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SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY RESEARCH GROUP

# Increasing performance & reducing cost



9 April, 2014 – Cape Town

Paul Gauché

Solar Thermal Energy Research Group (STERG) – Stellenbosch University

*Contributors: Christina Auret (Eskom), Sebastian Giglmayr (Technikum Wien), Cebo Silinga (CRSES), Sol Luca de Tena (CTAER), others...*



Fakulteit Ingenieurswese  
•  
Faculty of Engineering



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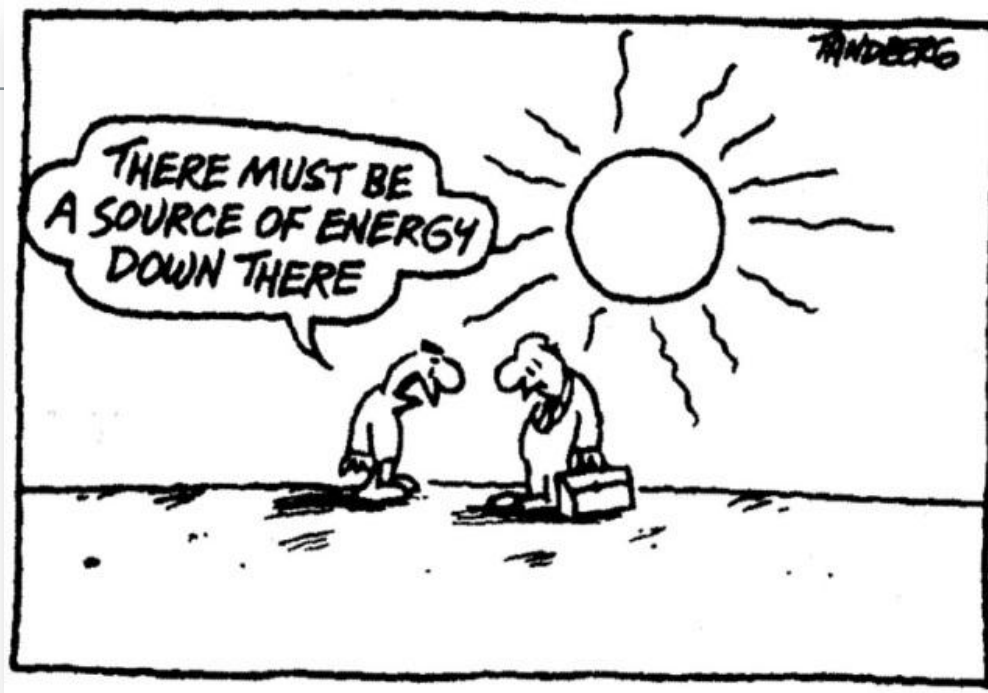
# Agenda

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- **Set the stage – where we are today**
- **How to add 3+ GW of CSP now and save money**
- **STERG is positioned to help**





Ron Tanderberg, Australian cartoonist

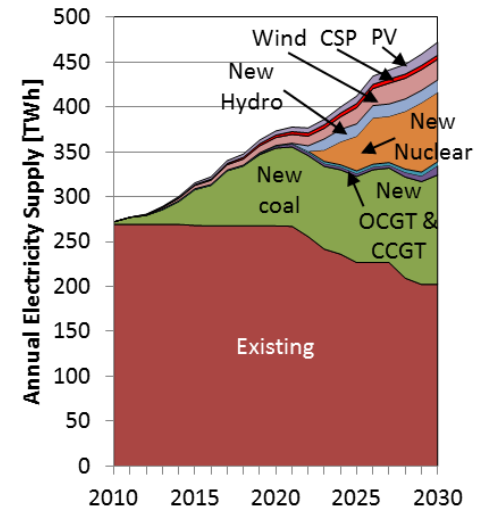
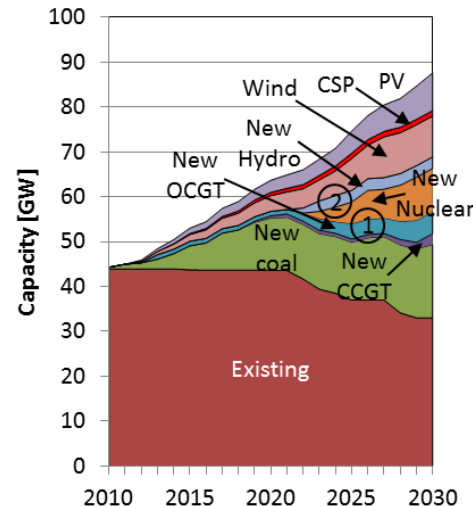
Where we are today

# SET THE STAGE



# IRP & REIPPPP

- IRP: Integrated Resource Plan 2010 – 2030
- REIPPPP: Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Program
  - Implementation of IRP
  - Current round change: 2-tariff for CSP



Round 3	No of Bids	MW taken by Preferred Bidders	Maximum MW allocated for Bid Window 3
Solar photovoltaic	6	435	401
Wind	7	787	654
Concentrated solar	2	200	200

CSP

Price: Fully Indexed (Ave Rand per MWh) (Base Apr '11)

R 1 460\*

R 2 512

R 2 686

PV

Price: Fully Indexed (Ave Rand per MWh) (Base Apr '11)

R 881

R 1 645

R 2 758

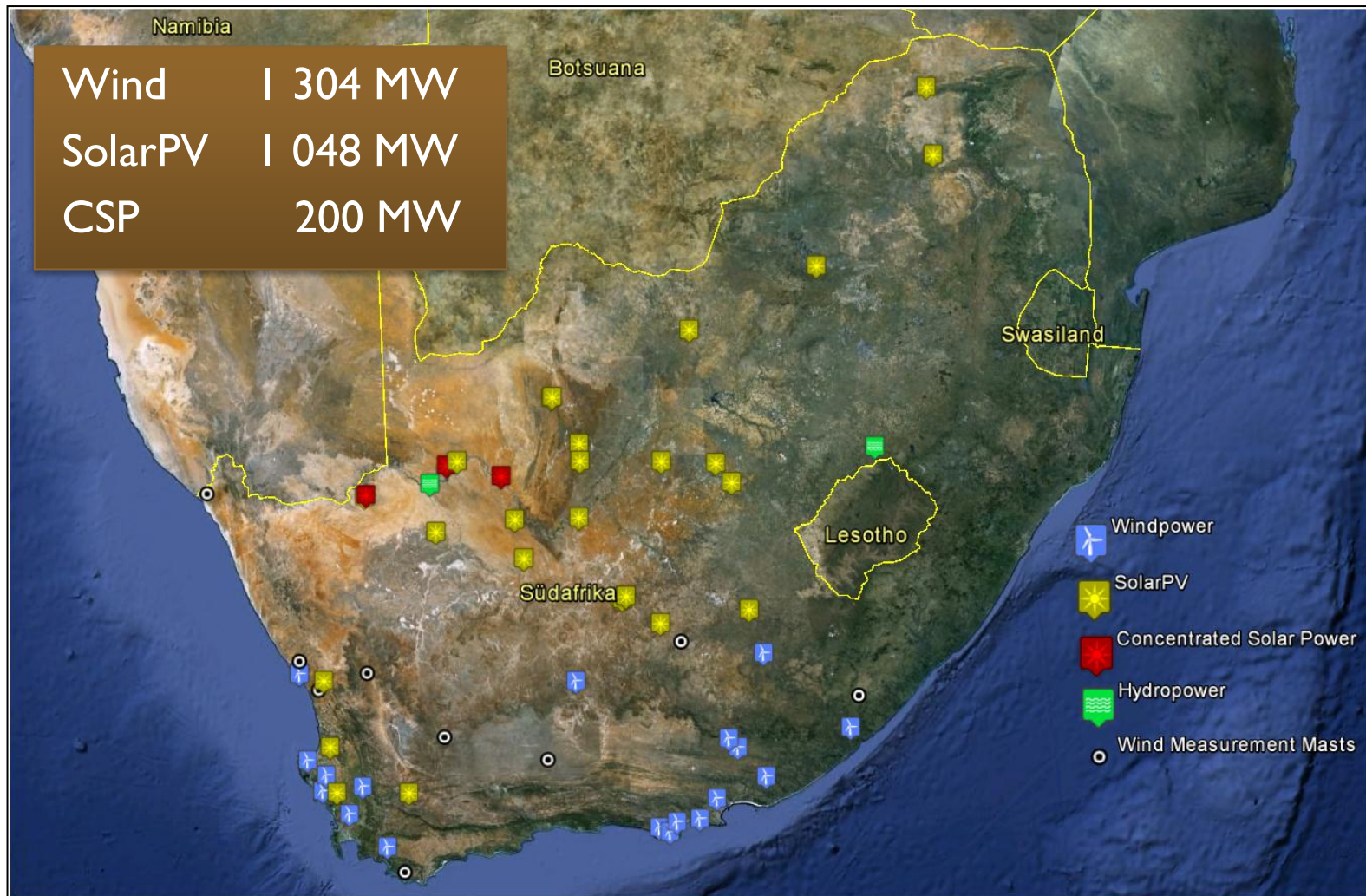
R10.00 ~ \$1.00 \* plus 270% multiplier 4:30pm – 9:30pm

