

Still alive and... evolving!

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Part 1

A brief history of the Energy ADE





Energy ADE

- Ease data interoperability for Urban Energy Modelling
 - Between different software tools
 - Between different stakeholders
- Define (and store) energy-related data in a standard, open, urban data model
 - Allow for multi-scale energy modelling
- Based on multidisciplinary cooperation between CityGML users, data producers, software vendors, ..., and scientists









Energy ADE 1.0

- International consortium started in 2014
 - Over the years, participation of up to ca. 20 institutions, 11+ countries



- Open, consensus-based development
 - Version 1.0 released in June 2018
 - Wiki: http://en.wiki.energy.sig3d.org

Further details:

Agugiaro, G., Benner, J., Cipriano, P., Nouvel, R., 2018

The Energy Application Domain Extension for CityGML: Enhancing interoperability for urban energy simulations. Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards 2018 3:2. https://opengeospatialdata.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40965-018-0042-y (open access)



Energy ADE 1.0: Availability



History Updates Resources Tests Conclusions

Energy ADE 1.0

- Data model (UML)
- XSD file (for XML-based CityGML)
- Some test data
- Limited software support (FME, KIT ModelViewer)
- Energy ADE 1.0 "KIT profile": subset of classes, attributes, etc.
 - Data model (UML)
 - XSD file
 - Supported by
 - FME and KIT ModelViewer
 - SimStadt, CitySim (for data export)
 - 3D City Database (database, importer/exporter, WFS)
 - Used in several national/international projects since 2018







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What has happened since 2018?

Lessons learned:

- Energy ADE 1.0:
 - Needed to bridge UBEM with 3D city models, but...
 - ...too complex in certain parts (e.g. Energy Systems module)
 - Lack of
 - modelling guidelines for non-experts
 - sufficient example data for learning
 - sufficient software support
- Energy ADE 1.0 KIT profile:
 - better software support
 - smaller and easier to use, but...
 - · ...many things lost for the sake of simplification

2019: Energy ADE 2.0

- Drops Energy Systems Module
- Otherwise only corrections and very minor changes from version 1.0
- Development stopped in 2019





What has happened since 2018?

- More ADEs created with some relevance for energy
 - Utility Network ADE (2018)
 - i-UR ADE (Information Infrastructure for Urban Revitalization) (2020)
 - Food-Water-Energy ADE (2021)
- CityGML 3.0, in particular the Core and the Dynamizer modules (2021)
- EU project DigiTwins4PEDs (2023-2026): Time to update the Energy ADE!



DigiTwins4PEDs

Utilisation of urban digital twins to co-create flexible positive energy systems for districts







Part 2

Towards Energy ADE 3.0





Energy ADE 3.0: Main characteristics

Goals

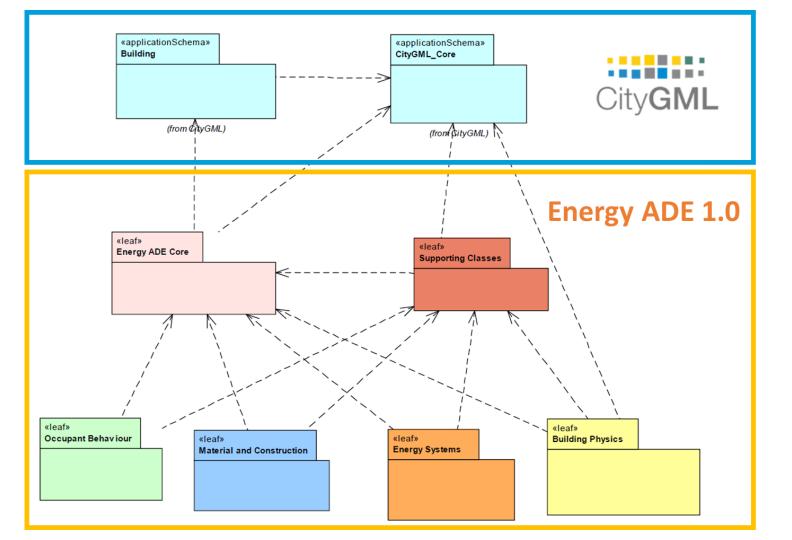
- Keep the modular structure
- Keep compatibility with KIT Energy ADE 1.0
- Build upon Energy ADE 1.0 (and 2.0)

