

Assisted routing of facade-integrated ductwork

Dr.-Ing. Sven Auerswald
14th International Buildair Symposium
May 16-17, 2025
17.05.2025

AEGIR DELIVERABLE D5.5 - VENTILATION DUCTS INTEGRATION SERVICE



Assisted routing of facade-integrated ductwork

Dr.-Ing. Sven Auerswald

Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE



Funded by
the European Union

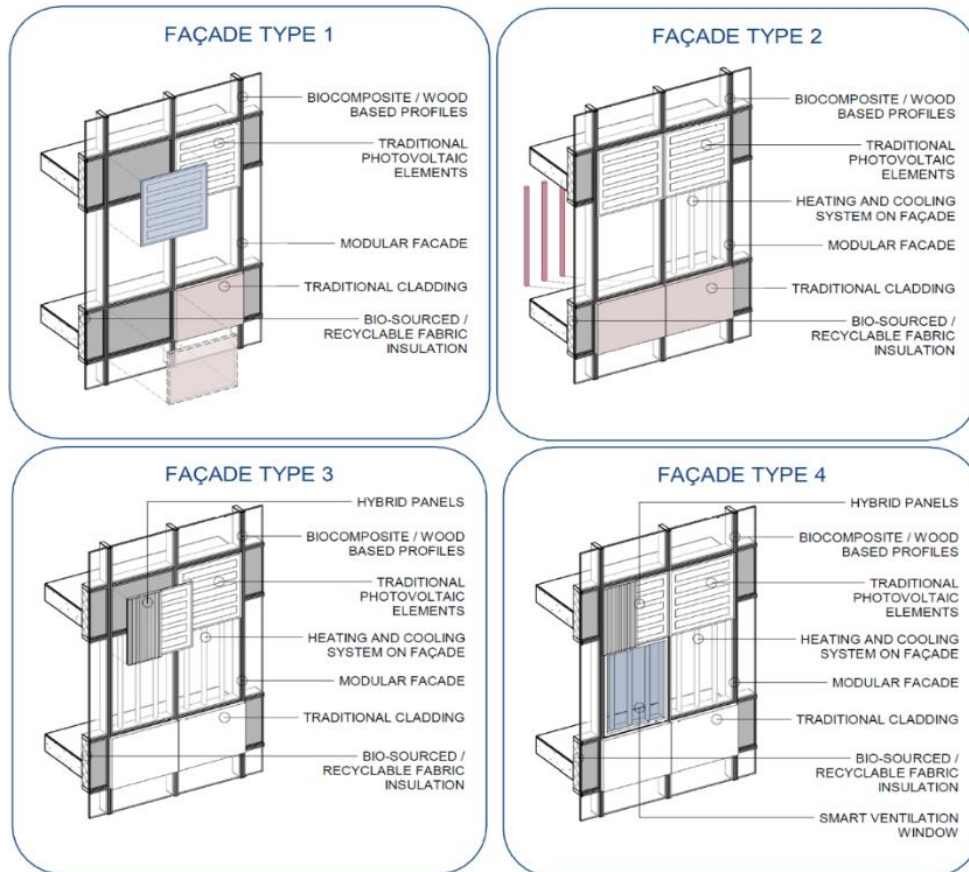
aegirproject.eu

Agenda

- 1) AEGIR-PROJECT
- 2) PREVIOUS PROJECTS
- 3) METHODOLOGY
- 4) MANUAL DESIGN PROCESS
- 5) CONCEPT OF THE PROGRAM
- 6) RESULTS



AEGIR-project



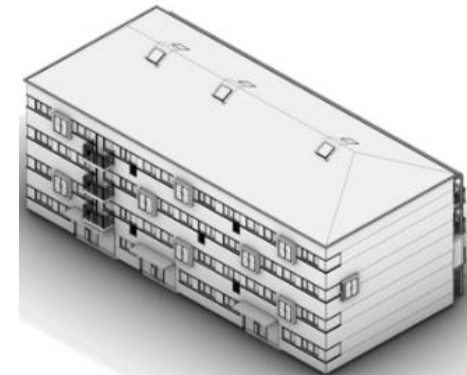
Interested? See More on:

1. Our Website: [Home - AEGIR](#)
2. Our promo video: [YouTube - AEGIR](#)

AEGIR-project: demonstration objects

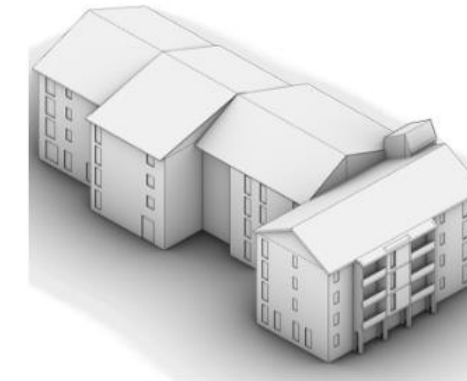
Høje-Tåstrup in Denmark:

- Humid continental climate
- Residential multifamily block of “[Gadehavegård](#)”
- Floor area: 1,567 m²
- Occupancy: ~64 Pers



Boën Sur Lignon in France:

- Temperate oceanic climate
- Elderly care home “[Residence Autonomie L’Astree](#)”
- Floor area: 2,003.1 m²
- Occupancy: ~70 Pers



