



**CENTRO STUDI  
DI ECONOMIA E TECNICA DELL'ENERGIA  
"GIORGIO LEVI CASES"**

# Sustainable Additive Manufacturing of Low-temperature Thermochemical Energy Storage Systems for Building Applications (STRATEGIC)

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Ricercatore a Tempo Determinato (RTD-A)

DIPARTIMENTO DI INGEGNERIA INDUSTRIALE (DII)

## Scientific and Research background of the principal investigator (PI)

### Research field: Material science and engineering

Interests: additive manufacturing; upcycling of inorganic wastes; engineering design of porous glasses and ceramics

- **PhD** in Industrial Engineering, DII, Padova, **2017**.
- **100 papers**, **3 Reviews**, and **1 book chapter**.
- "**H index** : **28**, Citations: 2085, i10 index: 56 (accessed 15/09/2023)"
- ASN: **Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale**, Seconda Fascia, 09/D1-SCIENZA E TECNOLOGIA DEI MATERIALI.

### Past research related to the additive manufacturing

- An **international patent** on Additive manufacturing of geopolymers via cleaner and sustainable production
- IDEAL project "Industrial ResiDues for Smart FirE-resistAnt PhotocataLytic Components"
- Project **D3Vero** "La stampa 3D nel settore del Vetro Artistico»
- Project "ADditive Manufacturing & INdustry 4.0 as innovation Driver", (**ADMIN 4D**)
- Project **AMITIE** "Additive Manufacturing Initiative for Transnational Innovation in Europe"

## Project team

Materials selection, and optimization Materials and Scale-up.



Prof. **Paolo Colombo**, Co-I  
(Dipartimento DII)

Thermodynamics, heat transfer, thermal characterization



Dr. **Andrea Diani**  
(Dipartimento DII)

Chemical modification and efficiency of systems.



Prof. **Enzo Menna**  
(Dipartimento DiSC)

Modelling of techno-economic analysis.



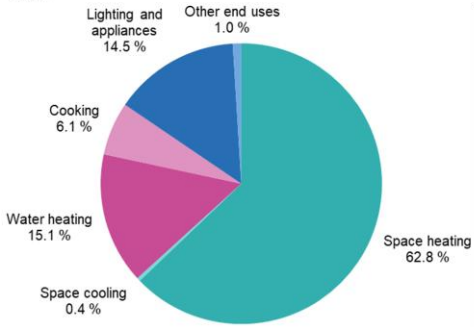
Prof. **Mara Thiene**  
(Dipartimento TESAF)

**Linked project:** Exploring the market for thermochemical energy storage systems in building applications  
(Proponent: Cristiano Franceschinis, Dipartimento TESAF)

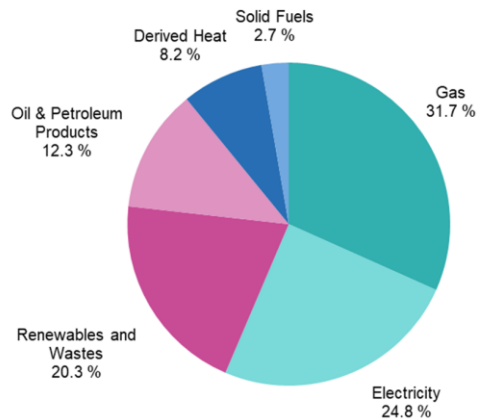
# Background and aim of the project [Challenge : Energy Storage is Needed]

