>Wet appliances</i>
		Cavity wall insulation	Primary hot water pipe insulation	Energy efficient fittings	Washing machines
		Solid wall insulation: internal			Tumble dryers
		Solid wall insulation: external			Dishwashers
		Floor insulation			<i>White appliances</i>
		Low-e double glazing			Refrigerators
		Draught stripping			Fridge-freezers
		Draught lobby			Freezers
			<i>Heating system</i>		
	Installation of a condensing boiler			Video recorders	
	Improved heating controls			Televisions	
SUPPLY SIDE OF ENERGY	Low carbon technologies	Micro- CHP			
		Ground source domestic heat pumps			
	Solar energy systems	<i>Passive solar</i>		<i>Active solar</i>	
		Conservatory	Solar hot water system		Solar PV
	Fuel switching				Green-tariff electricity

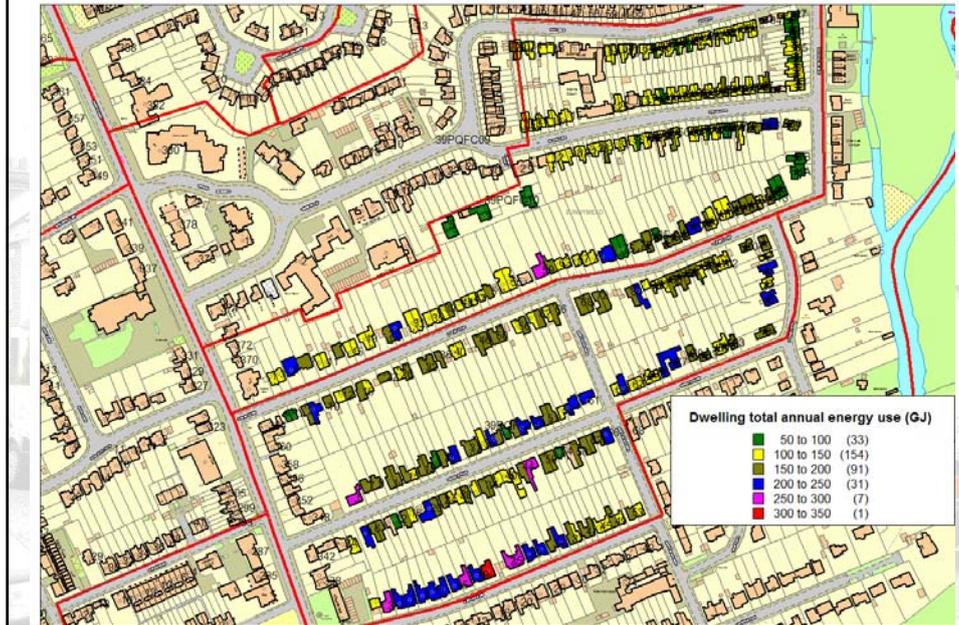


DECoRuM: cost-benefit methodology

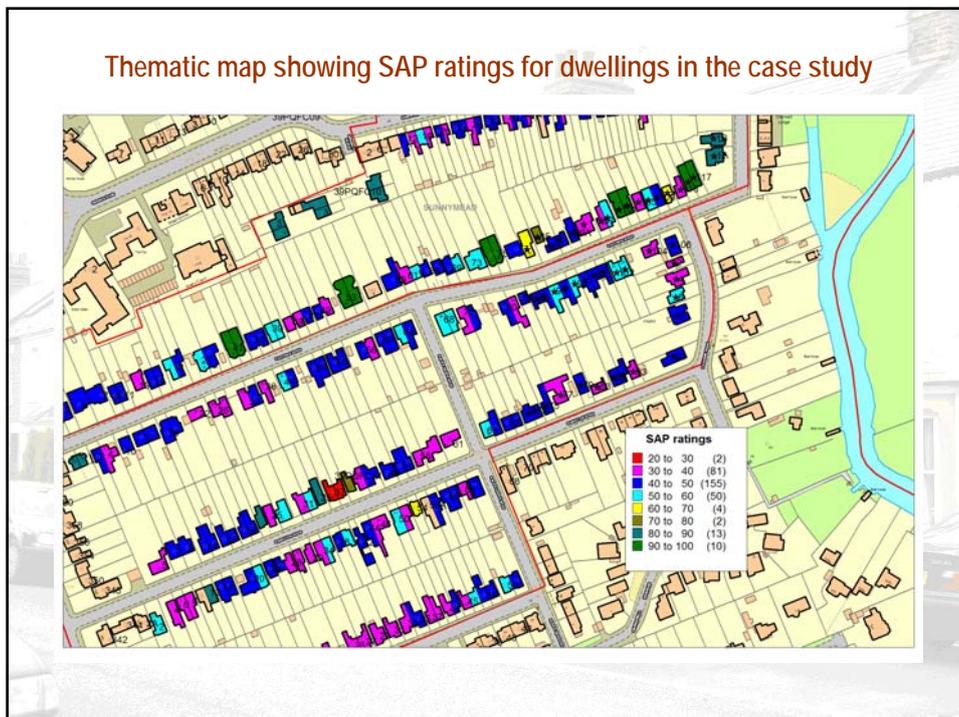
Use	Outputs (Low capital cost high capital cost scenarios)
To assess the cost-effectiveness of deploying various CO ₂ reduction measures.	<i>Net annual cost</i> is divided by the annual CO ₂ saving to give the <i>net annual cost per tonne of CO₂ saved</i>
To determine the capital cost of reducing a tonne of CO ₂ , using a single or a combination of measures on an urban scale.	<i>Cost for reducing a tonne of lifetime CO₂ emissions</i>