AEGIR-project: demonstration objects

Malgrat de Mar in Spain :

- Mediterranean climate
- School “[Marià Cubí i Soler](#)”
- Floor area: 1,669.3 m²
- Occupancy: ~700 Pers



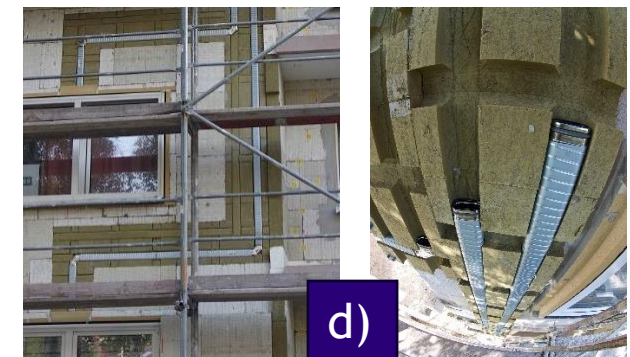
Oradea in Romania:

- Continental climate
- 4 storey single family house
- Floor area: 232.8 m²
- Occupancy: ~4 Pers



Previous ductwork integrations in facades

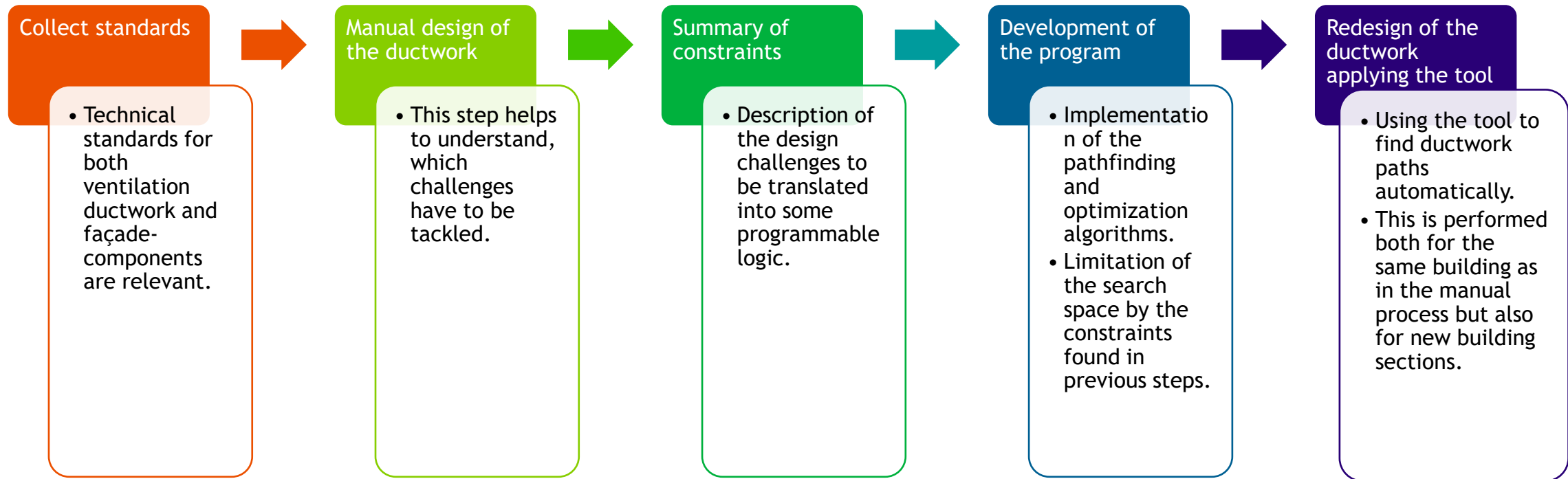
- a) “LowEx - Existing Commercial Buildings” finished object on campus of Fraunhofer ISE
- b) Plastic ductwork in expanded polystyrene insulation on Campus of Fraunhofer ISE
- c) 3D-design of a section of the “RetroKit” demonstration object in Frankfurt a. M.
- d) images of the metal ductwork integration in prefabricated mineral wool insulation of the “RetroKit” demonstrator



Challenge:

System needs to be designed and build at the interface between different construction trades.

Methodology



Methodology - standards & regulation

Fire safety

- Based on GER (MOB, 2023) and FR (NF S 61-937, 1990)
- Standard approach should be metall ducts with ≥ 20 mm of fire-resistant thermal insulation
- fire dampers between each utilisation unit

Airtightness - ductwork

- Based on EN 12599, EN 12237, EN 1507, EN 13180, EN 16798-5-1
- Minimum requirement airtightness class C (old) or ATC 3 (new)
- Preferable -> outside heated space class D (old) or ATC 2 (new)

Air Flow Rate

- Breating level: based on EN 16798-1 method 1 as default or national standards like DIN 1946-6
- At the air terminal devices assume mixed ventilation acc. DS 447 with a ventilation efficiency of 90% / air change efficiency of 45%