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# REIPPPP Rounds 1 & 2





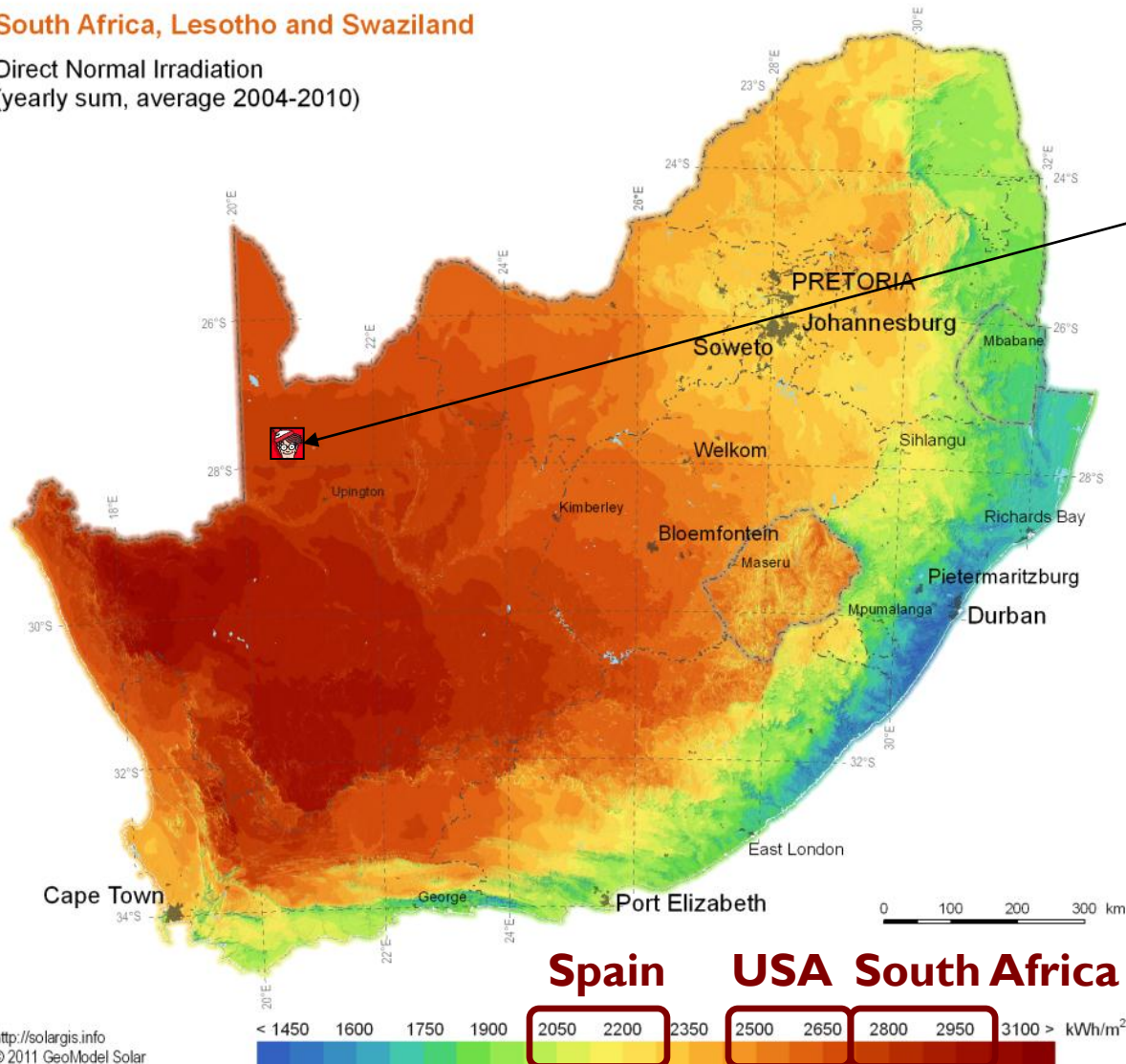


# Where's Waldo? Space for 2010 national electricity demand by solar electricity



## South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland

Direct Normal Irradiation  
(yearly sum, average 2004-2010)



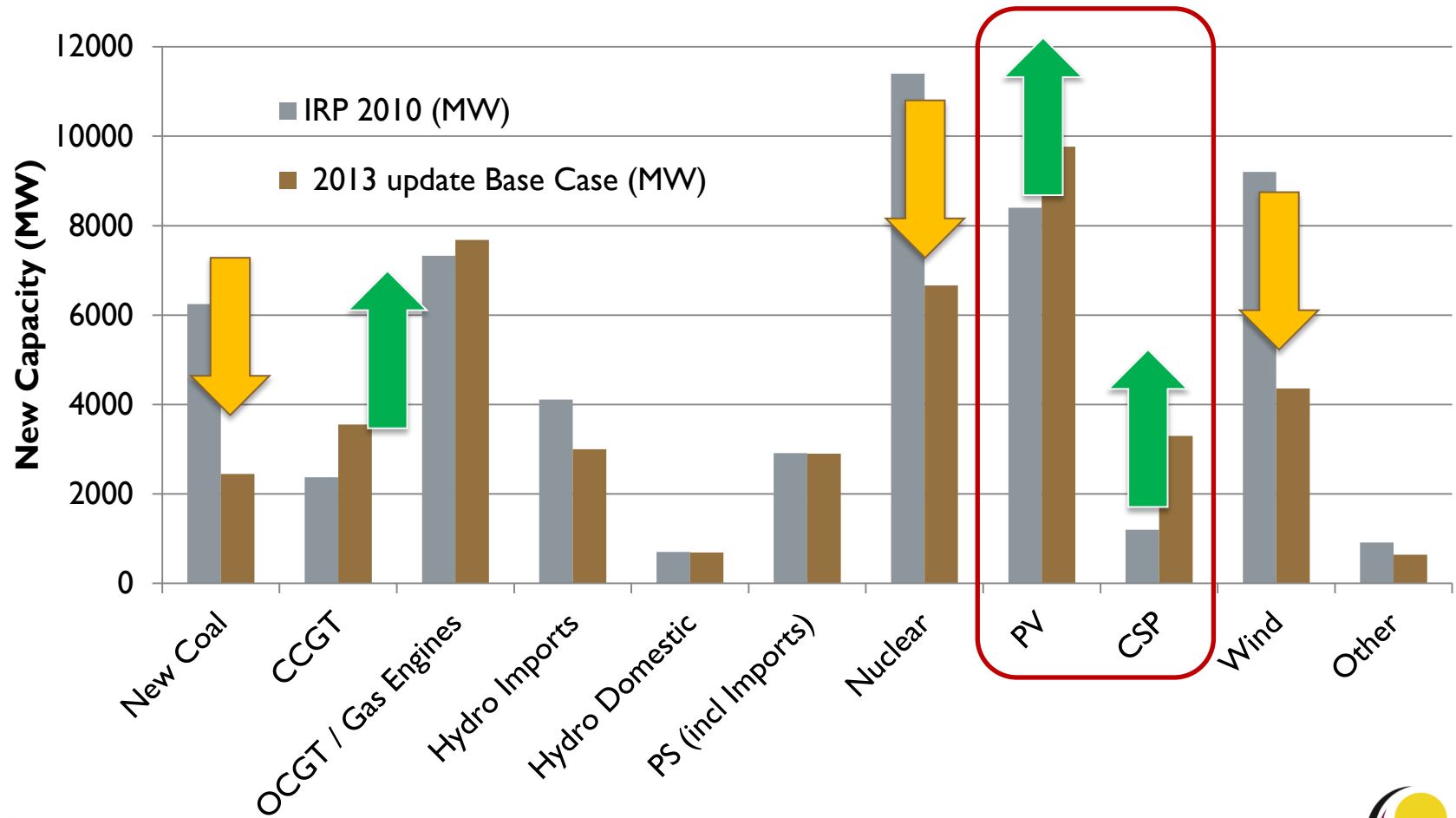
<http://solargis.info>  
© 2011 GeoModel Solar



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# Draft IRP Update





# Cost of capital

[PV-Tech](#) [PV-Tech 每日光伏新闻](#) [PV-Tech Jobs](#) [PV-Tech Directory](#) [Photovoltaics International](#)

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COST-EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE NI/CU  
PLATING FOR P- AND N-TYPE PERX SILICON SOLAR  
CELLS YIELDING EFFICIENCIES ABOVE 20,5%

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20-22 May  
Shanghai, China  
2014

SNEC 8th (2014) International Photovoltaic Power Generation Conference & Exhibition

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By [Lucy Woods](#) - 28 January 2014, 09:17 | In [News](#), [Power Generation](#), [Finance](#)

## Bill Clinton calls for global fund to reform 'unequal' energy finance



As an alternative to current finance mechanisms Clinton suggested "a global financing facility" for renewable energy similar to the 'Global Fund'. Image: World Economic Forum

Former US president Bill Clinton has called for global investment in renewable energy and changes to the "inequality" of current financing mechanisms in the energy sector.

At the ThomasLloyd Clean Tech Congress Europe in Frankfurt last week, Clinton highlighted long-term finance options is "what we do with traditional energy and coal fire power plants", whereas currently investors and providers of solar and wind have to provide "all the money upfront".

Clinton argued that no one has "explained to people adequately" that there is "inequality in financing opportunities" for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

At the forum for European investors on 24 January, titled 'Meet Asia. Meet renewable energy's future', Clinton told investors an "analytical and actual financing framework" enabling capital investment in clean energy and efficiency should be financed over "the life of the benefits".