Characteristics

- Updates based on accumulated past experiences
 - Simplify/redesign the data model in certain places
 - Backport some ideas from CityGML 3.0
- Designed for CityGML 2.0, but keeping in mind the future mapping to CityGML 3.0
- Avoid past pitfalls!!!
 - Provide good documentation
 - Provide modelling rules
 - Provide sufficient example data

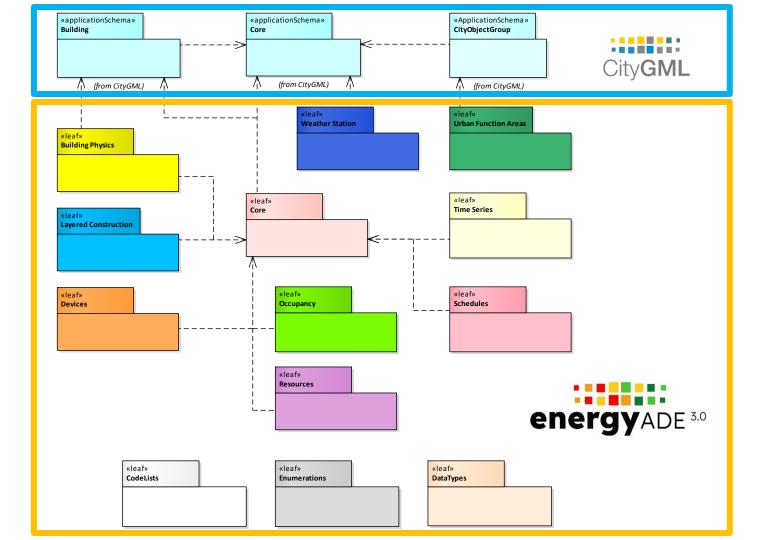






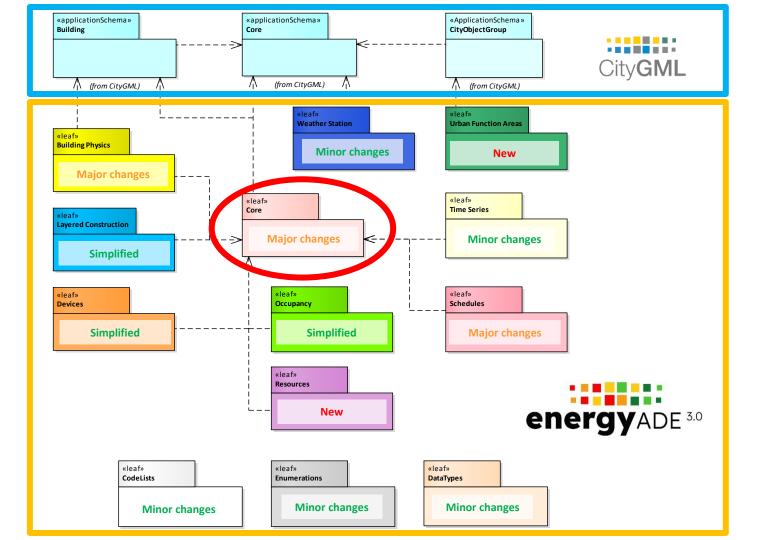














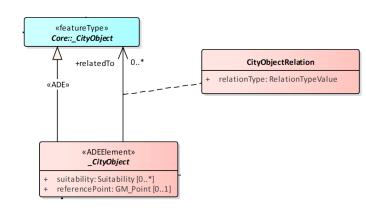
Core module



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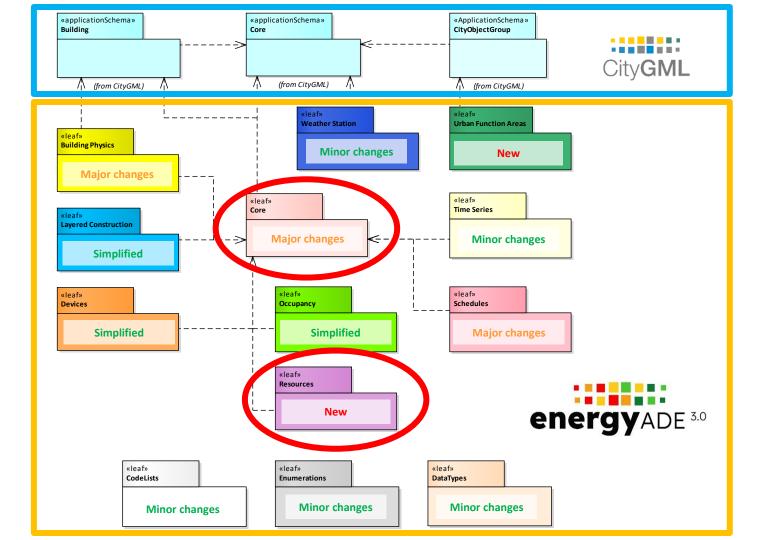
Same as before:

- Contains abstract base classes for other modules
- Extends CityGML classes _CityObject and _AbstractBuilding
- New: Backports from CityGML 3.0:
 - All city objects can be represented with a point geometry
 - Class CityObjectRelation for arbitrary relations between cityobjects
- New: Minor adjustments for future mapping to CityGML 3.0
 - <<Type>> stereotype replaced with <<featureType>>











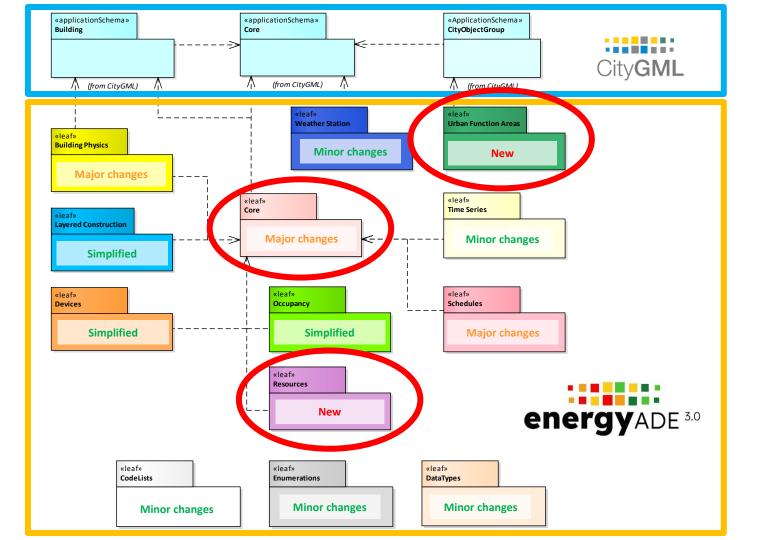


New Resources module

- The main idea is that *every* city object can...
 - ...demand/consume... produce/generate... store/accumulate...