Thermal Insulation

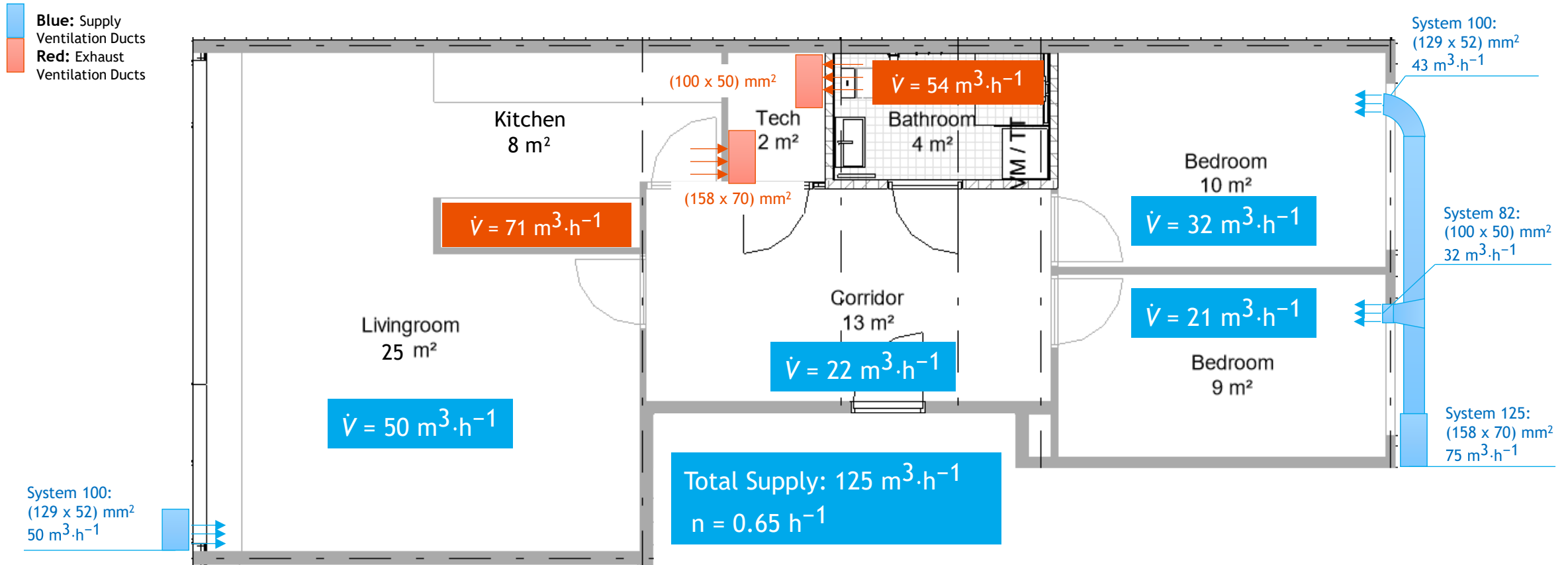
- National heating load calculation
- Typical thicknesses: Germany -> 160 mm, Denmark -> 240 mm

Duct Sizing

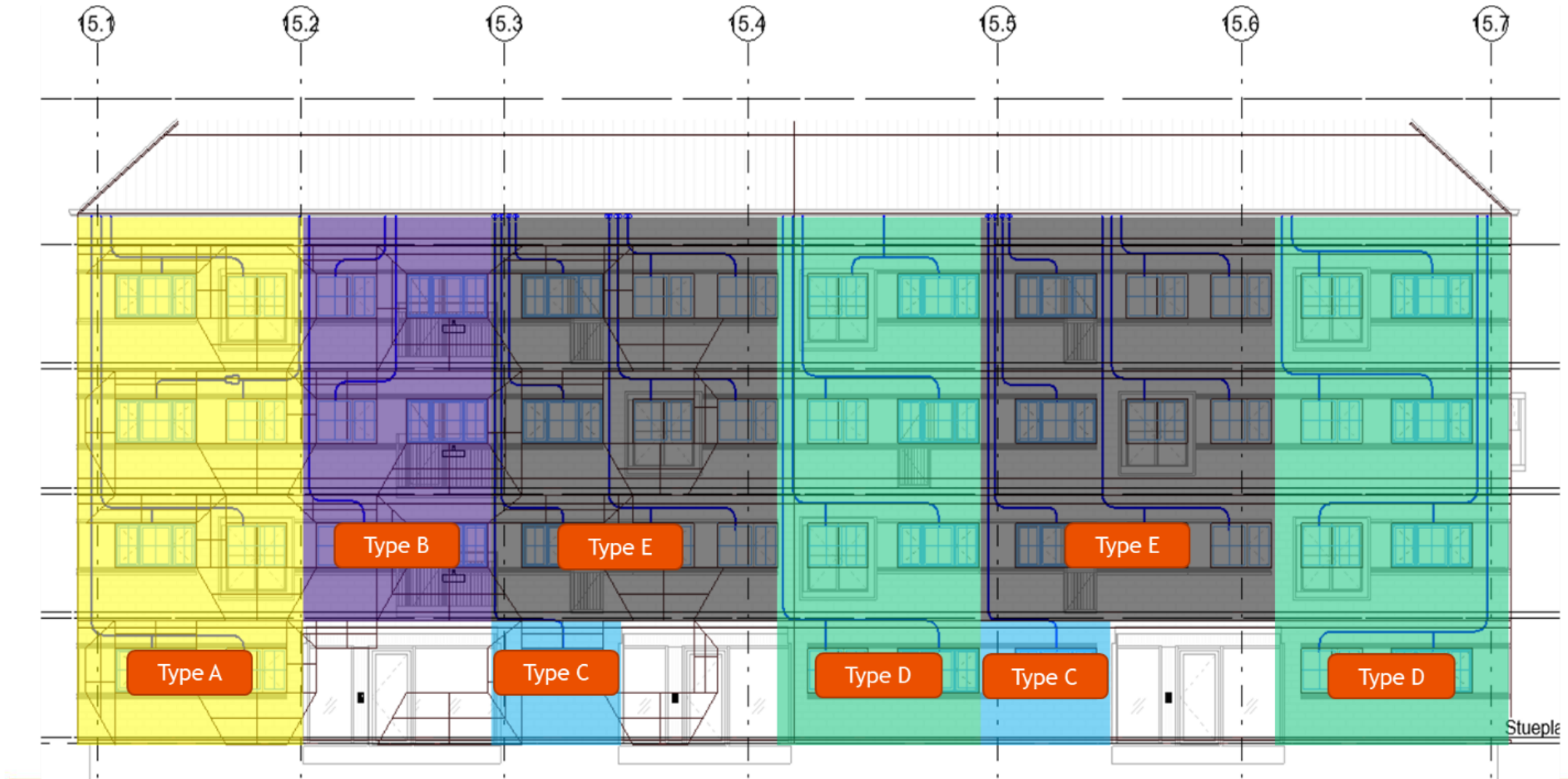
- Based on DIN 1946-6 -> average flow velocity has been limited to ≤ 2.5 m/s