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1. [Hanergy reveals phase one of its 5GW CIGS expansion plan](#)

2. [IHS: Why 2014 PV installation forecasts are all likely to be wrong](#)



### Geldeenhede

[illegible]

## Sudoku

2	5	3	6	8	1	4	9	7
8	7	4	3	5	9	1	2	6
6	9	1	4	7	2	8	3	5
3	1	2	7	4	8	6	5	9
9	8	7	5	2	6	3	4	1
5	4	6	9	1	3	2	7	8
1	3	8	2	9	5	7	6	4
7	6	5	8	3	4	9	1	2
4	2	9	1	6	7	5	8	3



► **Moellikhedsgraad: Kopkrap**  
Versleef deur Anina Roux en Samantha  
McKendrick ([swor@kword.co.za](mailto:swor@kword.co.za)). Voltooi die  
rooster sodat elke ry dwars, elke kolom af en elke  
3x3-kassie die syfers 1 tot 9 bevat. Dit is al wat jy  
moet doen. G'n wiskunde is nodig nie. Die rooster is  
vir syfers, maar niks hoef bymekaargelei te  
word nie. Jy los die raaisel met logika en  
beredenering op. Lees meer by  
<http://www.kword.co.za/wiki/Sudoku>.  
Rags is gister se oplossing.

	8			3				6
			9				3	7
	6			7				
4								
	3		2					
8		1						9
		5	3				1	
	2				9		4	
	1	3		4			6	2

# Matie-medisyne vir kragpyne

'n Aanpasbare kragvoorsieningstelsel wat vinnig kan begin werk, is nodig om in die spitsvraagtydperke – tussen 07:00 en 09:00 en weer tussen 18:00 en 20:00 – krag te voorsien. So 'n stelsel wat in spits tyd elektrisiteit teen mededingende pryse kan voorsien, is nie te verasmaai nie, skryf **Cebo Silinga, Paul Gauché** en **Alan Brent**.

**S**uid-Afrika gebruik oopsluitings-gasturbine- (OSGT) stelsels om spitskrake te voorzien. Die 2,426 MW OSGT-leveringsvermoë is alles dieselaangedrewe.

Die plan is om die vermoë van die OSGT-stelsel eweredig saam met die toename in die kragvraag te vergroot. Vir dié doel maak die staat se geïntegreerde hulpbronplan (IRP) voorsiening vir 4 930 MW se OSGT-stelsels teen 2030.

Volgens ons ontledings wek OSGT's elektriciteit teen 'n koste van meer as R5/kWh op. Dit is ver by die huidige koste van sowat R2/kWh van gekonsentreerde sonkrag (GSK), wat hitemarkte in die toekoms sal verskaf. Die OSGT's sal ook 'n klein spitsvrag verskoon. Die koste is ook laag as die pryse van die eerste fase van die regering se groenkrag-aankoopprogram.

Maar contractering is niet konstante niet. Daarom het ons onderzocht ingezet na het uitvoeren van dit zou weer om GSG-analysen op te stellen die de efficiëntie van het tyndraatsysteem te gebruiken in de hoop dat 'n reeks ongepubliceerde GSG-pittydraatsystemen in sekere omstandigheden de konstante efficiëntie van de GSG-technologie in de huidige IPR zal verlaten. Dit is gedaan door 'n moderne GSG-toringinstallatie met hitte-energiesystemen te modelleren die konstante efficiëntie van de GSG-technologie en de GSG-technologie 'n te vergelijken.

Die Gemasolar-aanleg in Spanje, wat ononderbroke met gebergde hitte krag opwek, is as 'n voorbeeldaanleg gebruik om

**Scenario 1 – slegs OSGT's:** As 'n reeks OSGT's van 5 000 MW in die totale spitsvraag voorsien, is die konstante eenheidskoste van die OSGT-stelsel R5,08/kWh.

**Scenario 2 – maksimum gebruik van GSK:** 'n GSK-stelsel met maksimum opwekking by al tien persele lewer 'n konstante eenheidskoste van R1,89/kWh en het 'n vervullingskoeffisiënt van 0,82. Dit voorsien met ander woorde slegs 82% van die vereiste spitsstydskrag.

Die voorgestelde GSK-leweringvermoë is 3 300 MW. Die nasionale netwerk word gedurende die bedryf van die GSK-stelsel gebruik om in die orige energievraag te voorsien. Dit word gedoen deur die warmtoestuk (vir die berging van hitte-energie) te laat wanneer daar nie voldoende constraining is nie. Energie word dan gedurende buitespitte (wanneer die tariewe laag is) van die netwerk aangekoop en gedurende spitte na die netwerk teruggevoer.

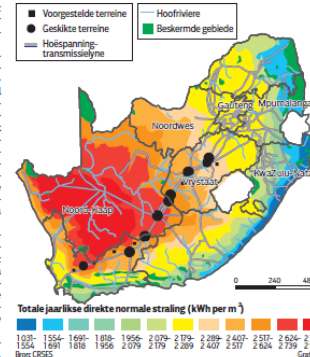
Die kombinasie van die netwerk- en GSK-energie het 'n vervullingskoeffisiënt van 0,92, wat beteken dat daar steeds nie ten volle in spitsydbehoefes voorsien word nie. Die konstante eenheidskoste van die gekombineerde stelsel styg van die R1,89/kWh tot R3/kWh.

'n Stelsel wat die vervullingskoeffisiënt tot 1,0 sal verhoog, sal veel duurder wees. As elkeen



Die Gemasolar-aanleg in Spanje – 'n GSK-toringaanleg van 20 MW

### Strategiele posisies vir gekonsentreerde sonkrag



te staan kom. Die eenheidskoste van die GSK is konstant op R1,89/kWh. Die koppeling van die GSK- en OSGT-stelsel in 'n virtuele hibriedstelsel verseker egter dat die stelsel sonder twyfel in spitsydrukbehoefes sal kan voorsien.

Die koste van die gekombineerde stelsels is R2,78/kWh. Die voordeel om die twee stelsels te koppel, is dus dat die GSK-stelsel die hoë koste van die OSGT-stelsel temper, dat dit spitsydruk waarborg, en dat die gekombineerde stelsel meer bestand is teen skommeling in fossielbrandstofpryse.

Kortom, bou albei, hoewel uiteraard in fases en in pas met spitskragprojeksies, en versprei die GSK-terreine geleidelik langs die transmissielyn van albei punte af omonstraling optimaal te gebruik.

► **Silinga, Gauché en prof. Brent** is van die Universiteit Stellenbosch. Silinga is navorsingsingenieur in die Sentrum vir Hernubare en Volhoubare Energiestudies (CRSES). Gauché is direkteur van die Son-termyse Energieaankragingsgroep (Steg).

## The value of CSP looking at various measures

# HOW TO ADD 3+ GW OF CSP NOW AND SAVE MONEY



# Spatial-temporal systems analysis



- We develop and use fundamental technical models
  - Conventionals (Coal, Nuclear, OCGT, etc)
  - Pumped storage
  - Renewables (Wind, PV, CSP)
- Our analysis goal is good accuracy in the system
  - Technology + Location + Time (Resource, Demand, Price)
- Our objective is lowest cost + secure + flexible system
- Our primary partner is a leader in their field

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# Scenarios for a South African peaking CSP system in the short term

C. Silinga<sup>b</sup>, P. Gauché<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Solar Thermal Energy Research Group (STERG), University of Stellenbosch

<sup>b</sup>Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy Studies (CRSES), University of Stellenbosch



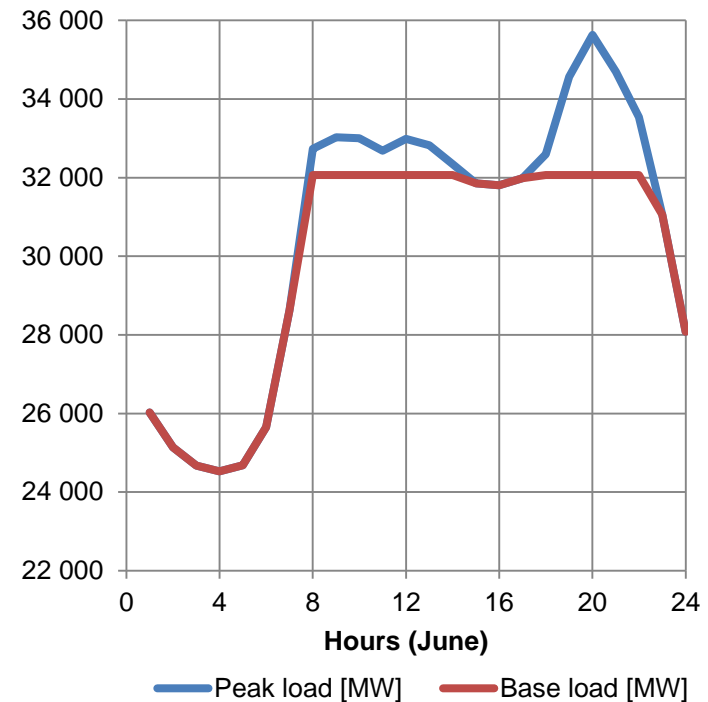
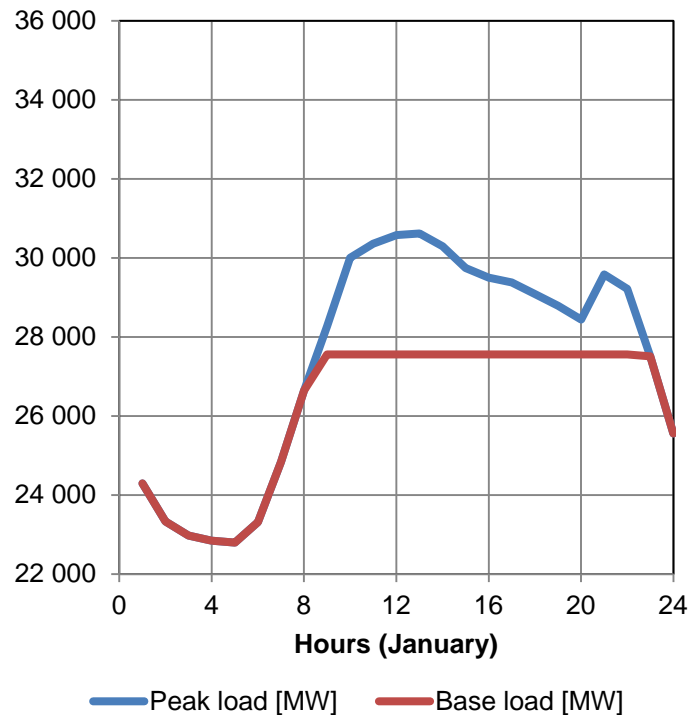
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# Load demand