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

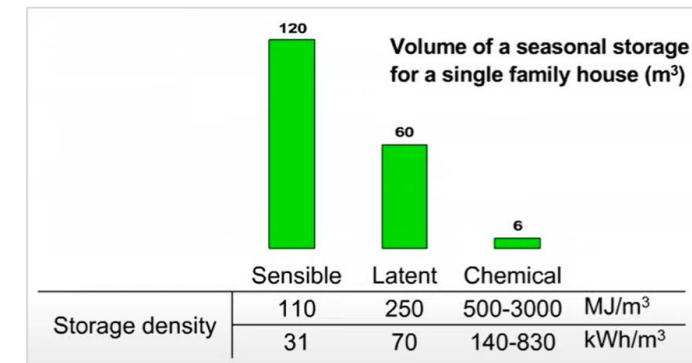
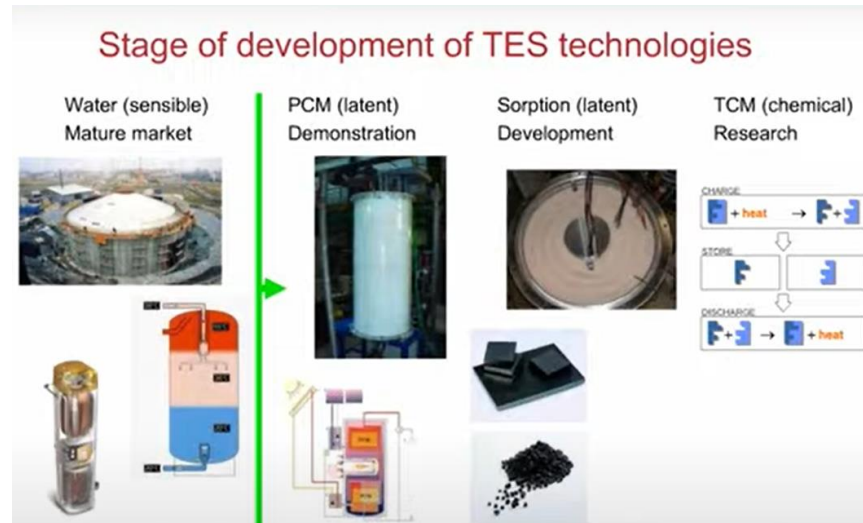
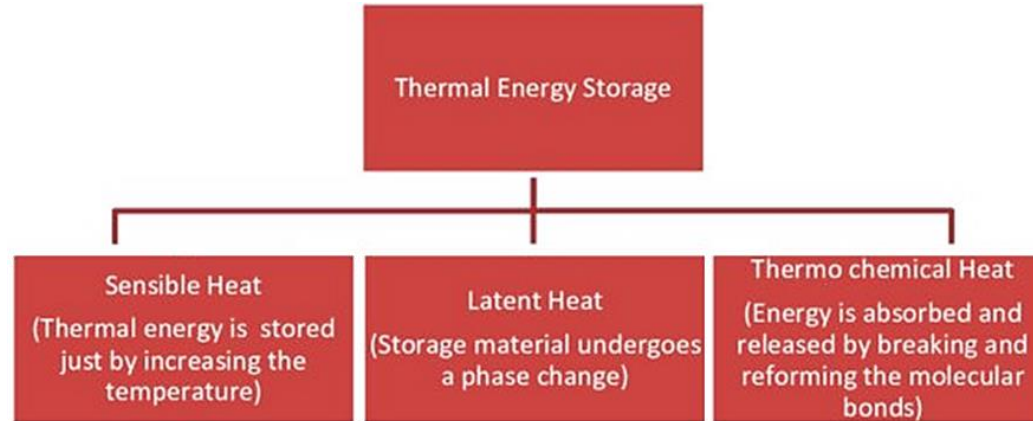
Final energy consumption in the residential sector by use, EU, 2020