Methodology - manual design process 1

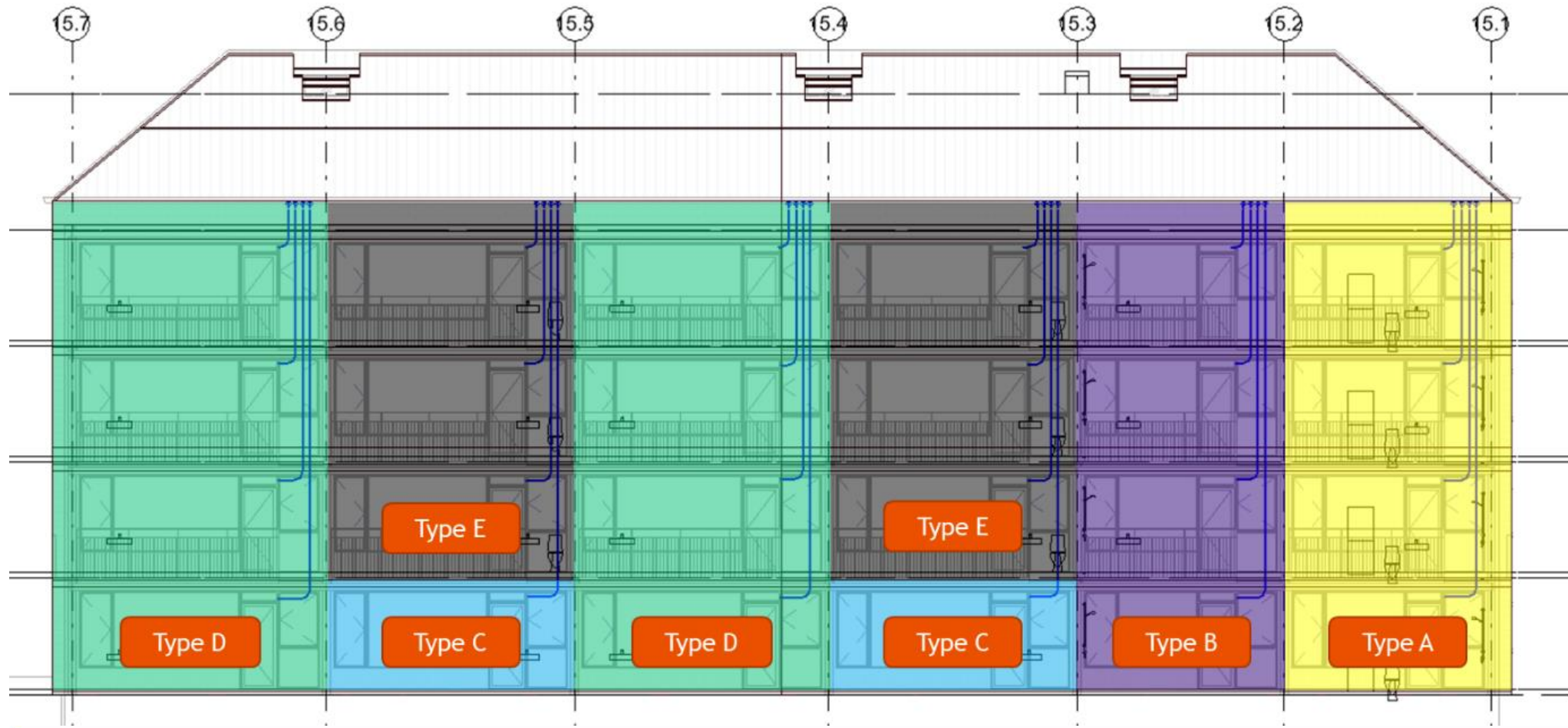
Flat type D in Denmark



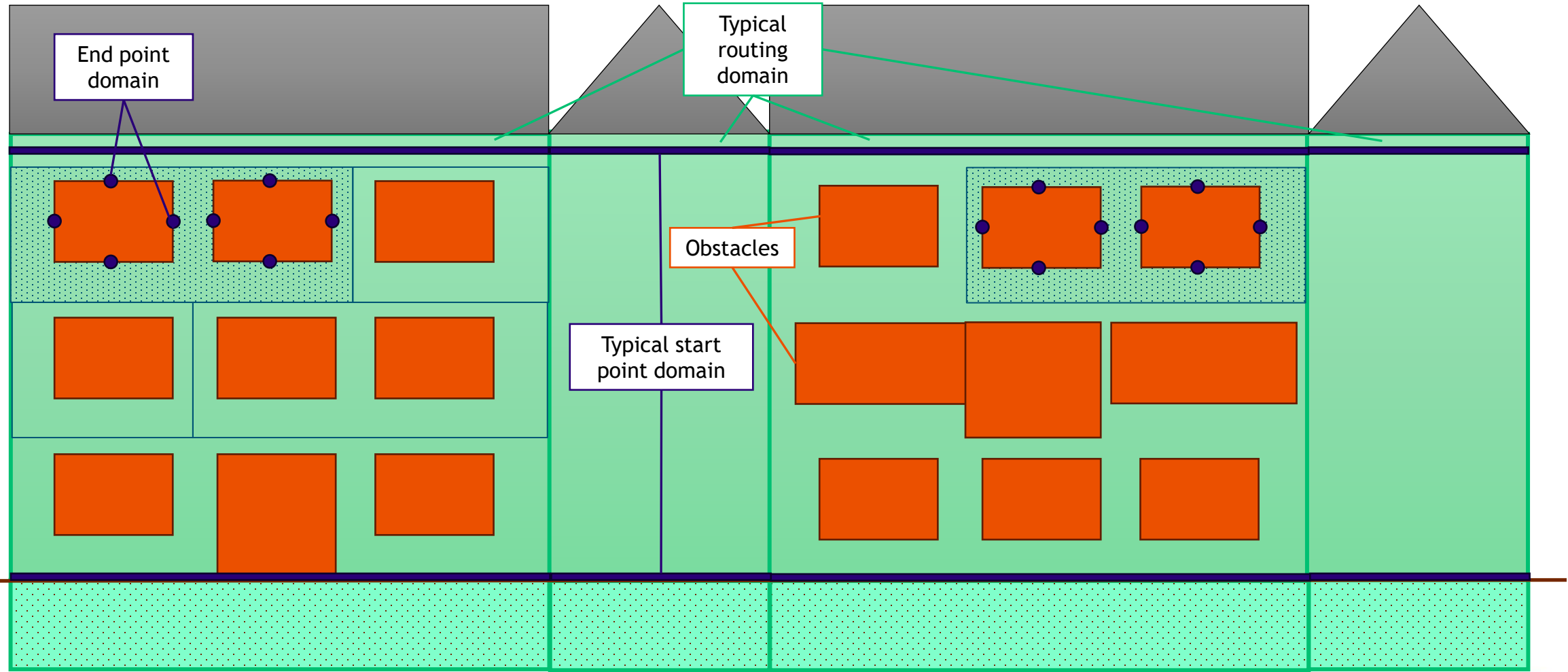
