

Hybrid Solar Energy Converter for Low Cost Electricity and Process Heat



-75%

-230%

-44%

-200%

SPECTROLAB

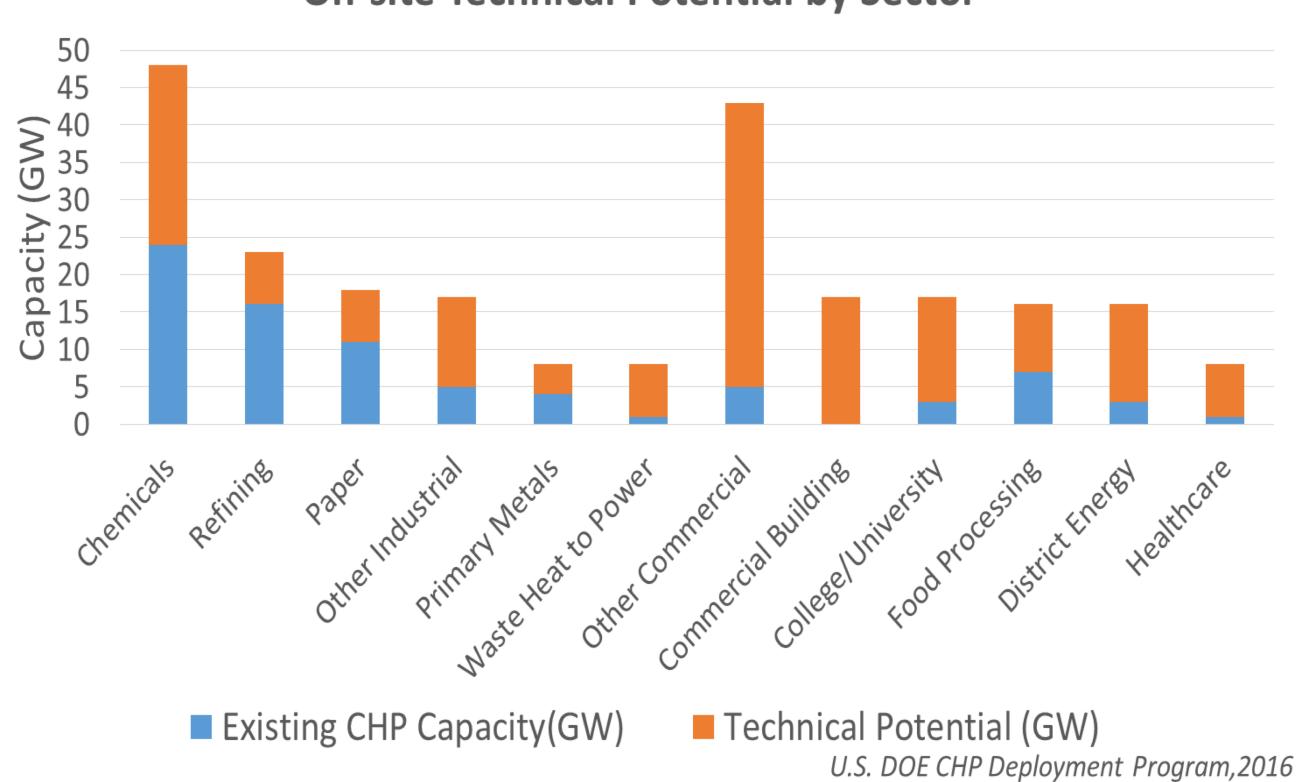
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Matthew Escarra, Brian Riggs, Qi Xu, Yaping "Vera" Ji, Adam Ollanik, Kazi Islam, John Robertson, Max Woody, Claire Davis, Richie Biedenharn, Nick Farrar-Foley, Skylar Deckoff-Jones – Tulane University Danny Codd, Christopher Spitler, Andrew Billigmeier, Jacob Platz, Denis Howell, Nathan Kramer, Luis Garcia, Hayden Spencer – University of San Diego Fletcher Miller, Naman Gupta, Jake Tubbs, Seyed Ehsan Hosseini, Tanner Hesse, Robert Newcomb, Matthew Virgen – San Diego State University Jim Ermer, Dmitri Krut, Uming Jeng – **Spectrolab** Vince Romanin, Pete Lynn, Leila Madrone – **Otherlab**