 - ..."something" (i.e. a resource)
- This "something" is **Energy**, but also **Water**, **Food**, **Waste**, **ConstructionMaterial**, ...
 - The quantity can be expressed as a (yearly) amount, or as a time series (or both)
 - Values can be provided as absolute or specific values (+ normalization value)
 - Example: Energy demand expressed in kWh/year, or kWh/year/m²
- It is now possible to deal with
 - actual and potential values,
 - simulated and measured values
- This module reworks and integrates some concepts from Food-Water-Energy ADE
- Energ ADE 1.0: Only EnergyDemand class





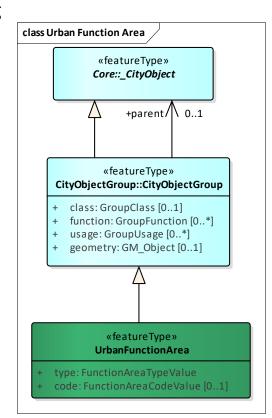






New Urban function areas module

- Idea: present **aggregated results**, using different grouping strategies
- Define **spatial entities** that identify portions of space to
 - group (city)objects or
 - identify certain areas
- These spatial entities can be hierarchically grouped
 - They can follow administrative boundaries
 - E.g. block, neighbourhood, district, city, etc.
 - Or they can follow a regular pattern
 - E.g. grid cells (e.g. statistical/census data)
- This module takes inspiration from i-UR ADE