Methodology - manual design process 2



Methodology - manual design process 2

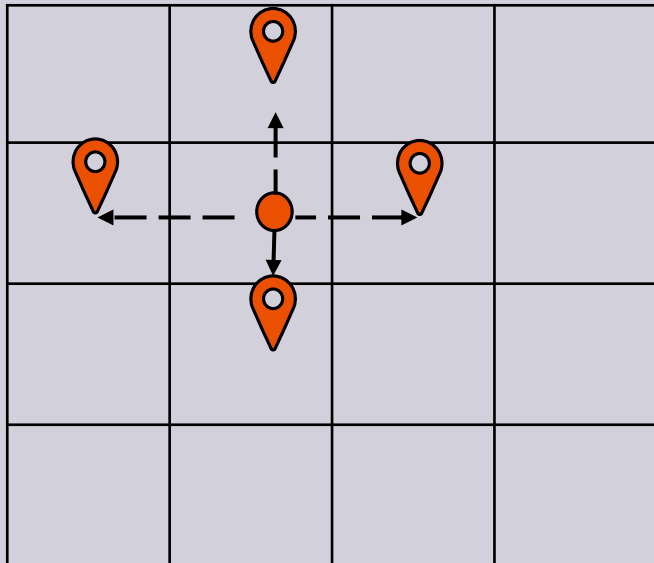


Domain definition & list of constraints