- Take 90% of the maximum hourly demand in each day as the daily baseload limit

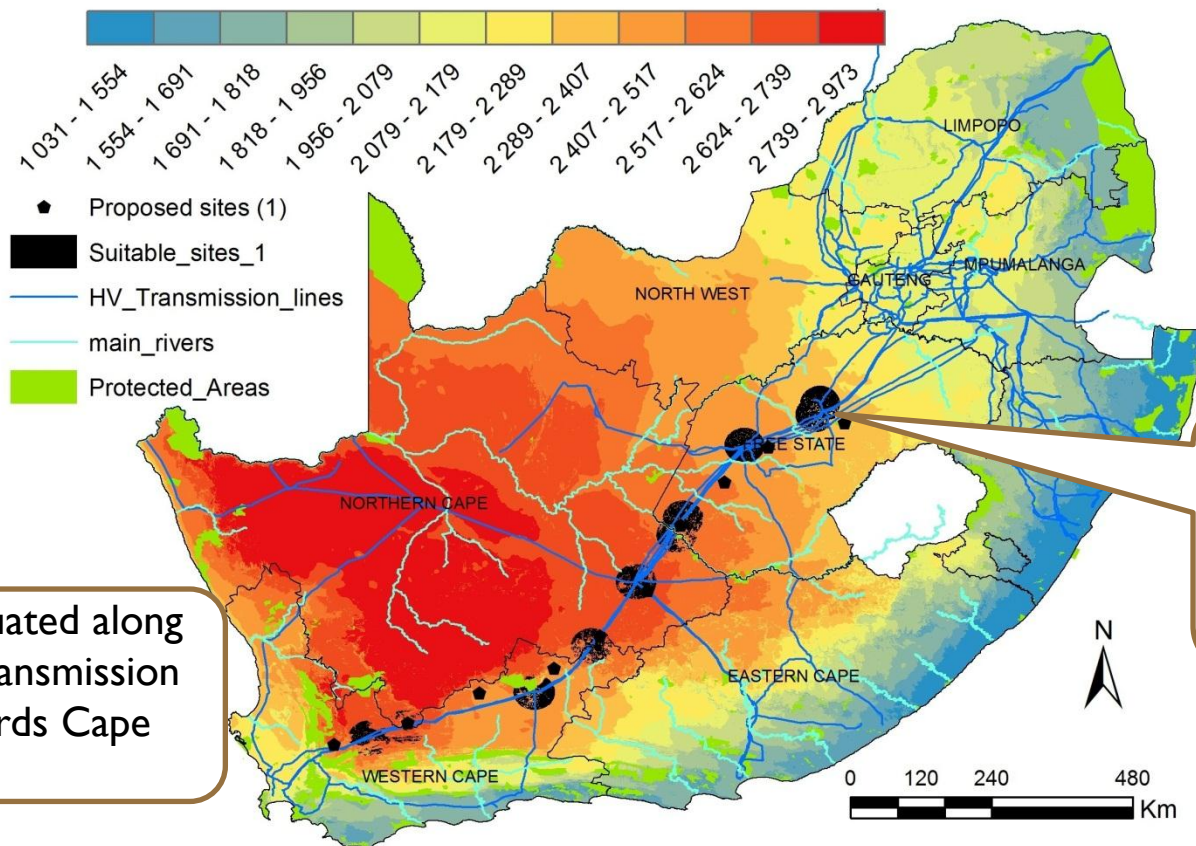


# CSP scenario: peaking power fuel saver



South Africa

Annual sum of direct normal irradiation (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>)



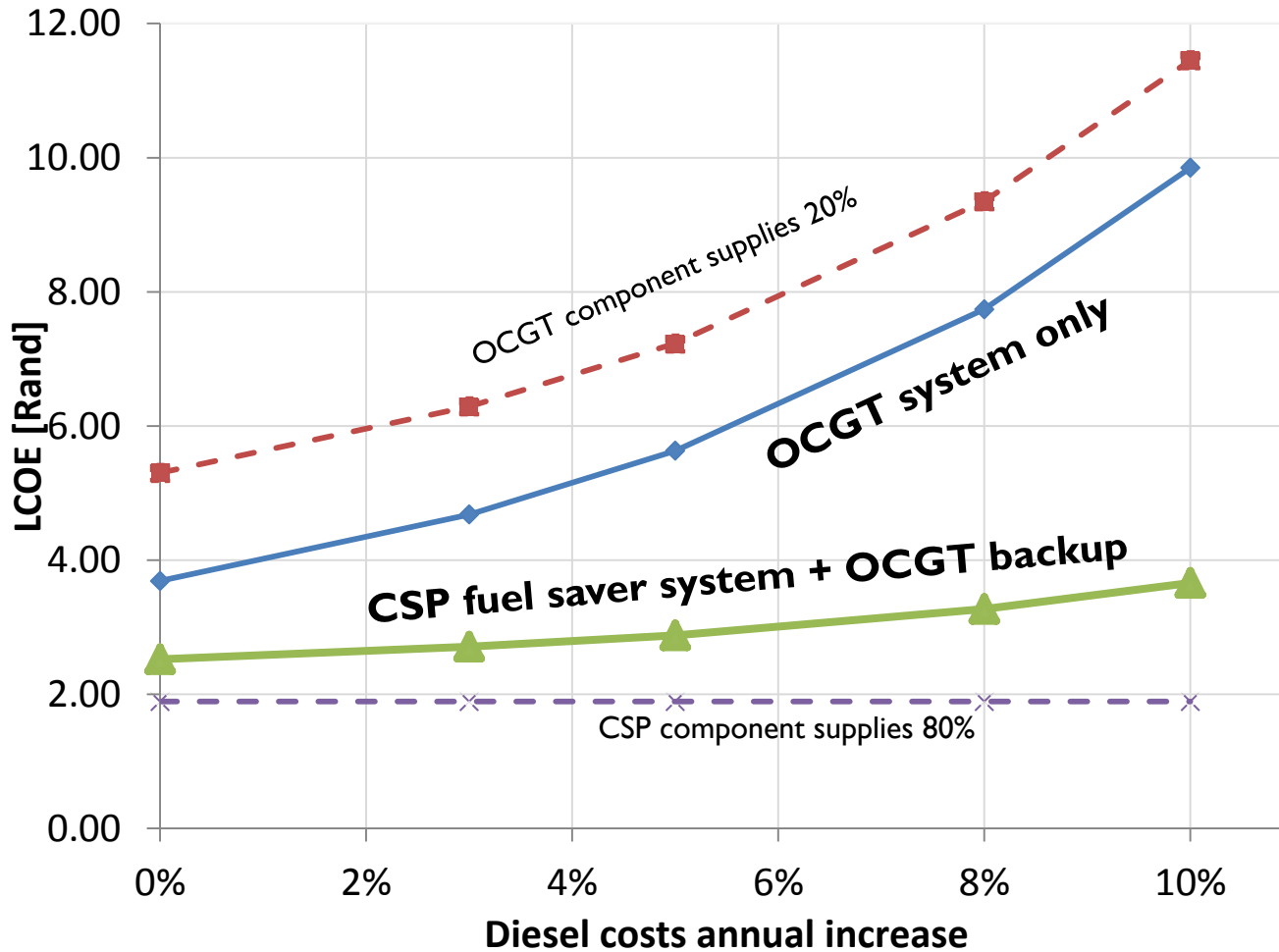
Proposed sites : situated along the high capacity transmission line running towards Cape Town

Solar data – SolarGIS data © 2012 GeoModel Solar s.r.o.  
Grid infrastructure GIS data, Eskom, 2011





# 3.3 GW CSP + 5 GW\* OCGT < 5 GW OCGT



2014 Diesel wholesale (~R13.30/l)

\*We have not optimised this yet



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# Effect of PV and CSP on coal fired power station capacity factors

C. Auret<sup>a</sup> & P. Gauché<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Eskom Specialization Centre in Renewable Energy at Stellenbosch University

<sup>b</sup>Solar Thermal Energy Research Group (STERG), University of Stellenbosch