New Urban function areas module



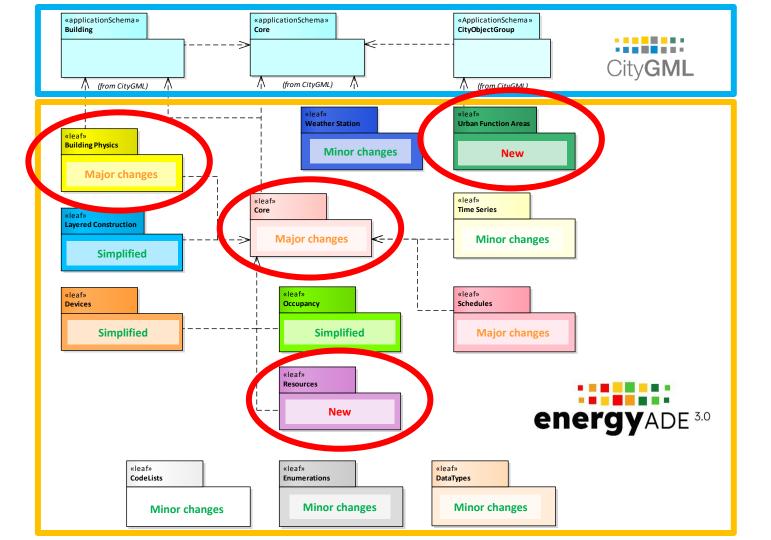
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Cooling energy demand in Rotterdam (The Netherlands) at **building** and at **neighbourhood level**









Redesigned Building physics module

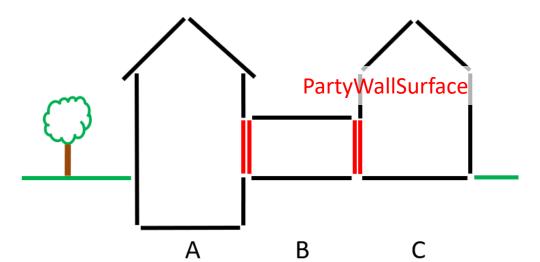


DigiTwins4PEDs

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 Contains classes to define a thermal zone, thermal boundaries, and thermal openings, as well as their geometrical and physical parameters





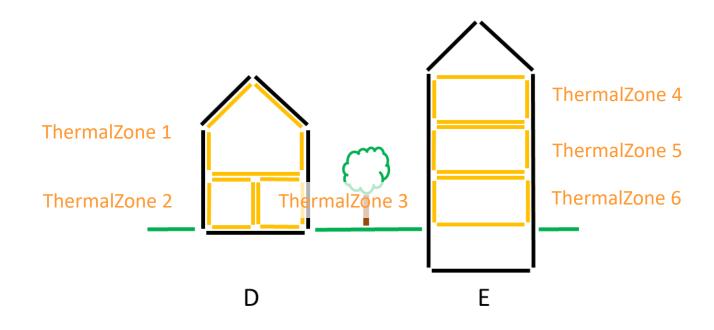
Redesigned Building physics module





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• Allows to create thermal zones...