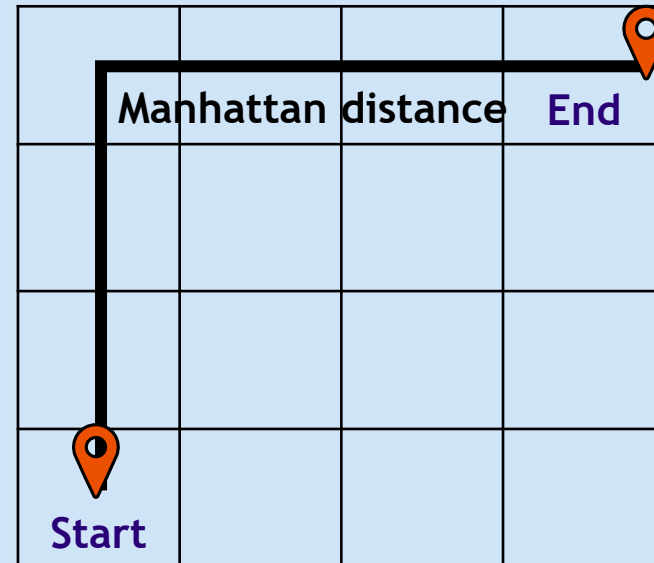


Concept of the program - A*-algorithm

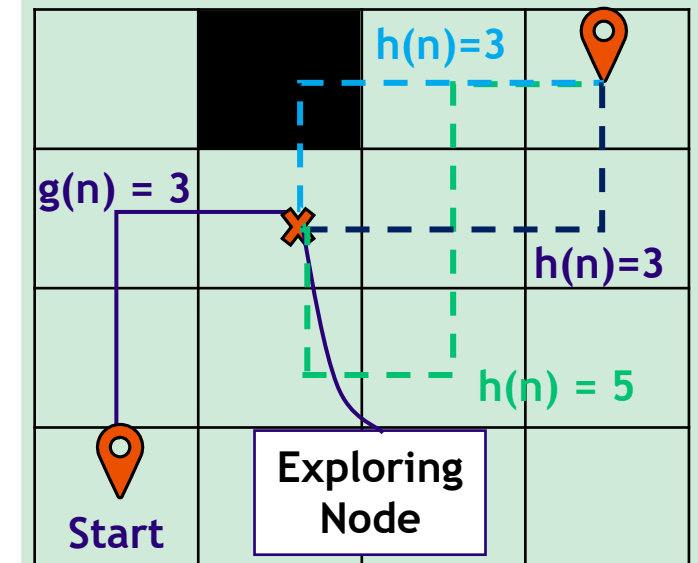
Allowed movements



