GHEtool calculation report

Course 7.2

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Table of contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Structure of the report

First, in Chapter 2, a summary of all the simulations will be provided. Chapter 3 discusses the inputs that are consistent across all scenarios. In Chapter 4, the different simulation results are presented and discussed. Chapter 5 contains appendices with more detailed information.

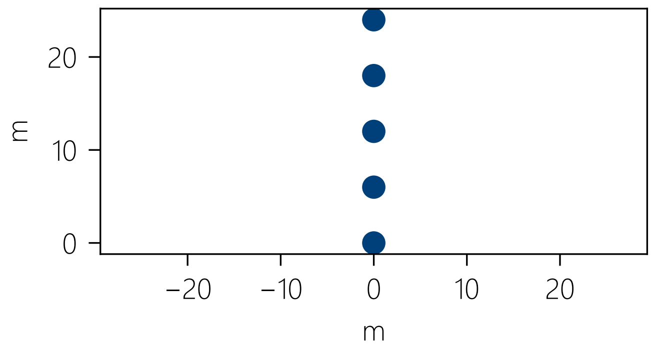
2. Summary of the simulations

2.1 Scenario 1

No solution can be found due to the temperature gradient. Please increase the field size.

2.2 Scenario 2 (5 boreholes)

Input



Number of boreholes: 5

Average minimum borehole spacing: 6,0 m

Borehole depth (w.r.t. surface): 116,4 m

2 x U tube DN32 PN16

25,0 v/v% MPG

SCOP heating: 5,00; SEER cooling: 20,00

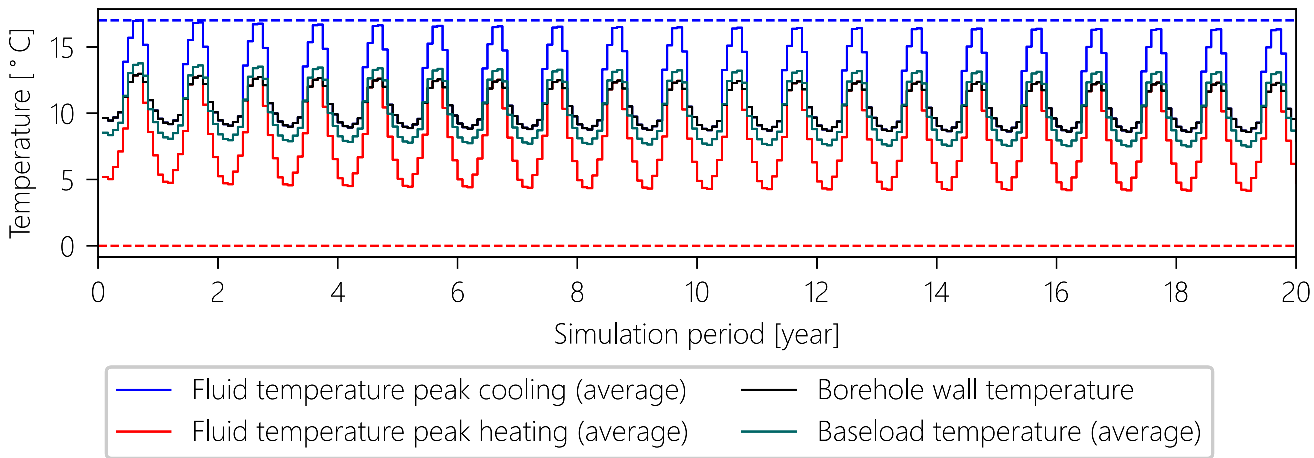
Building demand	Yearly load	Peak power
Heating demand	22 000 kWh/y	15,0 kW
Cooling demand	7 600 kWh/y	10,0 kW

Results

Effective borehole thermal resistance (extraction): 0,1515 m·K/W, Reynolds number: 1 078 (laminar)

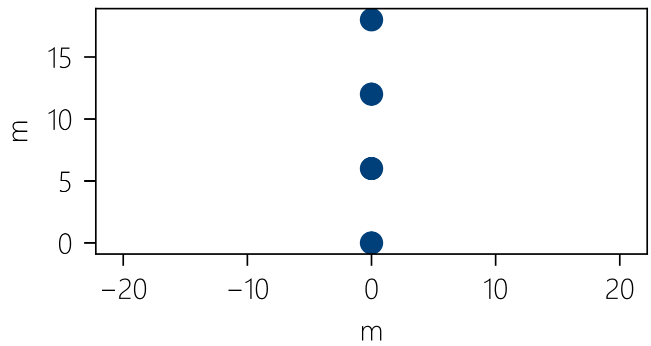
Effective borehole thermal resistance (injection): 0,1560 m·K/W, Reynolds number: 1 576 (laminar)