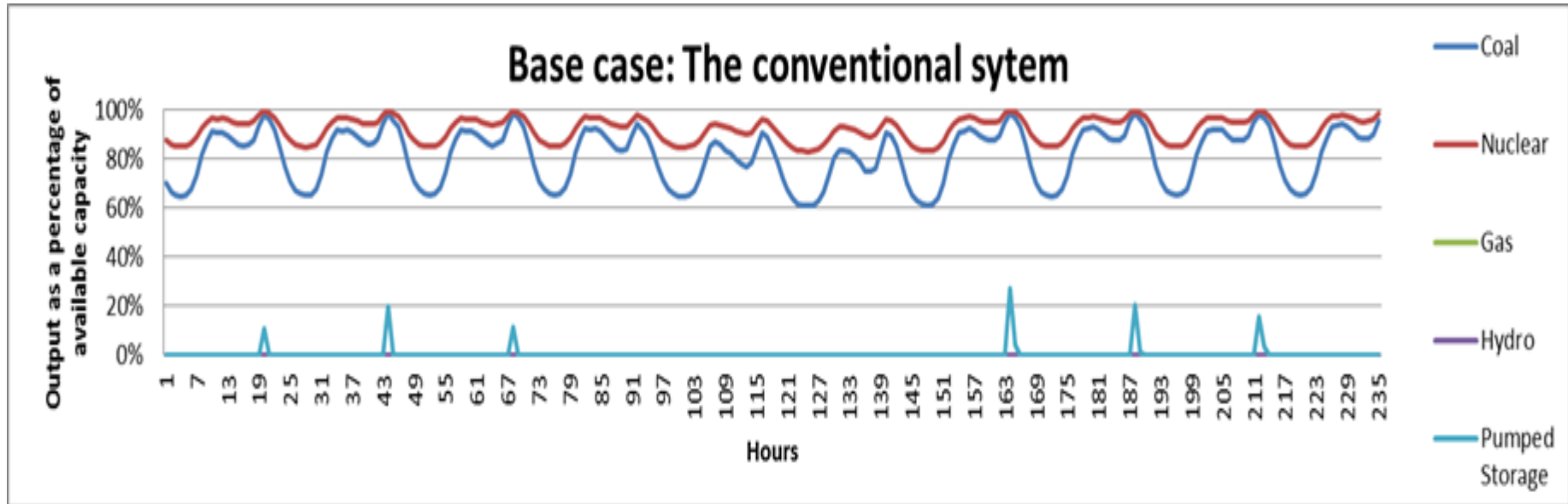


Second Southern African Solar Energy Conference  
SASEC 2014  
27-29 January 2014, Port Elizabeth, South Africa





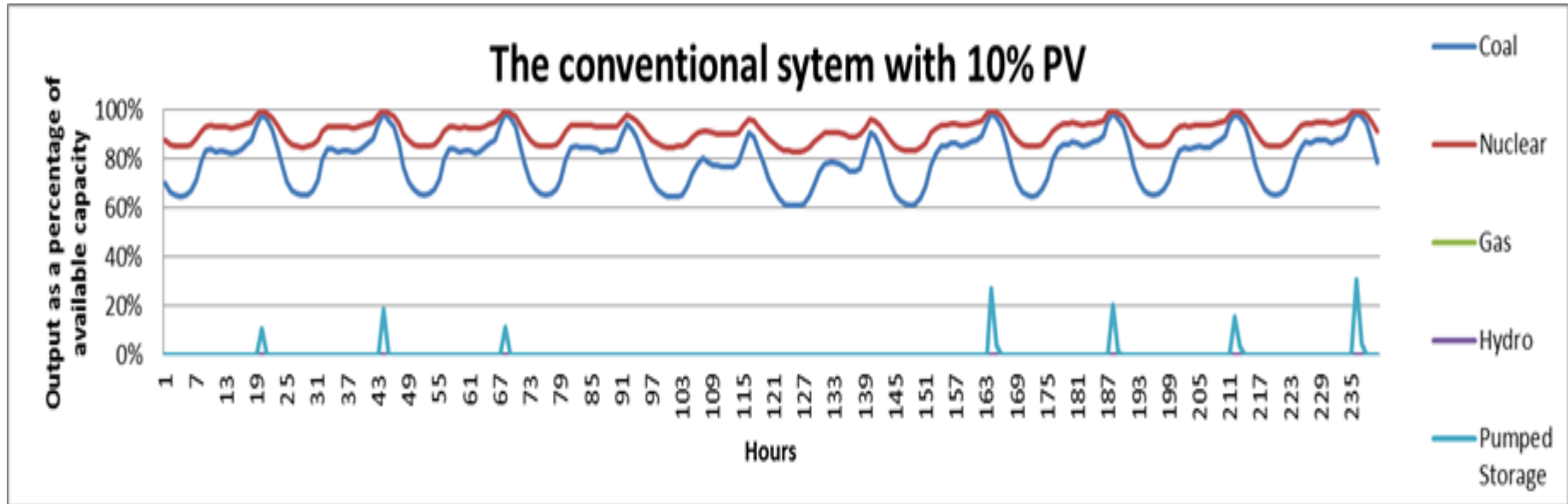
# Conventional System



- Model maintains a 15% reserve margin
- No outages deferred
- Low use of peaking plant



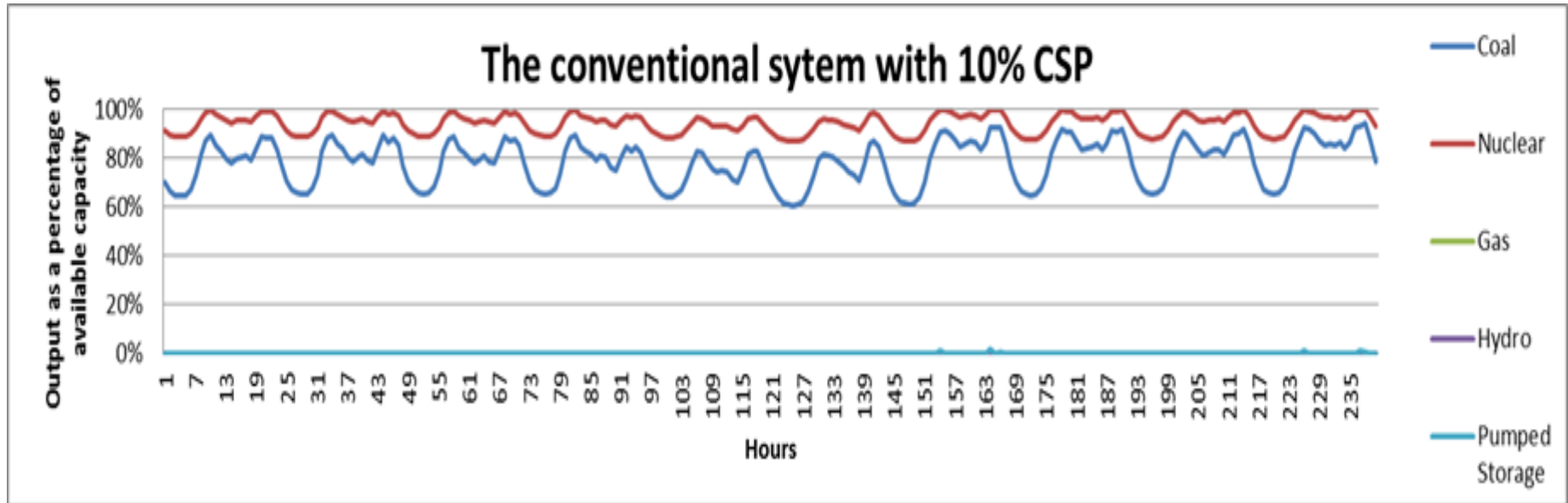
## 10% PV



- Running coal plant capacity factors suppressed
  - Not below 80%
- No change to outages
- Peaking dropped slightly 234 GWhr to 211 GWhr



## 10% CSP

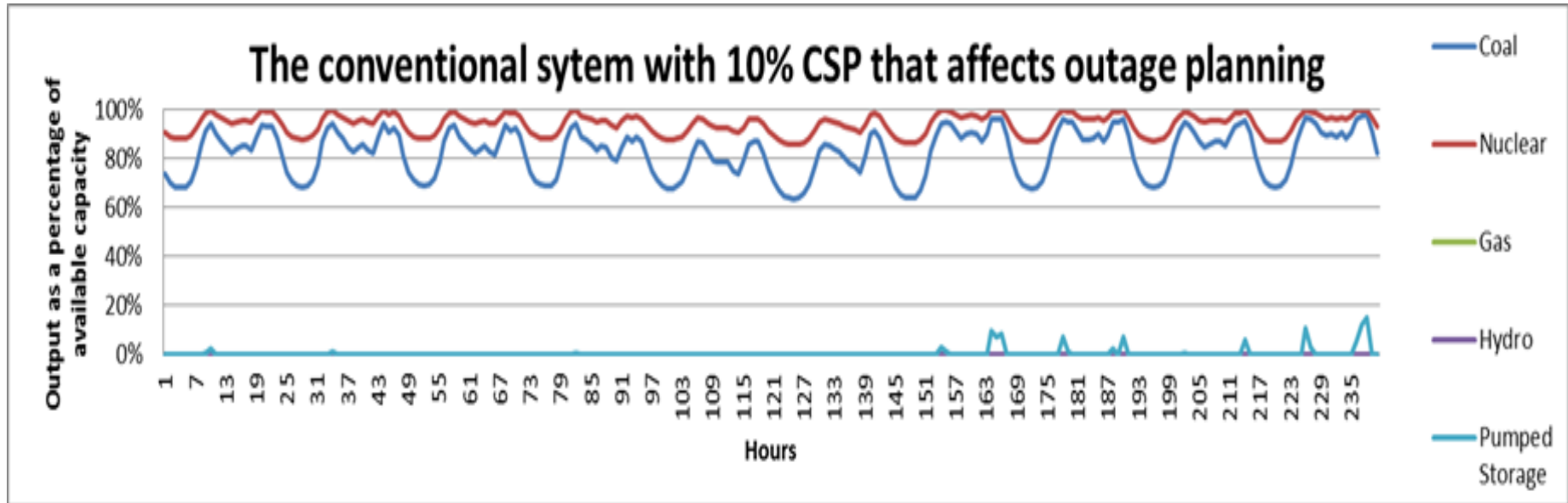


- Coal Capacity Factors suppressed during peak times
- Outages not affected
- Peaking reduced to 10 GWhr