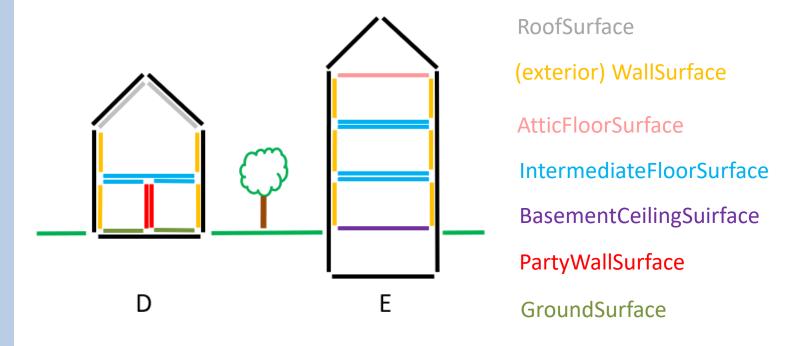
Redesigned Building physics module





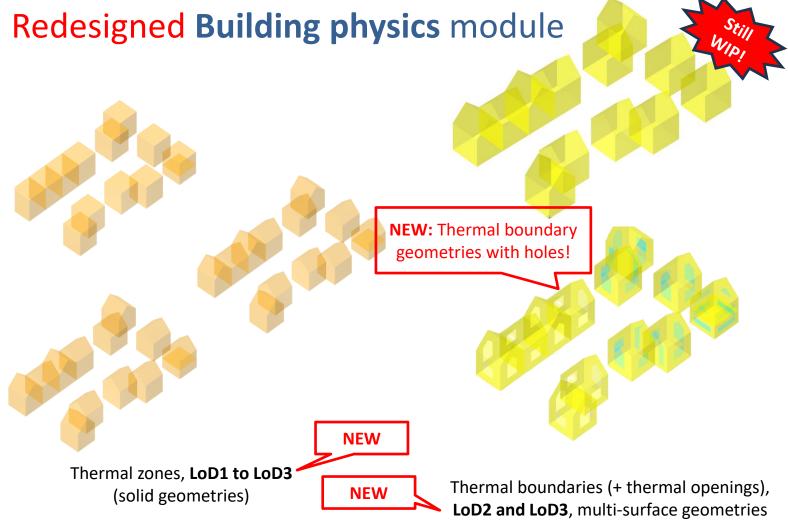
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 Allows to create thermal zones, and to define their boundaries by means of thematic surfaces













Part 3

Available resources



DigiTwins4PEDs

Documentation











UML diagrams

Specifications











Documentation: Modelling rules



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Example 6: LoD3 building modelled via thematic surfaces and with openings. Roof edge extruded downwards to create the LoD3 envelope. Openings are "simply" cut into the hull surfaces. No overhangs

CityGML Energy ADE 3.0 specifications



Special case 6.1: Single LoD3 thermal zone, with thermal boundaries and thermal openings. All LoD3 thermal boundaries/opening coincide exactly with the building

LoD3 thematic surfaces/openings Basically, same rules as for Case 5.1

inclination, sky view factor, etc. can be stored.

- One thermal zone must be created. Set property coincidesWithLoD3Hull of the thermal zone to TRUE The thermal zone can optionally be modelled as a LoD3 solid geometry. If
- applicable, XLinks can be used to reference the homologous polygons of the LoD3 Neither the LoD3 thermal boundaries nor the LoD3 thermal openings must be
- modelled. The corresponding building LoD3 thematic surfaces and openings must
- LayeredConstructions (i.e. U and g values) are associated to the building thematic surfaces/openings



4.3.2 Using the new ADE classes for thermal boundaries

The Energy ADE 3.0 adds four new classes derived from BoundarySurface: PartyWallSurface, AtticFloorSurface, IntermediateFloorSurface, and BasementCeilingSurface, Figure 22 and Figure 23 provide simple, schematic examples of when to use such new classes to model adjacent buildings and thermal zones, respectively. In these examples, class PartyWallSurface is represented in red and is intended to be used when modelling:

- Party walls between two adjacent buildings (e.g. between buildings A and B. and B.
- Party walls between two adjacent thermal zones (e.g., in building D)

Class IntermediateFloorSurface is represented in azure (see buildings D and E), and is intended to be used to model the horizontal surface subdividing two thermal zones, unless they correspond with the following two special cases.

Class AtticFloorSurface is used to model the horizontal surface of a thermal zone which is located under an "empty" space which is not modelled as a thermal zone. An example of such empty space could be an attic under the roof (see building E).

Class BasementCeilingSurface is used to model the horizontal surface of a thermal zone which is located above an "empty" space which is not modelled as a thermal zone. An example of such empty space could be an underground garage (see building E).

CityGML Energy ADE 3.0 specifications

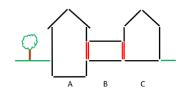


Figure 22. Schematic examples of surfaces modelled using class PartyWallSurface (in red).