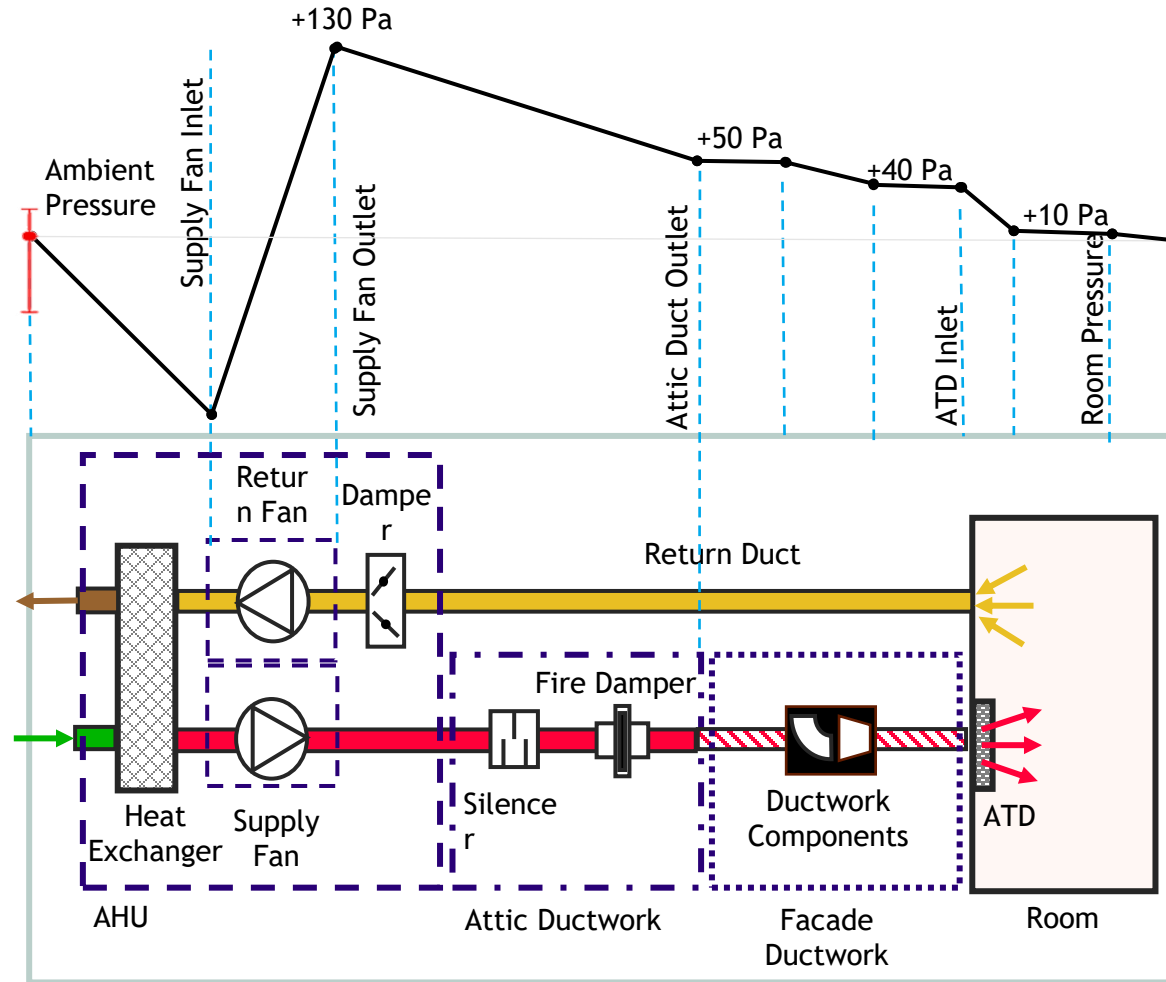
Exemplary final path



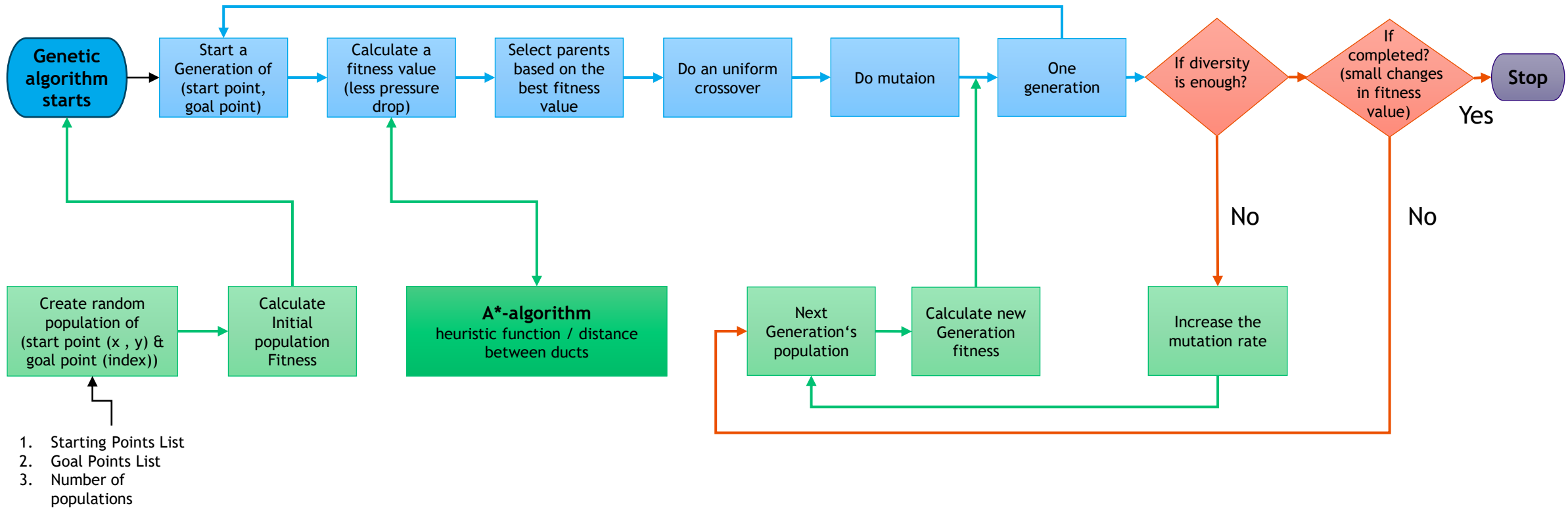
Decision process of the A* - the black cell represents an obstacle