Maximum average fluid temperature: 17,00 °C, Minimum average fluid temperature: 4,16 °C



2.3 Scenario 3 (AC)

Input



Number of boreholes: 4

Average minimum borehole spacing: 6,0 m

Borehole depth (w.r.t. surface): 91,6 m

2 x U tube DN32 PN16

25,0 v/v% MPG

SCOP heating: 5,00; SEER cooling: 5,00

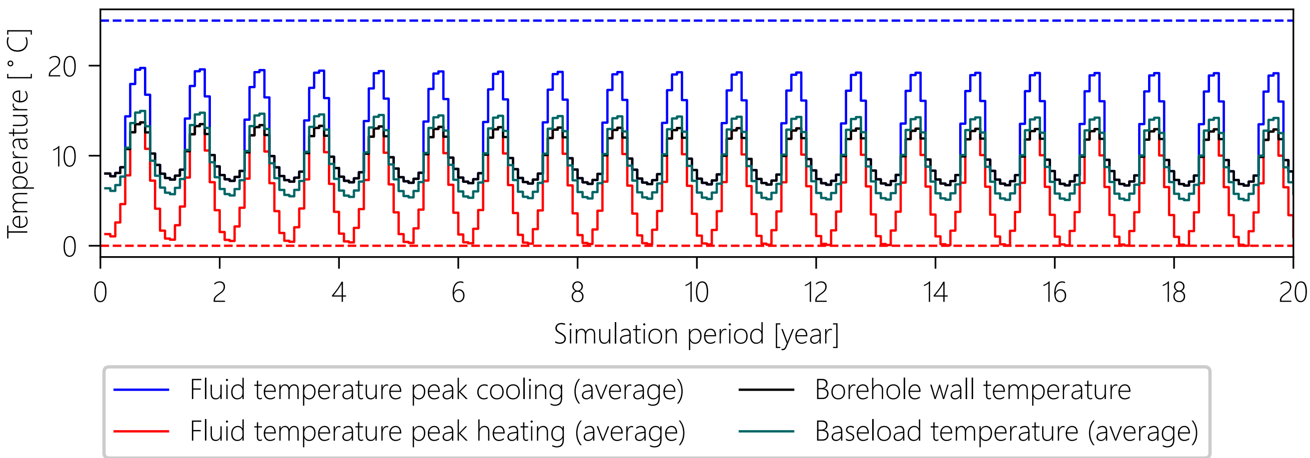
Building demand	Yearly load	Peak power
Heating demand	22 000 kWh/y	15,0 kW
Cooling demand	7 600 kWh/y	10,0 kW

Results

Effective borehole thermal resistance (extraction): 0,1406 m·K/W, Reynolds number: 1 115 (laminar)

Effective borehole thermal resistance (injection): 0,1121 m·K/W, Reynolds number: 2 479 (transient)

Maximum average fluid temperature: 19,74 °C, Minimum average fluid temperature: 0,00 °C



This section contains all the input data that is identical across all simulations. Input data that varies between scenarios is provided and discussed within the relevant scenario sections. The following subsections cover the following topics: ground data, pipe data, fluid data, and load data.

3.1 Ground data

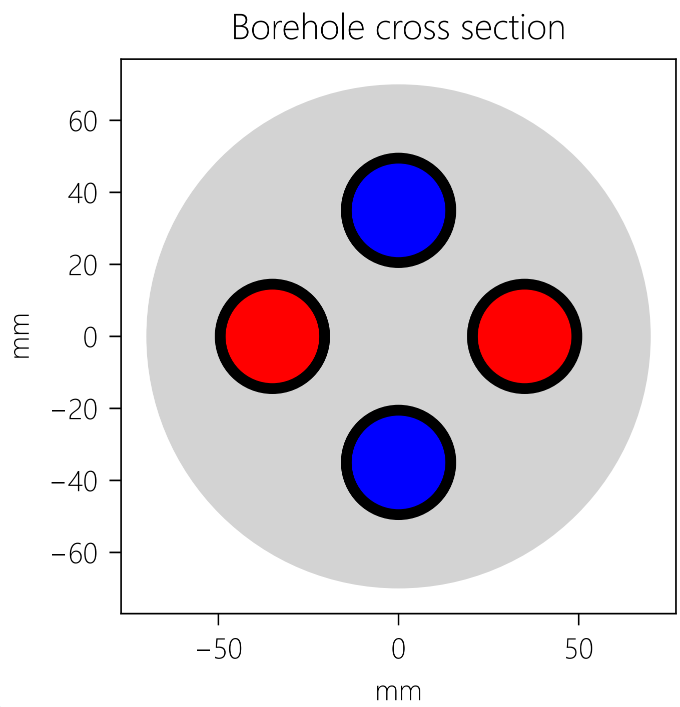
The ground is modelled as a single homogeneous layer with an average thermal conductivity of 2,00 W/(m·K) and a volumetric heat capacity of 2,40 MJ/(m^3·K). This means that the ground properties are assumed to remain constant at all depths.

