

Zeitschrift: IABSE reports = Rapports AIPC = IVBH Berichte
Band: 77 (1998)

Artikel: Investigations of mass flow in the existing building stock
Autor: Kloft, Harald / Wörner, Johann-Dietrich
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-58174>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 10.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>



Investigations of Mass Flow in the Existing Building Stock

Harald KLOFT

Civil Engineer
Darmstadt Univ. of Technology
Darmstadt, Germany

Harald Kloft, born in 1963, received his degree in Civil Engineering in 1990 from Darmstadt Univ. of Technology. Since 1993 working on research to energy and mass flow of buildings. Since 1995 Lecturer for Environmental Engineering at Darmstadt Univ. of Technology.

Johann-Dietrich WÖRNER

Prof. Dr.
Darmstadt Univ. of Technology
Darmstadt, Germany

Johann Dietrich Wörner, born in 1954, obtained his degree of Dr.-Ing. in Earthquake Engineering 1985 from Darmstadt Univ. of Technology. After teaching four years as Professor for Concrete Engineering he was appointed Professor for Structural Engineering in 1994 at Darmstadt University of Technology. Since 1995 he is President of Darmstadt University of Technology.

Summary

Within the framework of investigations regarding "building material usage and the primary energy input for residential buildings constructed at different times", 20 residential buildings of varying ages (typical examples of solid-wall type of construction) were examined with regard to their building material and mass composition. In addition, the primary energy contents of the buildings concretized in the form of building materials - the so-called accumulated energy expended in the production of the building materials (PEI_H) - was also determined. The purpose of the investigation is to obtain information regarding the composition of building materials in residential buildings dependent on their age, and thus gain knowledge for dealing with existing buildings.

1 The Composition of Building Materials of Buildings Constructed at Different Times

A mean value of 0.528 Mg/m^3 gross cubic content is obtained for all examined buildings. Single family houses (mean value 0.592 Mg/m^3 gross cubic content) tend to be heavier due to their higher proportion of building materials; the used building materials here normally enclose a smaller volume than for residential buildings for several families (with a mean value of 0.479 Mg/m^3 gross cubic content). Over 90% of building material masses are mineral. Figure 1 shows the usage of building materials in residential buildings as changing with time as a mass percentage distribution. It can be seen that the composition of the building materials changes from one age group to the next. Whereas the concrete portion has increased since the mid 1920's, the portion of timber as an organic building material has decreased to under 5 %. Although the buildings of the age groups from 1918 to the present day are mainly examples of the solid-wall type of construction, the portion of block and brickwork walling decreases in this presentation. This illustrates the fact that the increased use of concrete is not only at the expense of the building material timber but also block and brickwork walling. In comparison, a continual increase in the use of inorganic materials such as glass and steel as well as insulation materials can be observed.

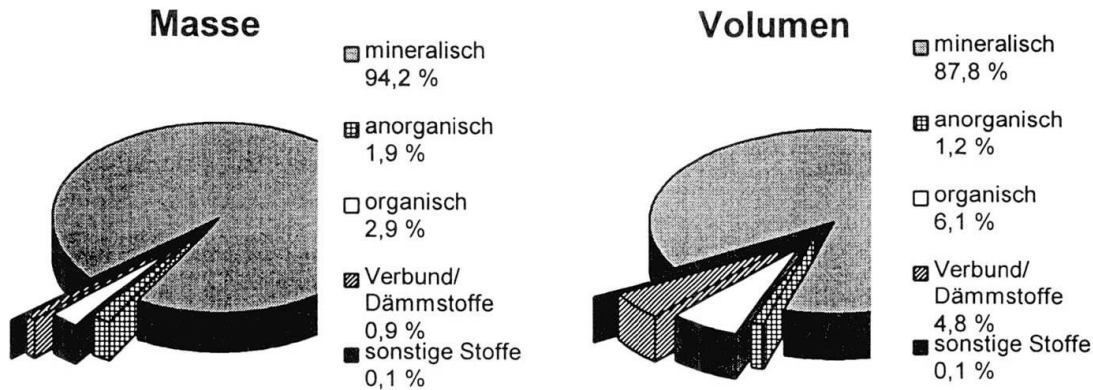


Fig. 1 Usage of Building Materials in Buildings of Various Age Groups as a Mass Percentage Distribution

The investigation has shown that more than 80 % of the building material masses of the examined residential buildings can be apportioned to the loadbearing structure, and less than 20 % on the finishes. A displacement of the building material masses from the loadbearing construction to finishes is recognisable in the younger building groups. This emphasises the increased use of building materials in the area of finishes due to the increasing requirements made for thermal and sound insulation. The classification of the total mass of all examined residential buildings into the individual building element groups according to DIN 276 has shown the dominance of external walls and floor/ceiling construction each with a value of 31 % for multi-family houses, followed by internal walls with 21 %. For single family houses the proportion for external walls with 39 % is much more characteristic, instead the floor/ceiling construction portion is barely 21 % and the internal walls with 14 % are of less influence. Taking the external and internal walls together, it becomes apparent that the proportion of the walls for single and multi-family housing in total are almost identical with just over 50 % of the total mass.

2 Primary energy input of residential premises

The examination of residential buildings with regard to the cumulative production energy input (PEI_H) carried out on 20 buildings has shown that the basic primary energy input values for the building materials are not decisive but rather the building material mass, defined by the specific material density. The investigated buildings vary around the value $PEI_H/mass = 2 \text{ GJ/Mg}$. But for example a building in the age group 1945 - 1955 is not only the heaviest but also has the highest PEI_H value; nevertheless however its relationship $PEI_H/mass$ is more favourable than for buildings of the following building age groups. Overall it was ascertained that building elements with a heavy mass give a favourable level of the $PEI_H/mass$ ratio; on the other hand a higher expenditure is required here for demolition and recycling. The elements of the building exterior are lighter, show however a higher building material energy level; on the other hand they contribute to the reduction of heating energy in the use phase.

3 References

- Wörner, J.-D., „Untersuchungen zum Baustoffeinsatz und zu den Primärenergieinhalten von Wohngebäuden verschiedenen Baualters“, Forschungsbericht, 1997
 Kloft, H. TU Darmstadt, Institut für Statik, Alexanderstr. 7, D - 64287 Darmstadt