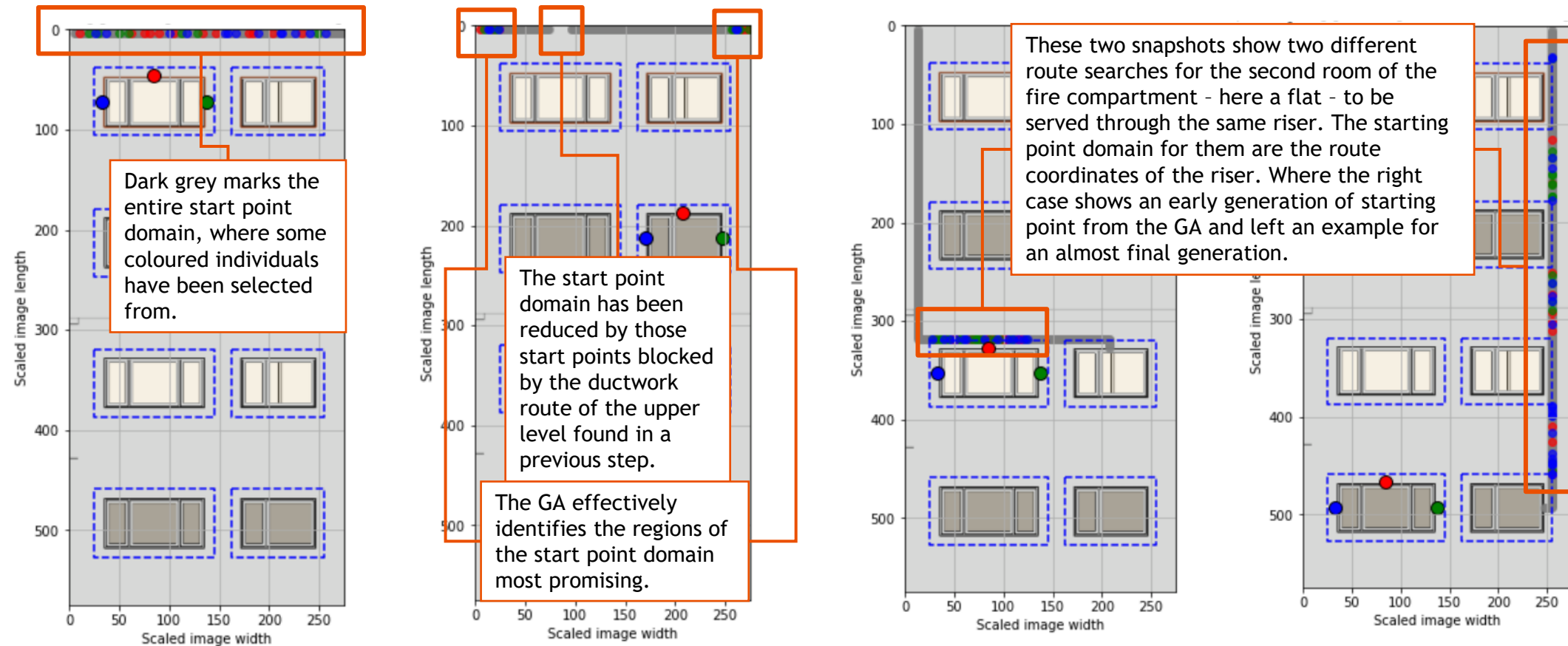
Optimization objective - pressure loss



Genetic algorithm for domain reduction



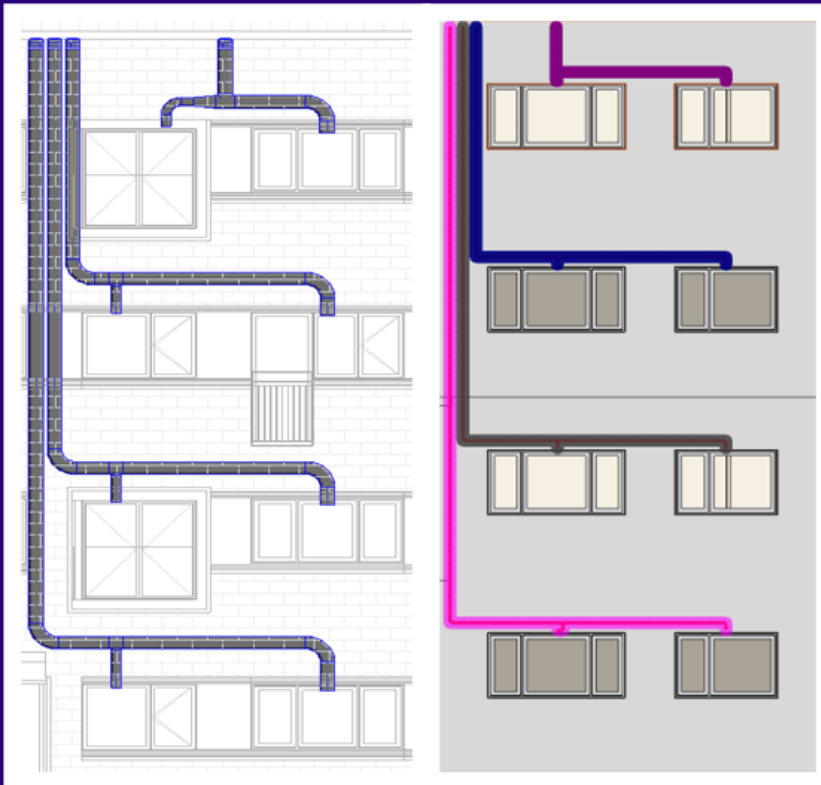
Intermediate steps of the program



Results

1st

Reference - Denmark



2nd

Validation - France



Conclusion

Initial version of the program can reproduce the concept and has successfully been tested on another building with similar characteristics.

Future Tasks:

1. More buildings typologies should be analysed to extend the domain definition, and the constraints handled.
2. The objective function for the optimization should be extended, covering for example the heat losses as well.
3. The domain reduction through a genetic algorithm can lead to final solutions which are only local optima. This needs to be further analysed and refined, potentially by implementing alternative algorithms.





Funded by
the European Union

Acknowledgement

Grant Agreement no. [101079961](#)

The project “DigitAl and physical incrEmental ren-ovation packaGes/systems enhancing environmental and energetic behaviour and use of Resources” ([AEGIR](#)) runs from 01/10/2022 to 30/09/2026.

A special “Thank-You” goes to our co-author [Seyedehmaedeh Aghili](#) who dedicated her Master’s thesis to this topic and played a significant role in the realisation of this idea. We wish her all the best for her personal and professional future.

Thank You!

Dr.-Ing. Sven Auerswald

Scientific staff member

Building Systems Technology

sven.auerswald@ise.fraunhofer.de

Fon: +49 (0) 761 / 45 88 - 5901