A ground temperature gradient is taken into account. Using a geothermal heat flux of 0,07 W/m^2, a ground surface temperature of 9,60 °C and the ground thermal conductivity, the average ground temperature can be calculated for each borehole depth. For example, the average ground temperature is 10,47 °C at 50 m and 11,33 °C at 99 m.

Please note that for all ground property calculations, both the borehole depth and the buried depth are taken into account. This means that the average ground properties, as seen by the borehole, are calculated from the buried depth down to the full borehole depth. The region above the buried depth is not considered.

3.2 Pipe data

Inside the borehole with a diameter of 140 mm, 2 DN32 PN16 U-tubes will be installed and the pipe legs are positioned at a distance of 35 mm from the borehole center. The borehole will be grouted with a material that has a thermal conductivity of 1,50 W/(m·K).



3.3 Fluid data

As a heat transfer fluid, MPG with 25,0 v/v% was selected, which provides frost protection down to approximately -10 °C. For a more accurate simulation, the fluid properties (such as viscosity and density) are assumed to be temperature-dependent and therefore vary throughout the simulation period. This is particularly important for buildings with a high cooling demand, since heat transfer during heat injection (i.e., cooling) is more efficient than during extraction (i.e., heating). To account for this, no single fixed value should be used for the fluid properties.

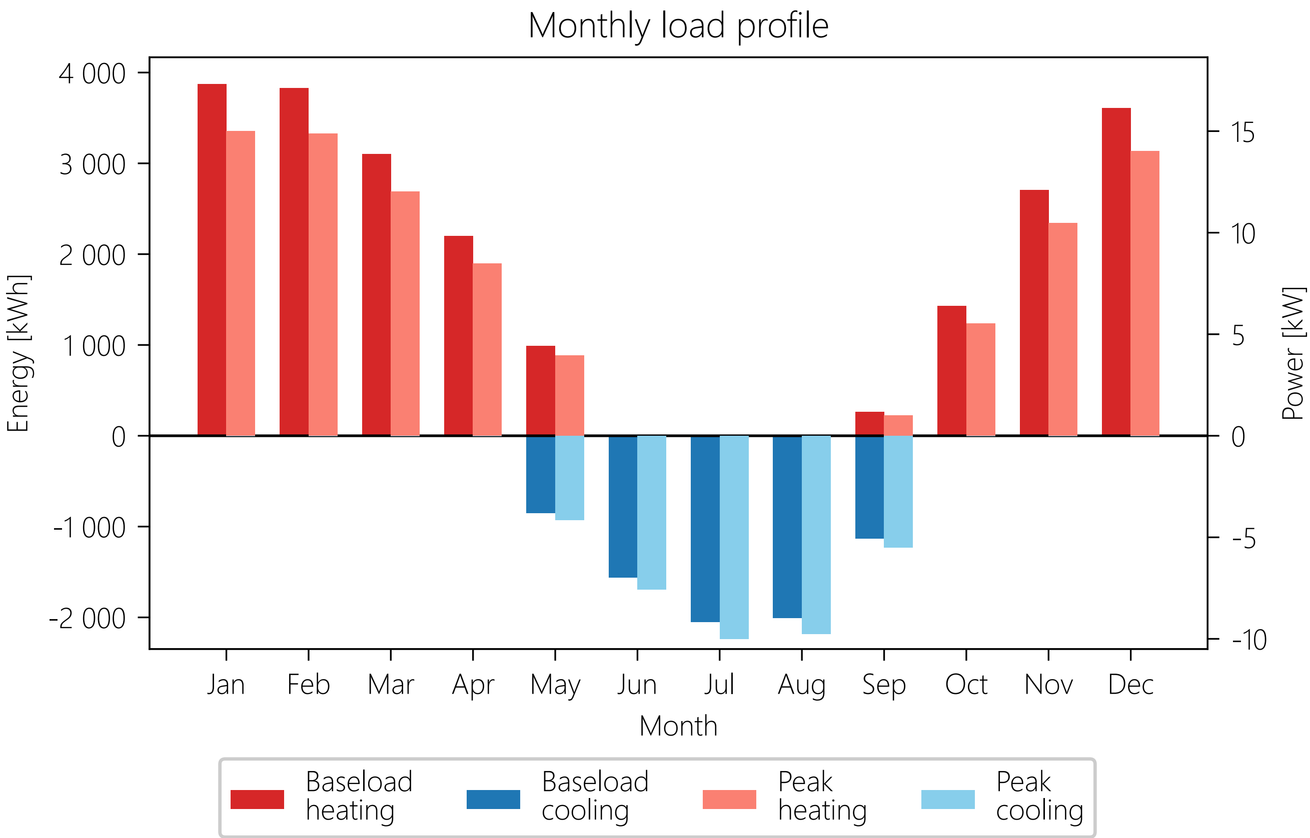
3.4 Load data

For the simulation, a building load was used. This means that, in order to calculate the resulting extraction and injection loads for the ground, the efficiency of the heat pump will be taken into account. Below you can find a summary of the load.