# 10% CSP and low reserve margin



- Number of planned outages doubled
- Peaking dropped to 163 GWhr
- Minimum capacity factor increased on running coal plant



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# Utility-scale PV [Wind and CSP] power and energy supply outlook for South Africa in 2015

Sebastian Giglmayr<sup>a</sup>, Alan Brent<sup>b</sup>, Paul Gauché<sup>c</sup> & Hubert Fechner<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Urban Renewable Energy Systems, University of Applied Sciences (UAS), Vienna, Austria

<sup>b</sup> Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy Studies (CRSES), University of Stellenbosch

<sup>c</sup> Solar Thermal Energy Research Group (STERG), University of Stellenbosch



Second Southern African Solar Energy Conference  
SASEC 2014  
27-29 January 2014, Port Elizabeth, South Africa





## Analysis results



- Renewable energy (RE) annual yield: **6.4 TWh**

	Wind power	SolarPV	CSP	Hydro power
Delivered energy [GWh]	3 685	1 906	752	99
Maximum actual power [MW]	1 302	900	217	14

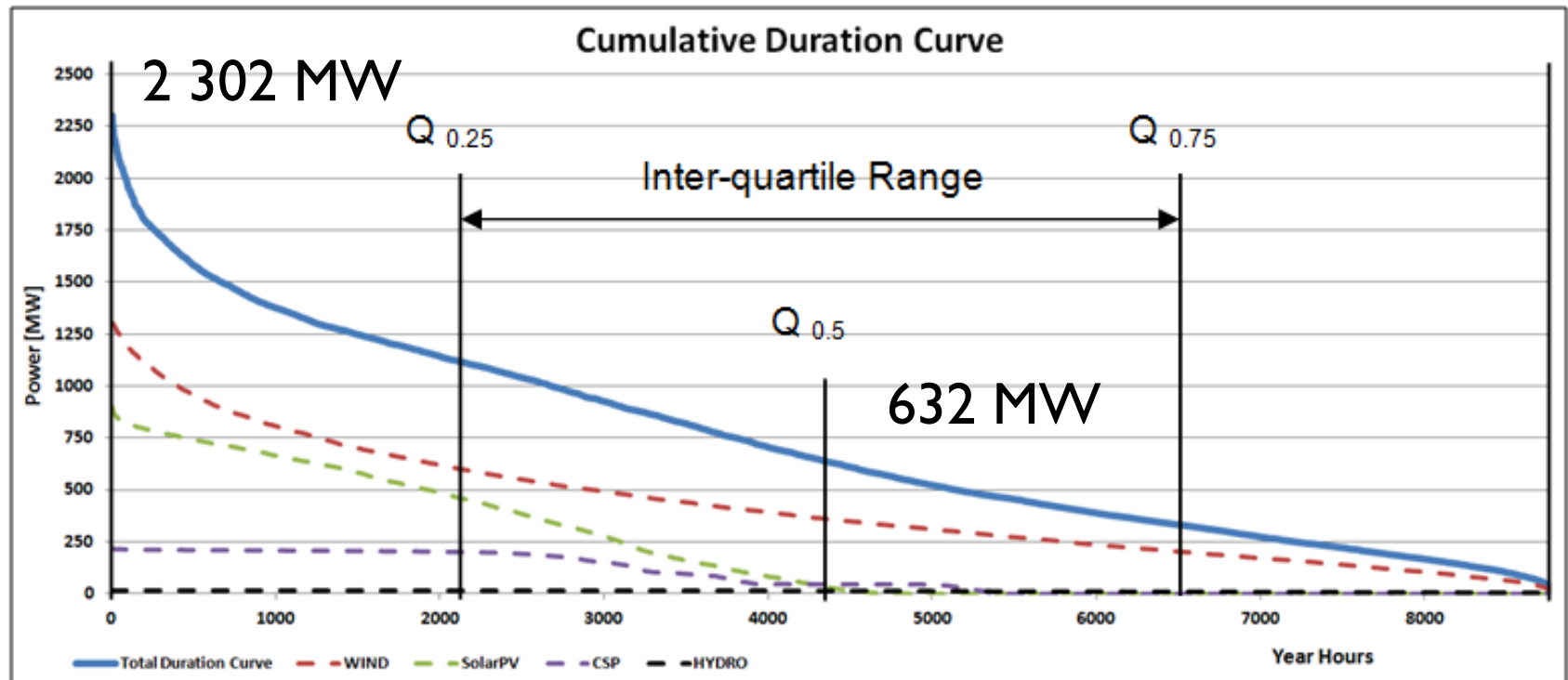
- Maximum power: **2 302 MW** (95 % of rated capacity)
- Minimum power: **27 MW** (1.1 % firm capacity)
- Annual RE share of **2 %** according to IRP 2010 forecast
- Capacity RE share of **5 %** according to *Eskom* projection



# Analysis results



## System duration curve (frequency distribution)



# Conclusions in our analysis

---



- ✓ CSP presents an economically sensible solution today as a fuel saver to peaking/dispatch
- ✓ Reduces fuel price volatility & adds reserve margin
  - ✓ (The system likes it)
- ✓ Drives the learning rate
  - ✓ Reduce cost of technology
  - ✓ Increase local supply chains
  - ✓ Distributed & top to bottom employment
  - ✓ Reduce cost of capital
- ✗ Not shown – work is ongoing, but Solar and Wind still don't seem to play too well. We probably need backup for about 20% – 30% even in the long run.





\* And friends

# STERG\* IS POSITIONED TO HELP



## Primary associations



<http://concentrating.sun.ac.za>

## ABOUT STERG



## Primary funders



science  
& technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



National  
Research  
Foundation



sasol  
*reaching new frontiers*



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# First SA university CSP research group

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STERG at Crescent Dunes, Nevada  
SolarPACES 2013 tour

~ 75 Members in July 2013

From/at: SU, UCT, Wits, CSIR, UKZN, NMMU,  
NWU, Eskom, Sasol, Germany, China, Holland, etc.





And now announcing our newest sponsor



technology innovation

A G E N C Y



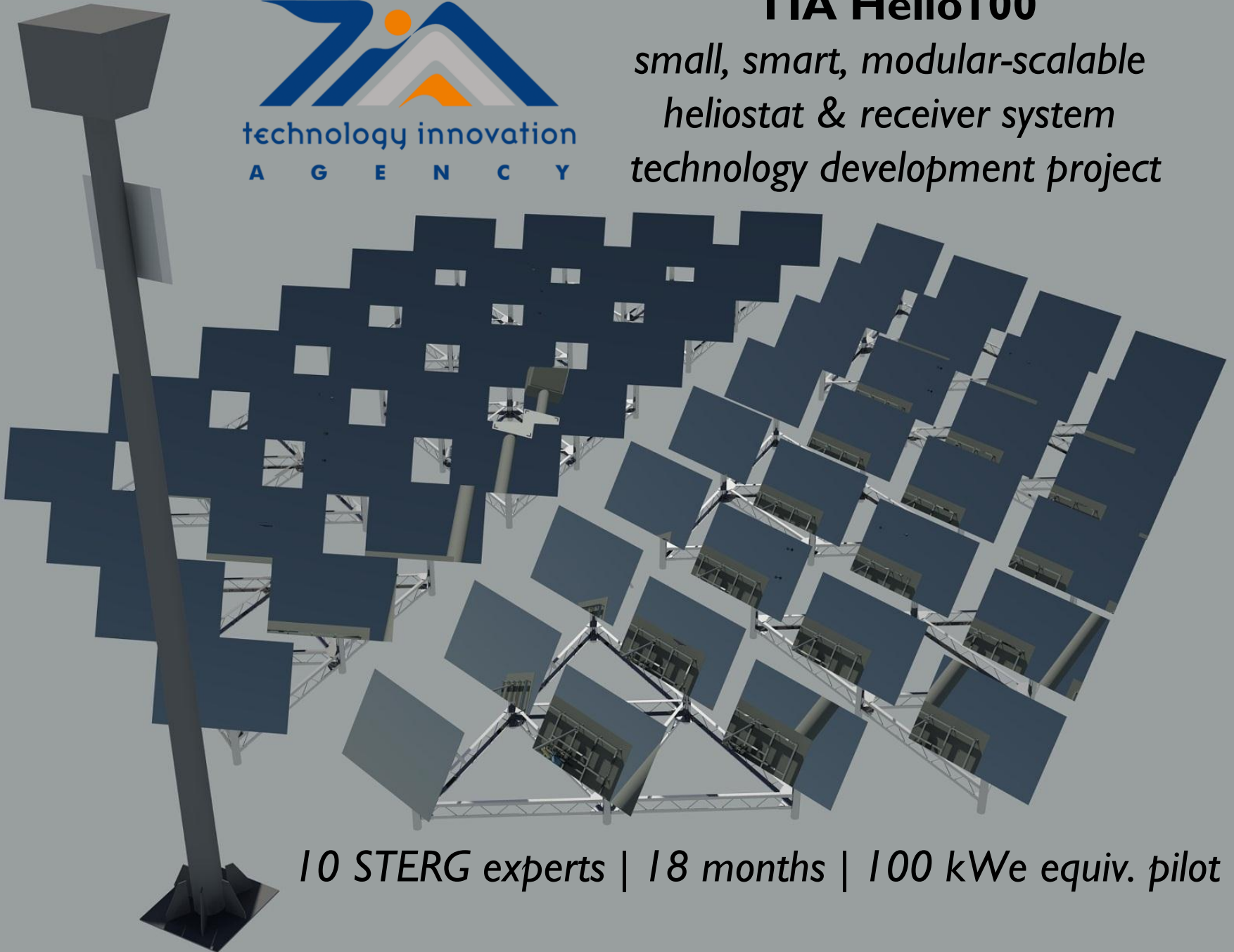
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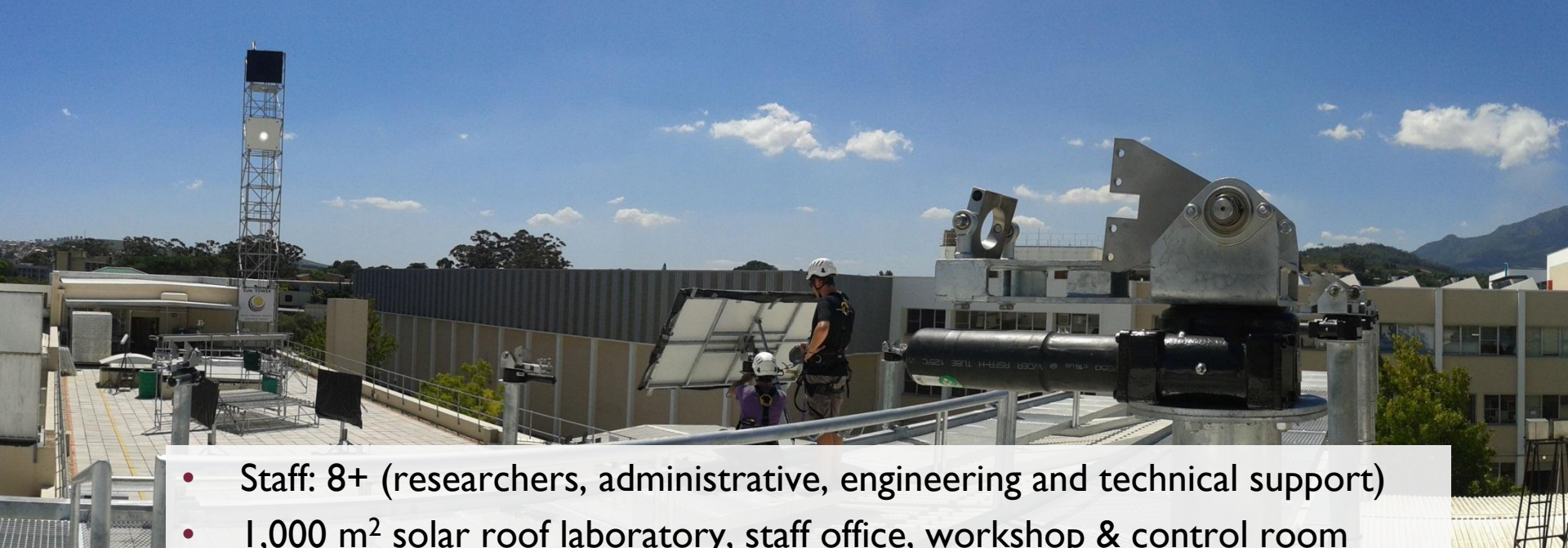
## TIA Helio100