To be widely used and understood.	Simple payback period



Thematic map showing estimate of total annual energy consumption in the case study dwellings



Thematic map showing SAP ratings for dwellings in the case study



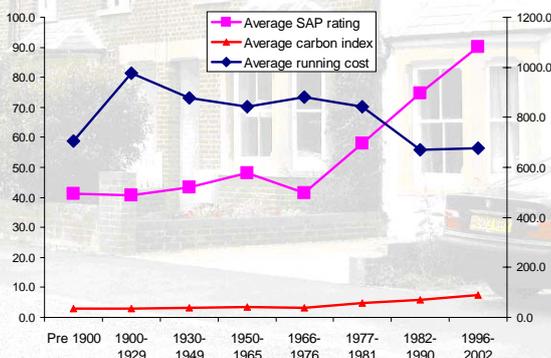
Thematic map of dwellings in the case study showing annual fuel costs



Results from DECoRuM baseline model: by built form and age groups

Built form	Number of dwellings	Annual energy use (GJ)	Annual CO ₂ (tonnes CO ₂ /year)	Running costs (£s/year)	SAP	Carbon Index
		Total	Total	Average	Average	Average
Detached	58	10985.2	669.1	1074.2	43.2	3.2
Semidetached	175	27774.5	1698.5	916.2	46.4	3.5
End-terrace	21	2902.8	173.0	747.6	39.5	2.8
Mid-terrace	51	5958.8	359.2	656.9	47.9	3.6
MIT-UP	10	1563.6	95.3	897.2	41.2	3.0
Bungalow	3	514.2	31.2	961.7	36.3	2.7
TOTAL	318	49,699.1 GJ	3,026.2 t	£892.1	45.4	3.4

Breakdown of energy use, CO₂ emissions, running costs, SAP rating and carbon index as per built forms of dwellings in the case study



Distribution of SAP rating, carbon index and running cost by age-band in case study area

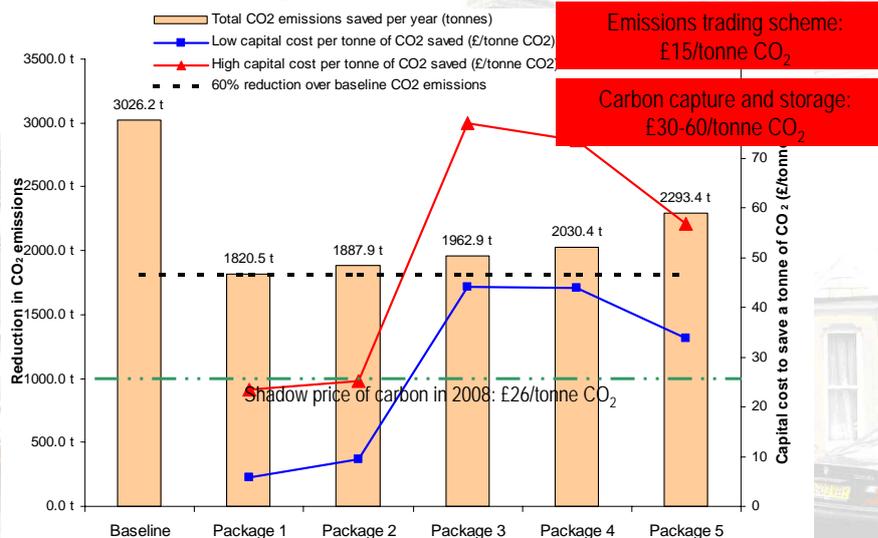
DECoRuM CO₂ reduction model: estimating solar potential