Building demand	Yearly load	Peak power
Heating demand	22 000 kWh/y	15,0 kW
Cooling demand	7 600 kWh/y	10,0 kW

The monthly distribution is given in the table below.

Month	Baseload heating [kWh]	Baseload cooling [kWh]	Peak heating [kW]	Peak cooling [kW]
January	3 872	0	15,0	0,0
February	3 828	0	14,9	0,0
March	3 102	0	12,0	0,0
April	2 200	0	8,5	0,0
May	990	851	4,0	4,2
June	0	1 558	0,0	7,6
July	0	2 052	0,0	10,0
August	0	2 006	0,0	9,8
September	264	1 132	1,0	5,5
October	1 430	0	5,5	0,0
November	2 706	0	10,5	0,0
December	3 608	0	14,0	0,0



The peak duration during heating is 8 hours, and for cooling it is 8 hours. The peak duration is defined as the longest runtime of the maximum heating/cooling power in a year. This value is typically higher with slow emission systems (such as floor heating or concrete core activation) and lower for fast emission systems (such as air-based systems).

4.1 Scenario 1

No solution can be found due to the temperature gradient. Please increase the field size.

4.2 Scenario 2 (5 boreholes)

In the first subsection, the scenario-specific input parameters will be discussed. Afterwards, the simulation results are presented.

4.2.1 Input

General simulation settings

The scenarios in this report have been simulated with a simulation period of 20 years, starting in January. The maximum and minimum average fluid temperatures were 0,00 °C and 17,00 °C respectively. The simulations were carried out with GHEtool Cloud v2.7.1.3.

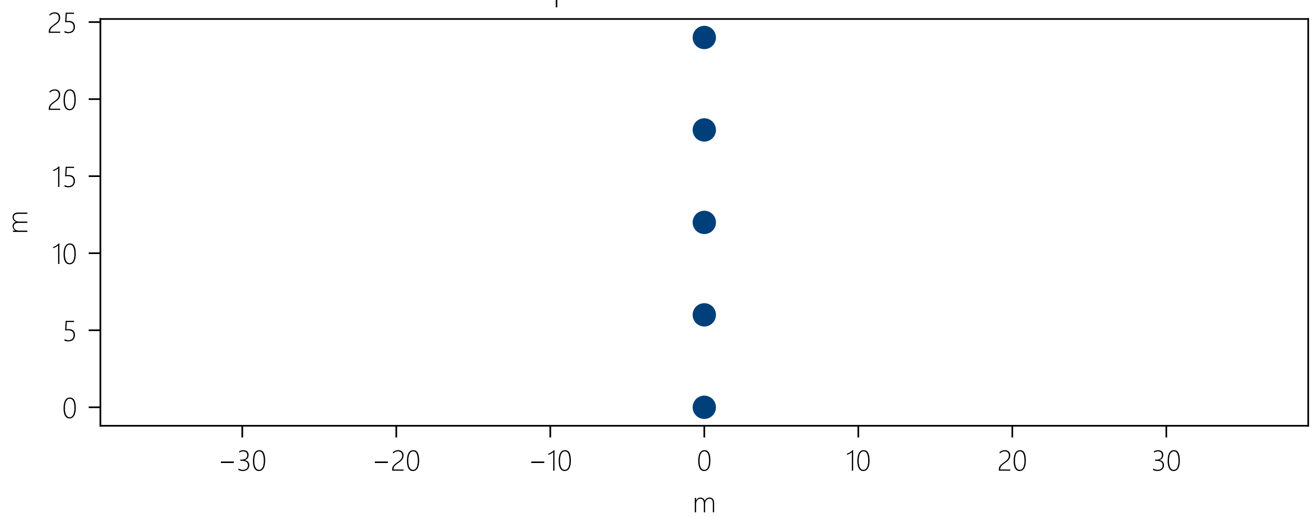
Borefield configuration

The simulations were carried out with a borefield consisting of 5 boreholes, with an average buried depth of 1,00 m, an average borehole depth of 116,40 m and an average borehole length of 115,40 m. This results in a total borehole length of 577,00 m.