*small, smart, modular-scalable  
heliostat & receiver system  
technology development project*



*10 STERG experts | 18 months | 100 kWe equiv. pilot*

# STERG infrastructure & resources



- Staff: 8+ (researchers, administrative, engineering and technical support)
- 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> solar roof laboratory, staff office, workshop & control room
- Sasol Helio40 – 40 m<sup>2</sup> heliostat system
- 18 m lattice tower (soon with receiver test facility)
- 600 °C, 1.5 m<sup>3</sup> packed bed storage rig & 1,200 °C kiln
- Solar & weather resource station with free web download
- 25 kWe Eskom McDonnell Douglas Stirling Dish
- + multiple other Mech Eng facilities

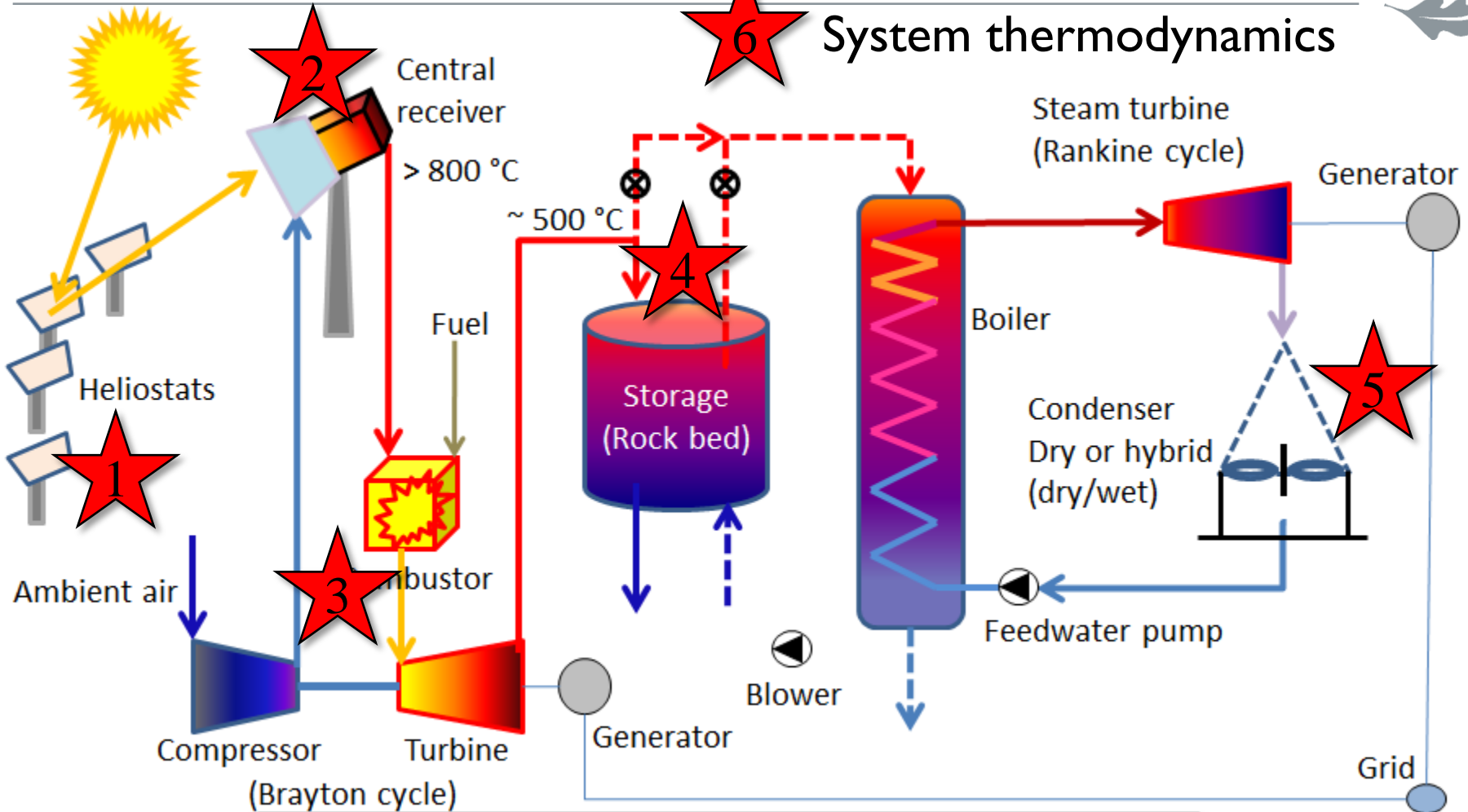




# SUNSPOT primary technology



## System thermodynamics



15+ Projects from distribution to system to components focused on SUNSPOT



# Industrial cooling system performance R&D



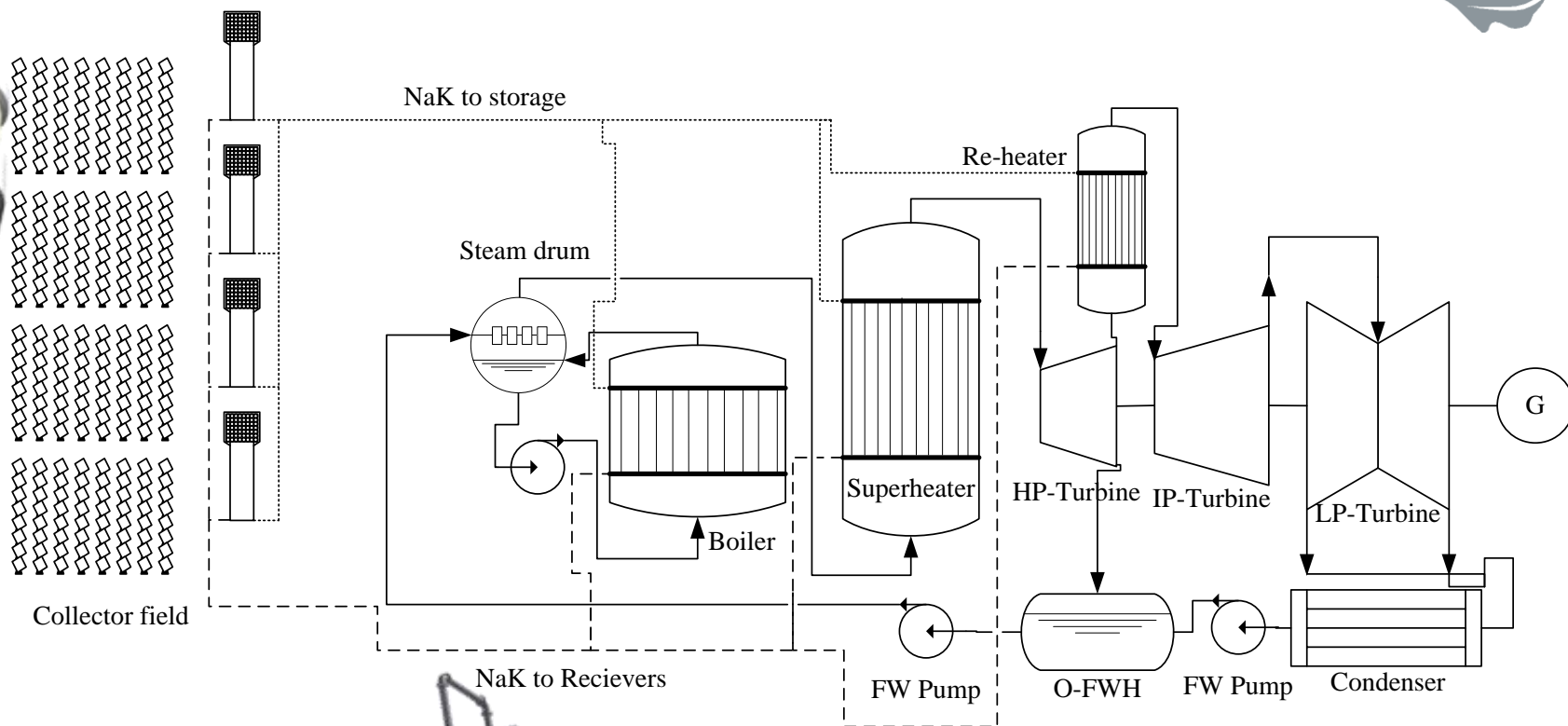
Prof HCR Reuter (PrEng, PhD)