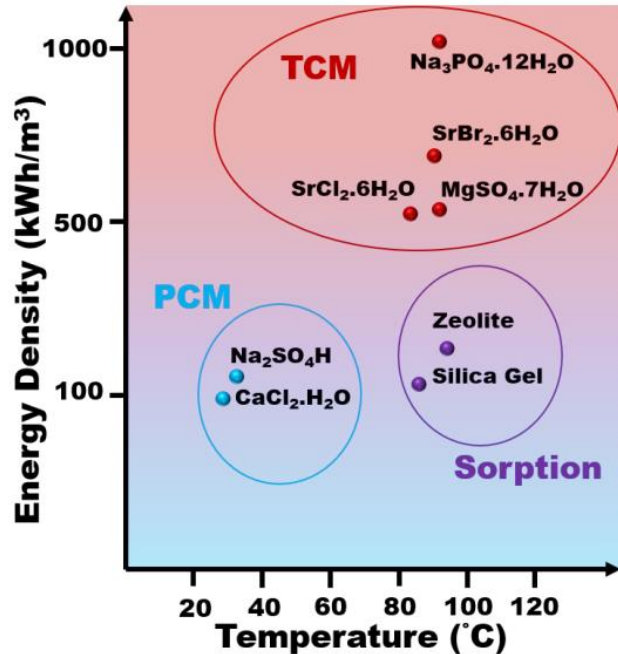
Final energy consumption in the residential sector by fuel, EU, 2020



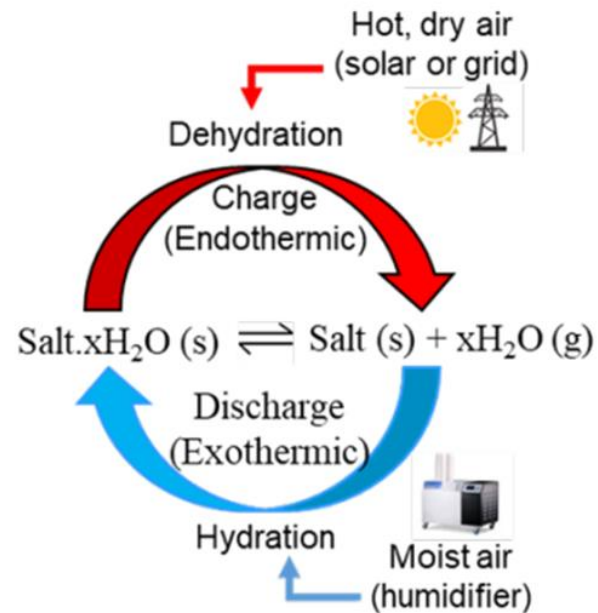
**Households** accounted for **27%** of final energy consumption in the EU, the majority was used for heating (**62.8%**).



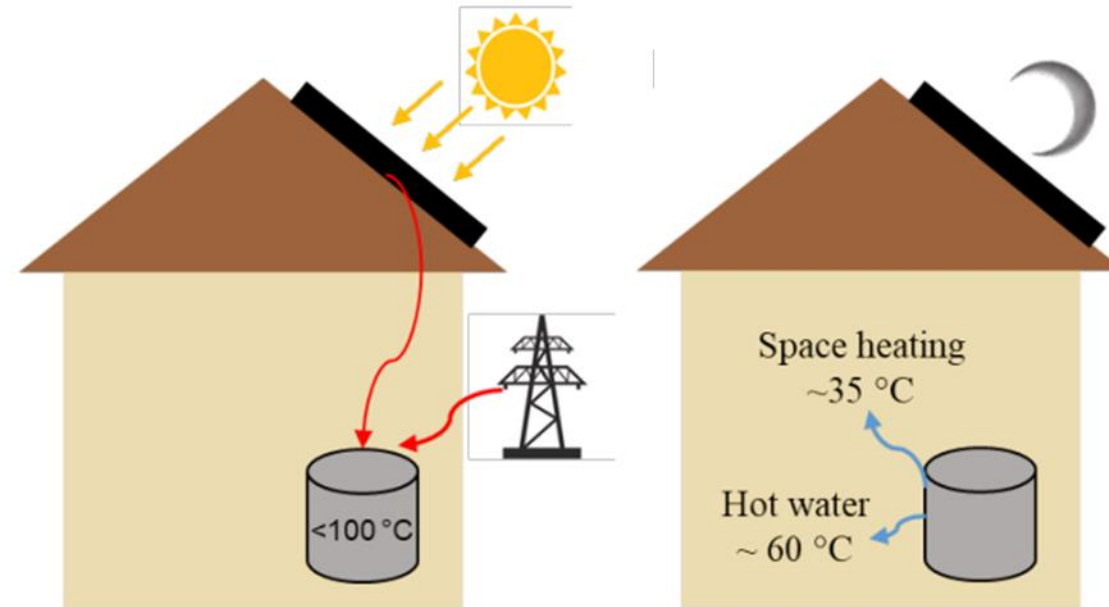
## Approach: Thermal Energy Storage for on-site Storage