The minimum average borehole spacing is 6,00 m. This is defined as the average of the smallest distances between the centres of all pairs of boreholes in the borefield.

(The borehole depth is defined as the vertical distance between the ground surface and the deepest point of the borehole. The buried depth is the distance between the ground surface and the start of the borehole. The borehole length, sometimes called the 'active length' is the actual length of the heat exchanger measured along the borehole.)

Top view of the borefield



The coordinates of the different boreholes are given in the table below.

x [m]	y [m]	Length [m]	Depth [m]	Buried depth [m]	Tilt [°]	Orientation [°]
0,00	0,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	6,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	12,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	18,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	24,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00

Flow data

The system was simulated with a variable flow rate, where a constant temperature difference across the borefield was used of 3,00 °C in extraction and 3,00 °C in injection, with a minimum flow percentage of 10%. The resulting maximum flow rate through the borefield is 1,01 l/s and 0,88 l/s respectively.

Efficiency data

To calculate the resulting geothermal load, the heat pump is modelled to have an SCOP of 5,00 in heating. The cooling is modelled with an SEER of 20,00.

4.2.2 Results

Ground load

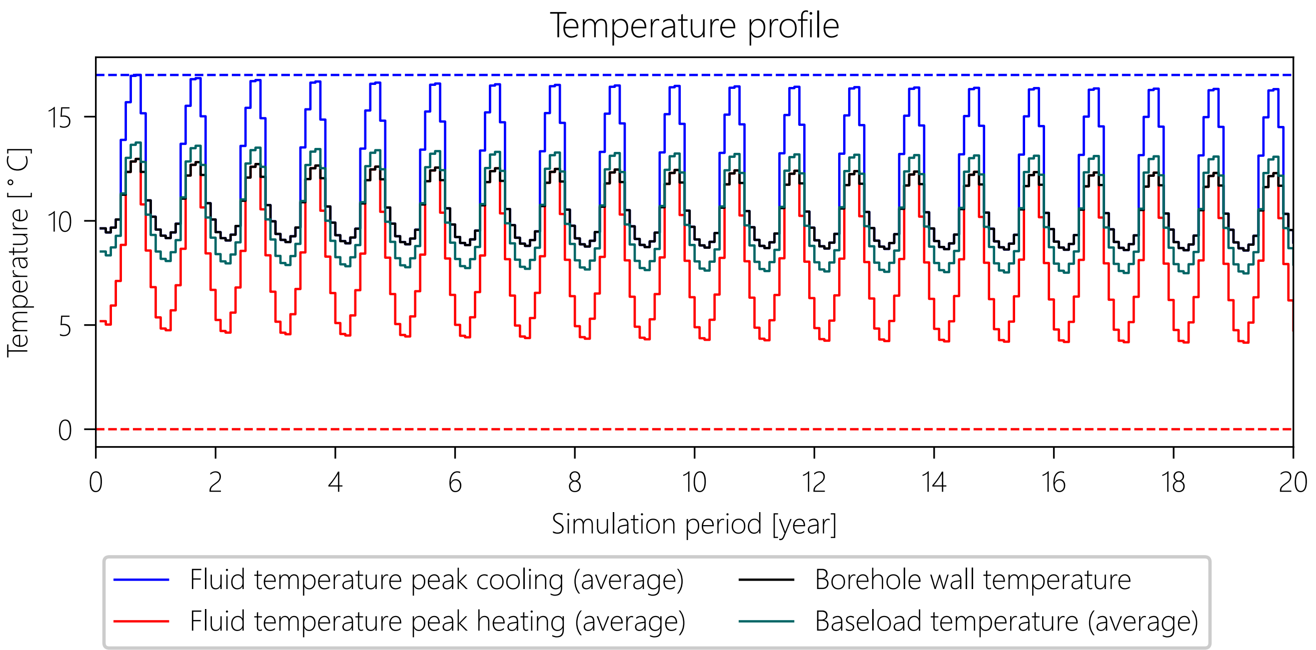
Because we are working with building loads (i.e. secondary loads), these must be converted into injection and extraction loads using the efficiency data. A summary of the resulting yearly ground load is given in the table below.

Ground demand	Yearly load	Peak power
Extraction demand	17 600 kWh/y	12,0 kW
Injection demand	7 980 kWh/y	10,5 kW

Temperature evolution of the borefield

Using the pipe, fluid, and flow properties, the Reynolds number was calculated. Since this number depends on the fluid temperature and therefore varies over the simulation period, it was updated at every timestep to achieve the most accurate result possible.
Doing so, the Reynolds number during heat extraction was 1 078, whilst it was 1 576 during injection. This corresponds respectively to a laminar and laminar flow regime, with an effective borehole thermal resistance of 0,1515 m·K/W and 0,1560 m·K/W during heat extraction and injection.