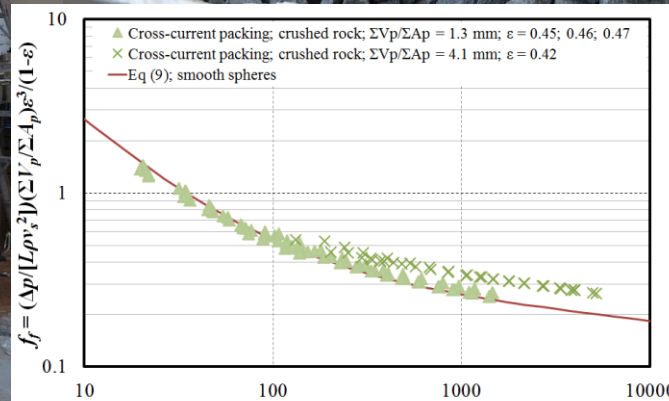
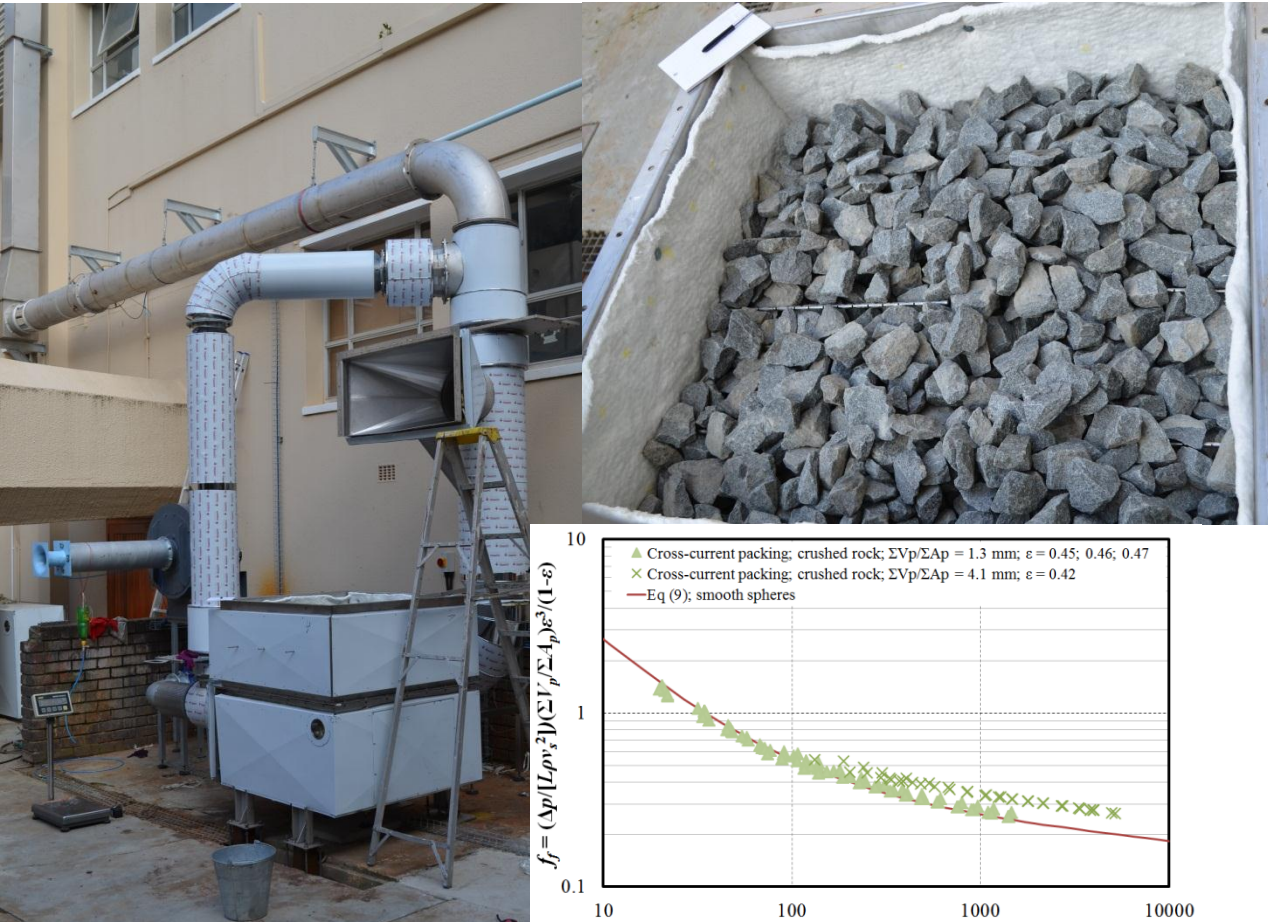
# Potential concepts: Metallic phase change material – Direct steam generation from storage

32





# Packed bed storage research



Our “**Sauna**”. Thermal cycling of 2 – 3 tons of material between 600 °C and ambient.



# Announcing: DLR – Stellenbosch MoU



- DLR: The German Aerospace Centre & Stellenbosch University
- MoU to collaborate in the R&D of CSP technology
- DLR is currently the leading CSP R&D entity (as far as we can tell)
- Stellenbosch has quickly become one of the leading CSP university groups in the world



Stellenbosch University is an expert member in the Technical and International Cooperation Advisory Board of the CSP/STE Research Infrastructure (RI) coordination project EU-SOLARIS, which is:

- Identified in the intergovernmental European Strategic Forum on Research Infrastructure (ESFRI) 2010 Roadmap.
- Developed by the most significant CSP/STE Research centres in Europe, the Spanish Ministry of Innovation and Competitiveness and the European STE Industry Association, ESTELA.
- Coordinated by CTAER (Spain).







- To be *the reference Research Infrastructure (RI)* for Concentrating Solar Thermal (CST) and Solar Chemistry technologies, in order to optimise RI development and Research and Technology Development (RTD) coordination;
- EU- SOLARIS *is expected to be the first of its kind*, where industrial needs will play a significant role and private funding will complement public funding.
- To *support excellence* in scientific and technological development.
- Provide the most complete, high quality *scientific infrastructure portfolio* at international level, facilitating researchers' access to highly specialised research infrastructure through a single access point;
- *Link the scientific communities, industry and universities* involved in the Solar Thermal Electricity sector;
- *Increase the efficiency* of the economic and human resources required;
- Provide efficient *resources management* to complement research and to avoid unnecessary technological duplication and repetition

## Advisory Board for Technical and International Cooperation

CSIRO  
(Australia)

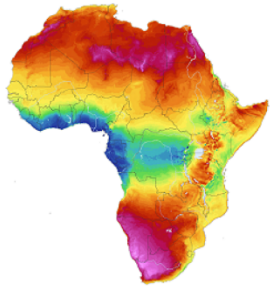
International  
Energy Agency

Sandia National  
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(USA)

Stellenbosch  
University  
(South Africa)

University of  
Chile (Chile)





# **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual STERG SolarPACES Symposium**

17 July 2014



concentrating.sun.ac.za

*Stellenbosch, South Africa*

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**2014: Sasol Helio40 opening, Abengoa & Eskom keynotes,  
typical attendees: SU, UKZN, UP, CSIR, DST, Eskom...**

***We invite you to attend. Visit our website for more info***



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# DST/NRF Renewable Energy Scholarships



science  
& technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**NRF**

National  
Research  
Foundation

## **DST believes in CSP R&D – asked me to announce the following**

- Renewable energy scholarships for Master + PhD
- Seeking better representation in SA for postgrad engineering studies
- To be announced May 2014 – see NRF website or [concentrating.sun.ac.za](http://concentrating.sun.ac.za)
- Applications close 31 July 2014 for 2015+ studies.



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## Acknowledgements:

GeoModel Solar, SASOL, Eskom,  
DST/NRF, TIA, Stellenbosch University

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visit us:

[concentrating.sun.ac.za](http://concentrating.sun.ac.za)