500+ salt, **25 salts good for lowT**



**Reversible** reactions,  
(salt hydrate, open system)

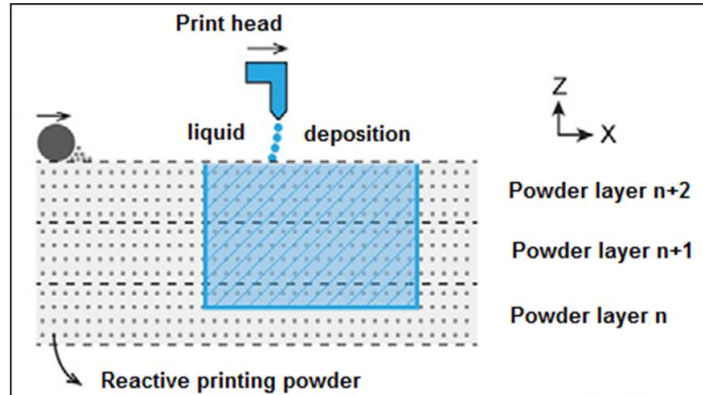


TCMs **charging** using  
solar energy system.

TCM **discharging**  
at desired T

- **Phase Change Materials (PCMs)** and **sorption**-based storage have energy density in the ranges of **~100 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>**
- **Thermochemical Materials (TCMs)** have higher theoretical energy densities of **~500 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>**, making them stand-alone solutions for daily-seasonal energy storage in buildings

## Methods: Binder Jetting of sustainable geopolymers



**Geopolymers** consist of a polymeric Si-O-Al framework, similar to zeolites

- ❖ Geopolymers offer a low-cost, solid and stable thermal energy storage
- ❖ Appropriate mechanical strength, thermal performance at high working temperatures
- ❖ Sustainability, Providing long service life
- ❖ Limited environmental impact; CO<sub>2</sub> fingerprint is much lower than Portland cement

1. Impregnation, encasement, and encapsulation of thermochemical materials (hydrated salts TCMs) into 3D printed geopolymer matrixes
2. Lightweight aggregates such as expanded clay, expanded glass granules as well as expanded graphite will be added to increase the reaction surface, thermal conductivity, and heat transfer
3. Geopolymer boards and bespoke bricks with complex shapes will be manufactured in a sustainable way, using industrial waste as raw material for the geopolymer



## Expected outcomes

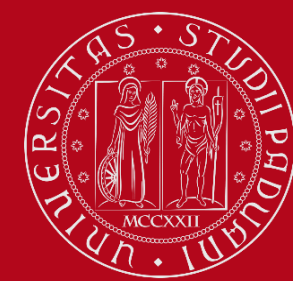
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- Upcycling of industrial residues to develop geopolymers thermal energy storage systems using solar energy
- The development of a thermal energy storage (TES) system as a solution and opportunity to reduce energy consumption, emissions and cost
- Thermochemical based TES with high storage capacities for daily-seasonal storage for residential and large commercial buildings applications





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## Acknowledgements

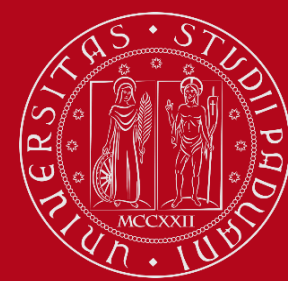


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GLASS  
— RESEARCH • GROUP —





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**Grazie per la vostra attenzione!**