Below, the monthly simulation for the borefield is shown. For each month, three lines are displayed. The black line represents the borehole wall temperature, which is the temperature at the interface between the borehole and the ground. The other two lines, red and blue, show the average fluid temperature (between borehole inlet and outlet) during peak heating and peak cooling, respectively.
Since the simulation uses monthly resolution, both heating and cooling peaks can occur in the same month. Therefore, both fluid temperatures are always shown. The difference between the borehole wall temperature and the average fluid temperature is determined by the effective borehole thermal resistance.



The maximum and minimum average fluid temperature over the whole simulation period at peak power are 17,00 °C and 4,16 °C respectively. The minimum and maximum average fluid temperatures during the baseload are respectively 7,48 °C and 13,76 °C.

Pressure drop

The pressure drop over a single borehole is 9,72 kPa during extration and 5,03 kPa during injection.

4.3 Scenario 3 (AC)

In the first subsection, the scenario-specific input parameters will be discussed. Afterwards, the simulation results are presented.

4.3.1 Input

General simulation settings

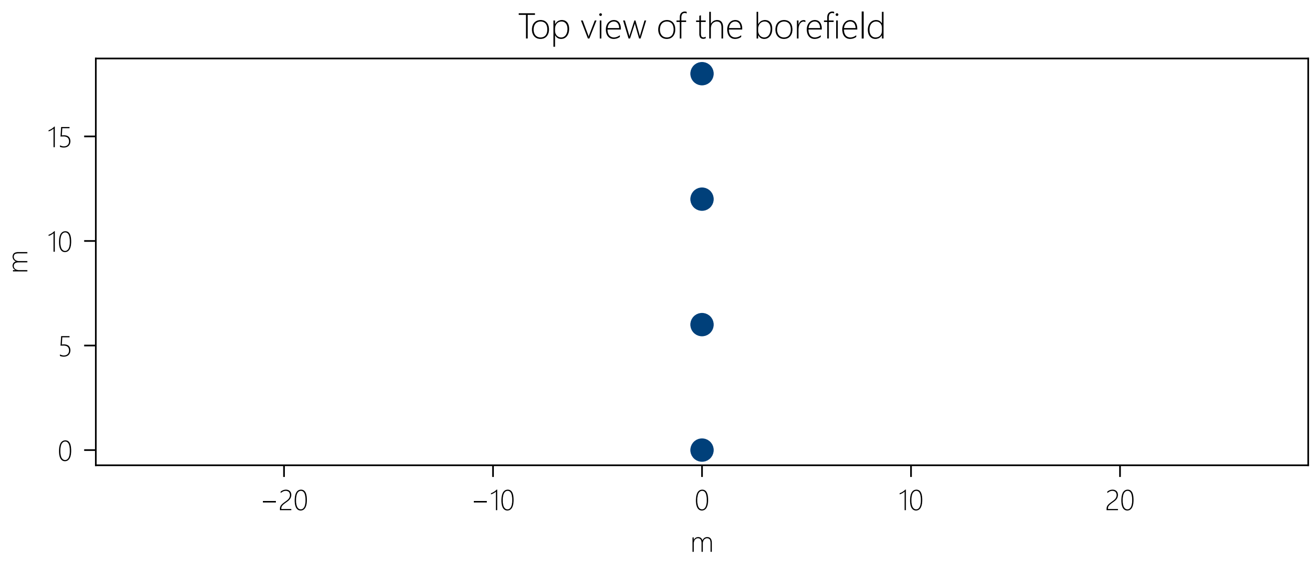
The scenarios in this report have been simulated with a simulation period of 20 years, starting in January. The maximum and minimum average fluid temperatures were 0,00 °C and 25,00 °C respectively. The simulations were carried out with GHEtool Cloud v2.7.1.3.

Borefield configuration

The simulations were carried out with a borefield consisting of 4 boreholes, with an average buried depth of 1,00 m, an average borehole depth of 91,60 m and an average borehole length of 90,60 m. This results in a total borehole length of 362,40 m.

The minimum average borehole spacing is 6,00 m. This is defined as the average of the smallest distances between the centres of all pairs of boreholes in the borefield.

(The borehole depth is defined as the vertical distance between the ground surface and the deepest point of the borehole. The buried depth is the distance between the ground surface and the start of the borehole. The borehole length, sometimes called the 'active length' is the actual length of the heat exchanger measured along the borehole.)