87% of the dwellings in the case study were suitable for installing either a SHW or a PV system or both.

Dwellings with potential for	Number of dwellings	Percentage
4 m ² flat plate SHW (available roof area: 4.0 m ² - 9.9 m ²)	38	11.9%
PV (available roof area: 10.0 m ² -13.9 m ²)	46	14.5%
SHW & PV (available roof area: >13.9 m ²)	192	60.4%
None	42	13.2%
TOTAL	318	100.0%



Potential for CO₂ emission reductions above 60%



SHW and solar PV systems, individually installed cost £335 and £644/tonne of CO₂ saved in a low capital cost scenario. When applied in combination in package 3, the cost drops to £44 /tonne CO₂ saved.

Potential for CO₂ emission reductions from UK housing stock

S.No. of measure	Strategy/Measure	Average CO ₂ emission saved per year per dwelling (tonnes CO ₂)	Number of dwellings selected in UK	UK LEVEL (24.27 MILLION DWELLINGS)						
				CO ₂ Emissions saved/year (Mtonnes CO ₂ /year)	Lifetime CO ₂ Emissions saved (Mtonnes CO ₂)	Total cost for selected dwellings		Pounds spent to save a tonne of CO ₂		
						Low cost (£s in Million)	High cost (£s in Million)	Low cost (£/tonne CO ₂)	High cost (£/tonne CO ₂)	
ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES										
M 1	Roof insulation: top-up from 50/75mm to 250 mm	0.24	4,911,000	1.2	35.9	466.5	726.8	13.0	20.3	
M 2	Roof insulation: top-up from 150 mm to 250 mm	0.06	6,187,000	0.3	10.4	216.5	544.5	20.9	52.6	
M 3	Cavity wall insulation	1.44	8,096,000	12.6	502.3	2504.4	3330.6	5.0	8.6	
M 5	Solid wall insulation: external	2.16	10,615,000	22.9	687.0	0.0	15922.5	0.0	23.2	
M 8	Low-e double glazing (in comparison with double glazing)	0.15	11,190,000	1.6	32.6	559.5	1678.5	17.2	51.5	
M 9	Full draught proofing (currently with none or some)	0.11	24,193,000	2.7	27.0	532.2	1983.8	19.7	73.5	
M 10	Hot water cylinder insulation (currently with none or some)	0.47	5,017,000	2.3	23.4	50.2	175.6	2.1	7.5	
M 13	Replacement condensing boilers	1.41	5,720,893	8.1	96.9	1144.2	2860.4	11.8	29.5	
M 14	Improved heating controls: room thermostat & cylinder thermostat	0.21	2,310,000	0.5	6.3	150.6	336.9	23.9	53.8	
M 15	Energy-efficient lighting (new CFLs and new fittings)	0.14	24,195,000	3.3	39.4	967.8	2225.9	24.6	56.5	
M 16	Energy-efficient refrigerators	0.04	10,404,000	0.4	5.8	280.9	364.1	48.3	62.6	
M 17	Energy-efficient fridge/freezers	0.10	15,348,000	1.5	26.6	414.4	1028.3	15.6	38.6	
M 18	Energy-efficient freezers	0.06	10,544,000	0.6	9.2	284.7	727.5	30.9	78.9	
M 19	Energy-efficient washing machines	0.04	22,317,000	0.8	10.1	0.0	2544.1	0.0	252.3	
M 20	Energy-efficient tumble dryers	0.04	12,390,000	0.4	6.4	0.0	371.7	0.0	58.0	
M 21	Energy-efficient dishwashers	0.02	5,814,000	0.1	2.4	0.0	180.2	0.0	75.9	
M 22	Energy-efficient televisions	0.02	42,769,000	0.9	7.3	427.7	427.7	58.5	58.5	
M 23	Energy-efficient videos	0.01	23,855,000	0.2	1.7	238.6	238.6	143.0	143.0	
LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGIES										
M 24	Ground-source heat pump systems	0.89	1,908,097	1.7	42.5	2919.4	3434.6	68.7	80.8	
M 25	Domestic micro-CHP units (small unit: 1 kW _e / 6 kW _t)	0.69	1,221,182	0.8	12.6	519.0	610.6	41.3	48.5	
M 26	Domestic micro-CHP units (large unit: 3 kW _e / 9 kW _t)	1.85	9,922,107	18.3	275.0	12650.7	14883.2	46.0	54.1	
SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS										
M 29	Solar hot water (4m ² flat plate system)	0.30	17,554,497	5.2	104.7	35109.0	49152.6	335.4	469.5	
M 30	Solar PV (1 kW _p system)	0.31	18,165,088	5.6	141.0	90625.4	130786.6	644.1	927.5	
				TOTAL	92.3	2,106	150,262	234,539	71.3	111.3
				Equal to	25.2	MTC				
	Potential for each measure at UK level extracted from BRE report									
				UK domestic CO₂ emissions in 2000 (Domestic energy fact file)	38.2	MTC				
	Potential for each measure at UK level extrapolated from the application of DECoRuM to the case study in Oxford									
				CO₂ reduction achieved	66%					