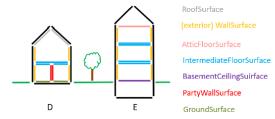


Figure 23. Schematic examples of thermal boundary surfaces modelled using different classes.

4.4 Occupancy module

4.4.1 Rule 5: Modelling and writing Address objects

Address objects must be always modelled as belonging to the respective parent Building (or BuildingPart) objects, as in standard CityGML, Additionally, in accordance with Rule 1 and as suggested by the annotations in the UML diagrams of the Occupancy module, the association between BuildingUnit and Address is of type "byReference", therefore it must be written using an XLink. An example is provided in Figure 17 (line 18).

4.4.2 Modelling geometries of UsageZone and BuildingUnit objects

Rule 2 applies also to modelling the geometries of UsageZone and BuildingUnit objects. All (optional) representations by means of solid geometries (for LoD1, LoD2 and LoD3), inherited from AbstractBuildingPartition, can be either explicit, or references to geometries used elsewhere, but within the same building and the same LoD. For example, if a LoD2 usage zone corresponds geometrically to the LoD2 thermal zone that is part of, then XLinks can be used between the LoD2 solid of the usage zone and the LoD2 solid of the thermal zone.

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TuDelft "Alderaan" test datasets

IntermediateFloorSurface.

Alderaan ADE Building Physics.gml

CitvGML:

- CityObjectGroup
- Building, BuildingPart
- (Building) GroundSurface, WallSurface, RoofSurface
- · (Building) Window
- Address
- Appearance, X3DMaterial

- Energy ADE 2.0: CitvObjectRelation
- ADE Building, ADE BuildingPart
- BasementCeilingSurface. PartvWallSurface
- ThermalZone

This file is the same as the previous one, but it adds ThermalZone objects, which are modelled via solid geometries (LoD1, LoD2 and LoD3) and via thermal boundaries (LoD2 and LoD3) and thermal openings (LoD3).

This dataset uses classes from the Energy ADE 2.0 Core and Building physics modules.



CitvGML:

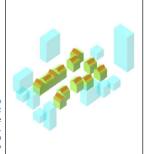
- CityObjectGroup
- Building, BuildingPart
- (Building) GroundSurface, WallSurface, RoofSurface
- Address
- Appearance, X3DMaterial

Energy ADE 2.0:

- CityObjectRelation
- · ADE Building, ADE BuildingPart
- PartyWallSurface
- ThermalZone

This file is contains ThermalZone objects which are modelled via solid geometries (LoD1, LoD2 and LoD3). The LoD2 representation via thermal boundaries coincides with the building envelope defined by the thematic surfaces. Therefore, thermal boundaries are not defined explicitly, instead each thermal zone has the coincidesWithLoD2Hull attribute set to TRUF

This dataset uses classes from the Energy ADE 2.0 Core and Building physics modules.



Alderaan ADE Devices.gml

CityGML:

- · Building, BuildingPart
- · (Building) GroundSurface, WallSurface, RoofSurface
- Appearance, X3DMaterial

Energy ADE 2.0:

- · CityObjectRelation
- · ADE Building, ADE BuildingPart
- · Boiler, HeatPump, LightingDevice, GenericEletricalDevice, GenericDevice
- MovableShadingDevice
- ElectricalStorageDevice, ThermalStorageDevice
- · GenericSolarCollector. SolarThermalCollector. PhotovoltaicCollector, PhotovoltaicThermalCollector

This file contains only the 11 "core" buildings, modelled only in LoD2 via thematic surfaces, and without shared walls. Additionally, all city objects are modelled via referencePoints. The buildings contain objects from all classes of the Devices module. In particular, solar collectors are modelled in LoD2 and

This dataset uses classes from the Energy ADE 2.0 Core and Devices modules.

Alderaan_ADE_UrbanFunctionAreas.gml

CitvGML:

Appearance, X3DMaterial

Energy ADE 2.0:

- UrbanFunctionArea
- Energy
- Water

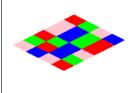
This file contains several Urban Function Areas objects, organised in 3 hierarchical levels. The first-level object contains 6 secondlevel objects, which again contain each 4 third-level objects. The image on the right represents only the 24 third-level objects.