The coordinates of the different boreholes are given in the table below.

x [m]	y [m]	Length [m]	Depth [m]	Buried depth [m]	Tilt [°]	Orientation [°]
0,00	0,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	6,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	12,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	18,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00

Flow data

The system was simulated with a variable flow rate, where a constant temperature difference across the borefield was used of 3,00 °C in extraction and 3,00 °C in injection, with a minimum flow percentage of 10%. The resulting maximum flow rate through the borefield is 1,01 l/s and 1,00 l/s respectively.

Efficiency data

To calculate the resulting geothermal load, the heat pump is modelled to have an SCOP of 5,00 in heating. The cooling is modelled with an SEER of 5,00.

4.3.2 Results

Ground load

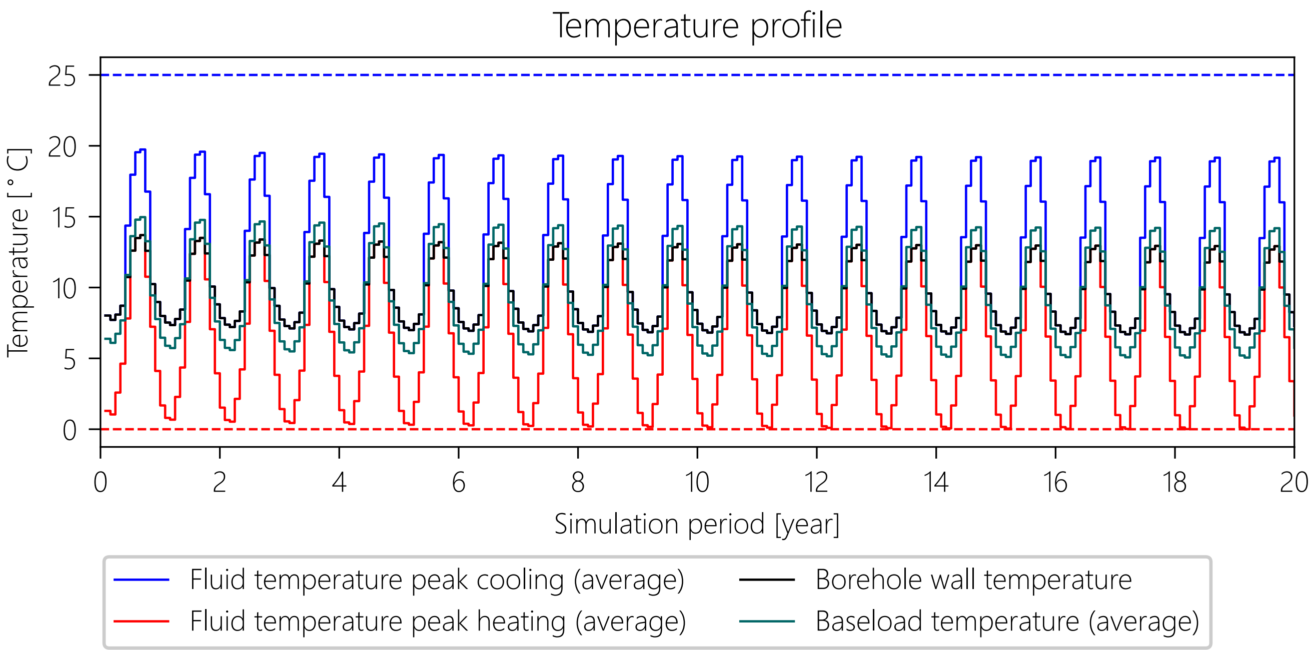
Because we are working with building loads (i.e. secondary loads), these must be converted into injection and extraction loads using the efficiency data. A summary of the resulting yearly ground load is given in the table below.

Ground demand	Yearly load	Peak power
Extraction demand	17 600 kWh/y	12,0 kW
Injection demand	9 120 kWh/y	12,0 kW

Temperature evolution of the borefield

Using the pipe, fluid, and flow properties, the Reynolds number was calculated. Since this number depends on the fluid temperature and therefore varies over the simulation period, it was updated at every timestep to achieve the most accurate result possible.
Doing so, the Reynolds number during heat extraction was 1 115, whilst it was 2 479 during injection. This corresponds respectively to a laminar and transient flow regime, with an effective borehole thermal resistance of 0,1406 m·K/W and 0,1121 m·K/W during heat extraction and injection.

Below, the monthly simulation for the borefield is shown. For each month, three lines are displayed. The black line represents the borehole wall temperature, which is the temperature at the interface between the borehole and the ground. The other two lines, red and blue, show the average fluid temperature (between borehole inlet and outlet) during peak heating and peak cooling, respectively.
Since the simulation uses monthly resolution, both heating and cooling peaks can occur in the same month. Therefore, both fluid temperatures are always shown. The difference between the borehole wall temperature and the average fluid temperature is determined by the effective borehole thermal resistance.