DECoRuM: Benefits

- Individual dwelling is represented as the base level of resolution but results can be displayed up to a street, district and city level.
- Pollution hotspots can be spatially located and targeted for improvement.
- Assessment requires no access to the property.
- A robust data filtering process provides accurate and reliable results.
- Cost-benefits analysis enables cost comparison of different measures.
- Helps to estimate the potential for citywide application of solar energy systems.
- A useful visual aid when encouraging householders to install energy efficiency measures

Applications: Local Authorities and DECoRuM

Provides a GIS-based toolkit to enable LAs to develop a carbon foot-printing capability to :

- Assess and map the current carbon emissions of their housing stock.
- Benchmark baseline emissions against typical and good-practice standards.
- Identify 'hotpots' of pollution.
- Establish carbon emission reduction targets.
- Evaluate strategies and technologies to achieve those targets in terms of carbon reduction and cost-benefits.
- Verify and monitor the reductions achieved.
- Help to develop guidelines (solar legislation, solar rights, and building energy standards) to restrict the housing stock's carbon emissions to good practice benchmarks.

RIBA President's medal for outstanding research 2006

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Oxford Brookes University website. The main content area features the 'RIBA Research Award 2006' announcement. The text states that Dr Rajat Gupta from Oxford Brookes University has been awarded the RIBA President's Research award for 2006. The award was made on 6 December 2006 at the RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London. The judges' citation for the Outstanding PhD is as follows: 'This PhD research describes the development and validation of a domestic energy, carbon-counting and carbon-reduction model (DECoRuM) for urban scale assessments of the cost benefits of a wide range of energy efficient and renewable energy options. The thesis deftly handles the complex and contentious literature on climate change. The novelty of the approach lies in the ability to reliably aggregate results for individual houses up to an urban scale. This is an extremely impressive study both in terms of its scope and detail. It is also very timely, and should be taken up by local authorities and housing agencies around the country. This is an issue of widespread importance and interest to many architects, and one which the RIBA champions.'

The judging panel includes:

- Jane Rendell - chair of judges - Director of Architectural Research at the Bartlett School of Architecture UCL
- Richard Cojane - Edinburgh University, Architecture Department
- Andrew Ballantyne - University of Newcastle, School of Architecture
- Brian Ford - Head of School of the Built Environment, Director of the Institute of Architecture, University of Nottingham
- Simon Allford - ARIBA, and RIBA Vice President for Education

The URL www.decorum-model.org.uk/ is displayed at the bottom of the page.