Each UrbanFunctionArea object is represented via a multisurface geometry and a referencePoint.

Some Energy and Water objects are associated with the UrbanFunctionArea objects, in order to provide an example of resources associated at each level.

This dataset uses classes from the Energy ADE 2.0 Core, Urban function areas and Resources modules.





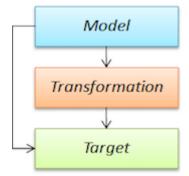




History

TuDelft XSD file

- Available for beta7
- Automatically derived from the UML diagrams using ShapeChange
- Manually checked, commented and "cleaned up"



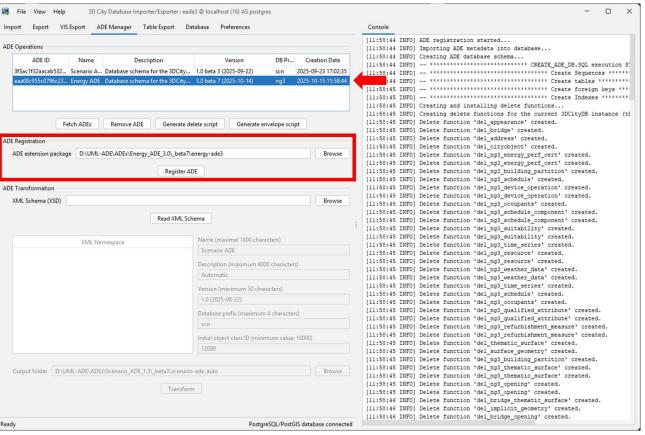
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3DCityDB schema











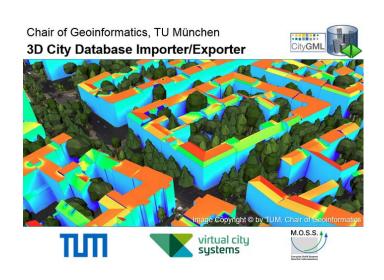
History

3DCityDB: Importer/Exporter



Java-based libraries for citygml4j and citydb

- Currently available:
 - Data types module (partial)
 - Time series module
 - Weather station module
 - Resources module
 - Urban function areas module
 - Core module (partial)
 - ADE _AbstractBuilding
 - WeatherData
 - RefurbishmentMeasure
- Developed by HFT Stuttgart

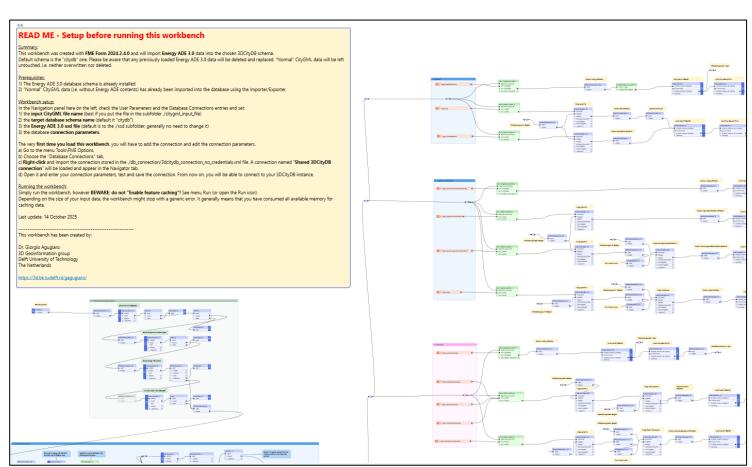




TuDelft FME Workbench







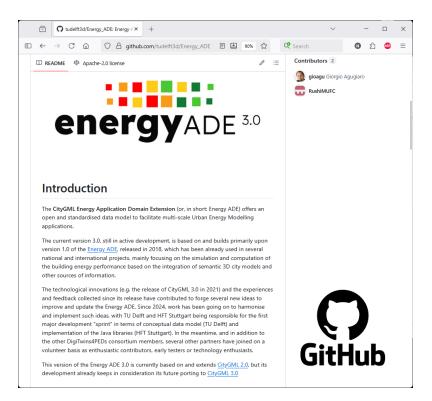


Open repository

DigiTwins4PEDs

energyADE 3.0

- GitHub open since September 2025
 - https://github.com/tudelft3d/Energy_ADE







Part 4

First tests and implementations



DigiTwins4PEDs



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DigiTwins4PEDs

Utilisation of urban digital twins to co-create flexible positive energy systems for districts



https://digitwins4peds.eu

- Rotterdam, Netherlands
- Stuttgart, Germany
- Vienna, Austria
- Wrozlaw, Poland