The maximum and minimum average fluid temperature over the whole simulation period at peak power are 19,74 °C and 0,00 °C respectively. The minimum and maximum average fluid temperatures during the baseload are respectively 5,05 °C and 14,97 °C.

Pressure drop

The pressure drop over a single borehole is 11,59 kPa during extration and 9,16 kPa during injection.

5.1 Design Data - Scenario 1

No solution can be found due to the temperature gradient. Please increase the field size.

5.2 Design Data - Scenario 2 (5 boreholes)

Design parameters

- Maximum average fluid temperature: 17 °C
- Minimum average fluid temperature: 0 °C
- First month of simulation: 1
- Simulation period: 20 years

Ground parameters

- Homogeneous ground conductivity: 2 W/(m·K)
- Homogeneous volumetric heat capacity: 2,4 MJ/(m^3·K)
- Ground surface temperature: 9,6 °C
- Ground flux: 0,07 W/m^2

Borehole parameters

- Borehole diameter: 140 mm

Pipe parameters

- U tube DN32 PN16
- Grout thermal conductivity: 1,5 W/(m·K)
- Number of U-tubes: 2
- Pipe conductivity: 0,4 W/(m·K)
- Pipe roughness: 0,001 mm

Fluid properties

- 25.0 v/v% MPG
- Temperature difference in extraction: 3 °C
- Temperature difference in injection: 3 °C
- Minimum flow percentage: 10
- Flow rate through borefield in extraction: 1,01 l/s
- Flow rate through borefield in injection: 0,88 l/s
- Number of boreholes in series: 1

Thermal demand

Baseload heating [kWh]	Baseload cooling [kWh]	Peak heating [kW]	Peak cooling [kW]
3 872,00	0,00	15,00	0,00
3 828,00	0,00	14,86	0,00
3 102,00	0,00	12,03	0,00
2 200,00	0,00	8,49	0,00
990,00	851,20	3,96	4,15
0,00	1 558,00	0,00	7,56
0,00	2 052,00	0,00	10,00
0,00	2 006,40	0,00	9,76
264,00	1 132,40	0,99	5,49
1 430,00	0,00	5,52	0,00
2 706,00	0,00	10,47	0,00
3 608,00	0,00	14,01	0,00

- SCOP heating: 5
- SEER cooling: 20
- Peak heating duration: 8 hours
- Peak cooling duration: 8 hours

Borefield parameters

x [m]	y [m]	Length [m]	Depth [m]	Buried depth [m]	Tilt [°]	Orientation [°]
0,00	0,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	6,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	12,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	18,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	24,00	115,40	116,40	1,00	0,00	0,00

5.3 Design Data - Scenario 3 (AC)

Design parameters

- Maximum average fluid temperature: 25 °C
- Minimum average fluid temperature: 0 °C
- First month of simulation: 1
- Simulation period: 20 years

Ground parameters

- Homogeneous ground conductivity: 2 W/(m·K)
- Homogeneous volumetric heat capacity: 2,4 MJ/(m^3·K)
- Ground surface temperature: 9,6 °C
- Ground flux: 0,07 W/m^2

Borehole parameters

- Borehole diameter: 140 mm

Pipe parameters

- U tube DN32 PN16
- Grout thermal conductivity: 1,5 W/(m·K)
- Number of U-tubes: 2
- Pipe conductivity: 0,4 W/(m·K)
- Pipe roughness: 0,001 mm

Fluid properties

- 25.0 v/v% MPG
- Temperature difference in extraction: 3 °C
- Temperature difference in injection: 3 °C
- Minimum flow percentage: 10
- Flow rate through borefield in extraction: 1,01 l/s
- Flow rate through borefield in injection: 1,00 l/s
- Number of boreholes in series: 1

Thermal demand

Baseload heating [kWh]	Baseload cooling [kWh]	Peak heating [kW]	Peak cooling [kW]
3 872,00	0,00	15,00	0,00
3 828,00	0,00	14,86	0,00
3 102,00	0,00	12,03	0,00
2 200,00	0,00	8,49	0,00
990,00	851,20	3,96	4,15
0,00	1 558,00	0,00	7,56
0,00	2 052,00	0,00	10,00
0,00	2 006,40	0,00	9,76
264,00	1 132,40	0,99	5,49
1 430,00	0,00	5,52	0,00
2 706,00	0,00	10,47	0,00
3 608,00	0,00	14,01	0,00

- SCOP heating: 5
- SEER cooling: 5
- Peak heating duration: 8 hours
- Peak cooling duration: 8 hours

Borefield parameters

x [m]	y [m]	Length [m]	Depth [m]	Buried depth [m]	Tilt [°]	Orientation [°]
0,00	0,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	6,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	12,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00
0,00	18,00	90,60	91,60	1,00	0,00	0,00