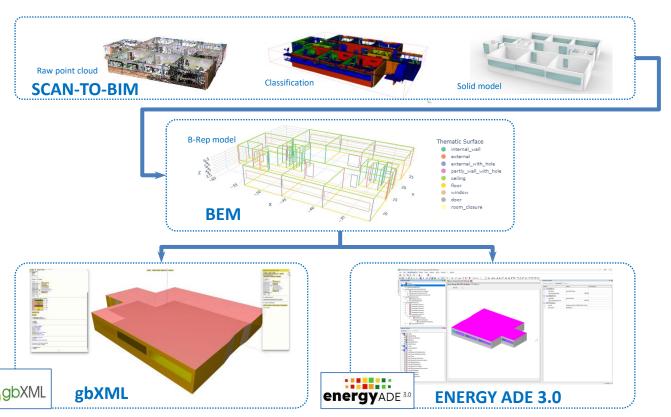






Early testers / technology enthusiasts









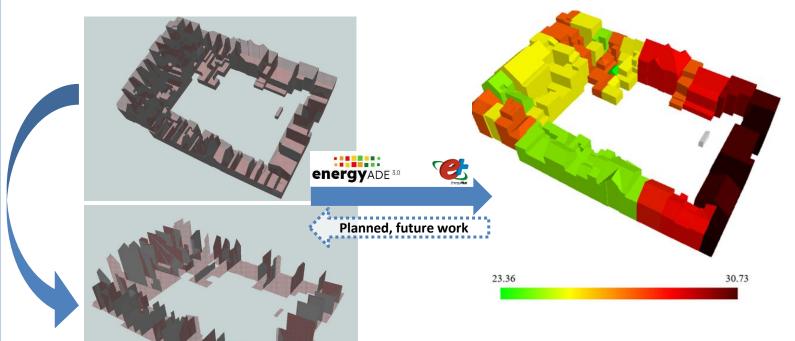
Early testers / technology enthusiasts



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Calculate the heat exchange also considering shared/party walls

Simulate mean indoor temperature using **Energy Plus** in a block in the city of Antwerp





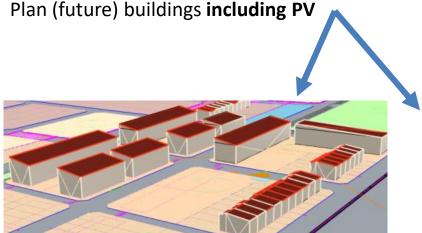


DigiTwins4PEDs

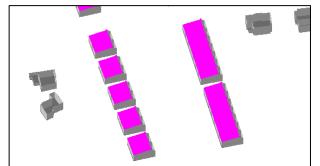
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Early testers / technology enthusiasts

- Use Devices module to map and characterise existing PV systems and store key data for calculations
- Energy ADE database schema populated with ad-hoc Python code















Part 5

Conclusions and outlook





Conclusions

- Current updates to the Energy ADE enhance its current capabilities
 - Resources and Urban Function Area valuable additions
- Development based on CityGML 2.0 technologies, but already looking at CityGML 3.0
- Focus not only on data model, but also on accompanying resources
 - Beta7 made publicly available in September 2025 to test, learn, and improve further
- Development is still on-going!
 - It will continue on an open basis, with more institutions joining
 - Beta8 in the works
- Interested? Do you want to contribute? GET IN TOUCH!
 - https://www.citygmlwiki.org/index.php?title=CityGML Energy ADE V. 3.0







Thanks for your attention!



Still alive and... evolving!

Acknowledgements

Zhihang Yao (HFT), Camilo León-Sánchez (TUD), Thomas H. Kolbe (TUM), Jérôme Kämpf (Idiap)