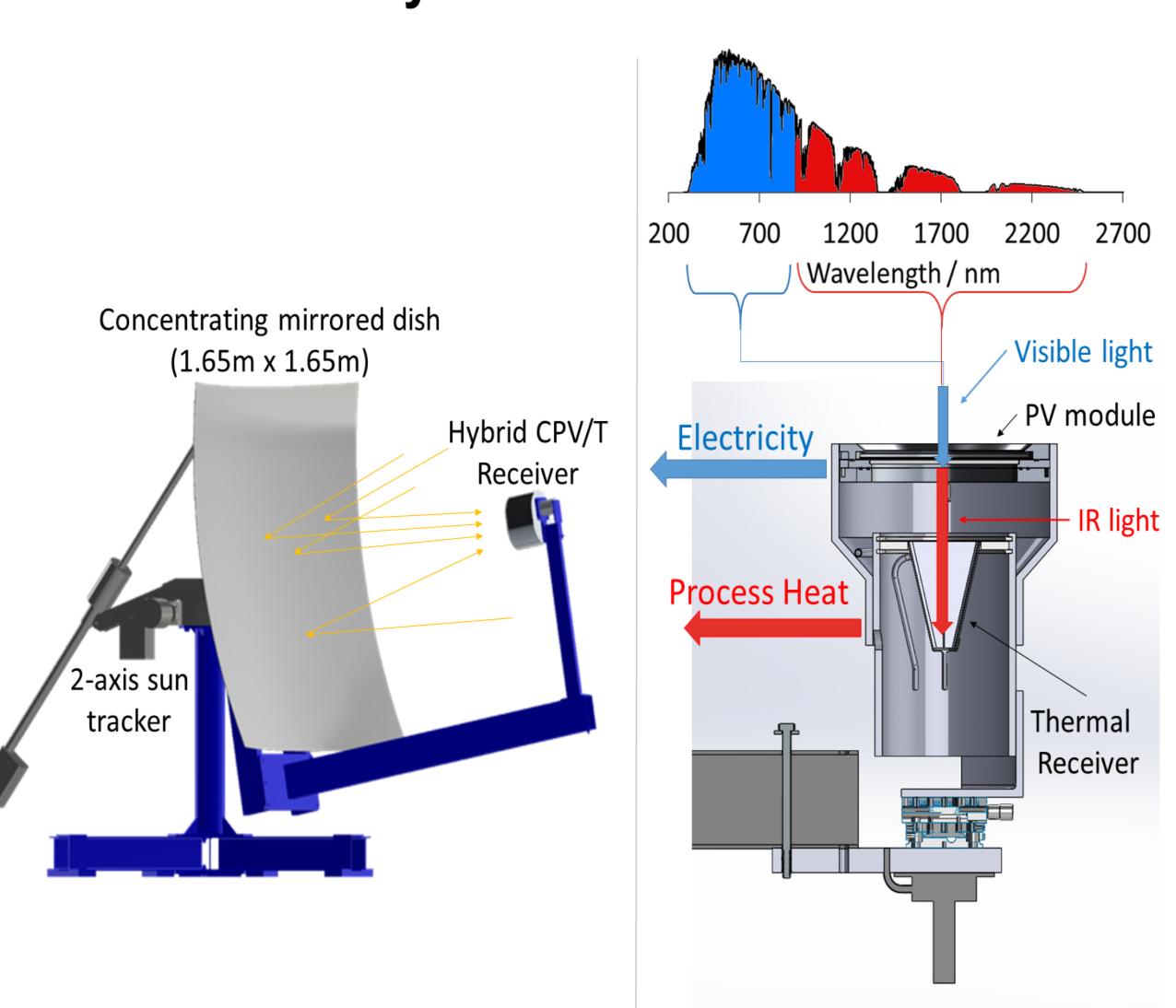
Project Motivation

- > Commercial and industrial heating applications make up 30% of energy consumption within the U.S., energy which is mainly provided by natural gas boilers.
- > Despite this, little work has been done in the renewable energy sector to find distributed-scale sustainable solutions to mediumtemperature (100 to 600°C) Industrial Process Heat (IPH) applications.

Existing Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Compared to On-site Technical Potential by Sector

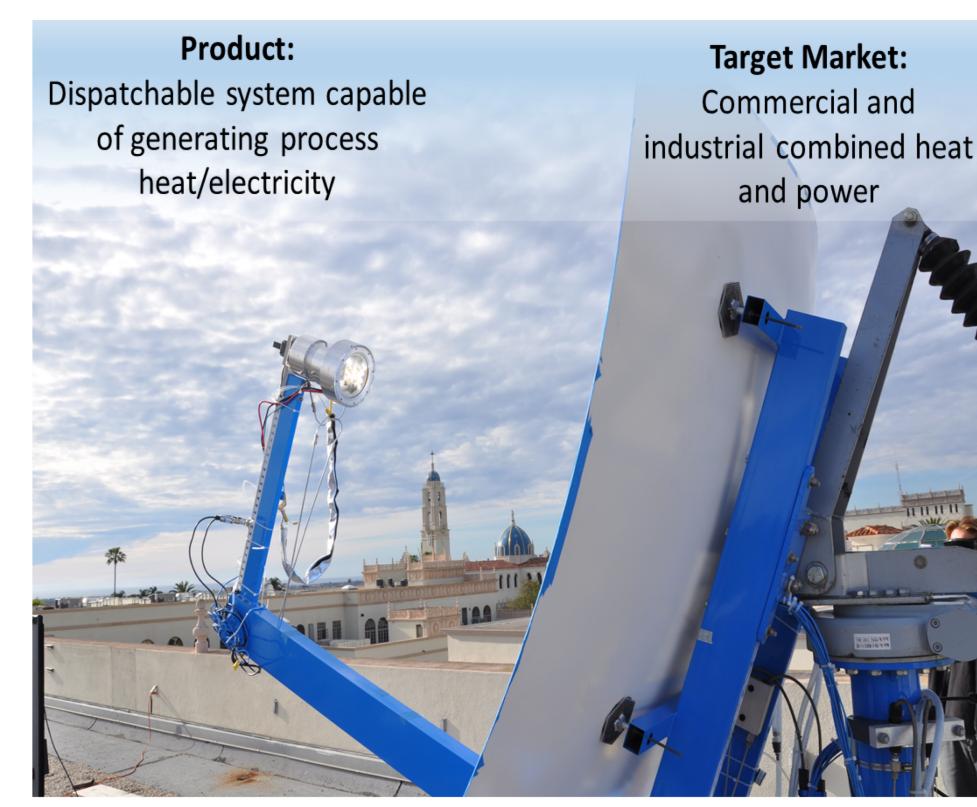


System Overview



Key Technology: A hybrid receiver featuring transmissive photovoltaics, which split the solar spectrum to efficiently generate electricity and attain high temperature (up to 590°C) process heat.

Hybrid CPV/T Receiver

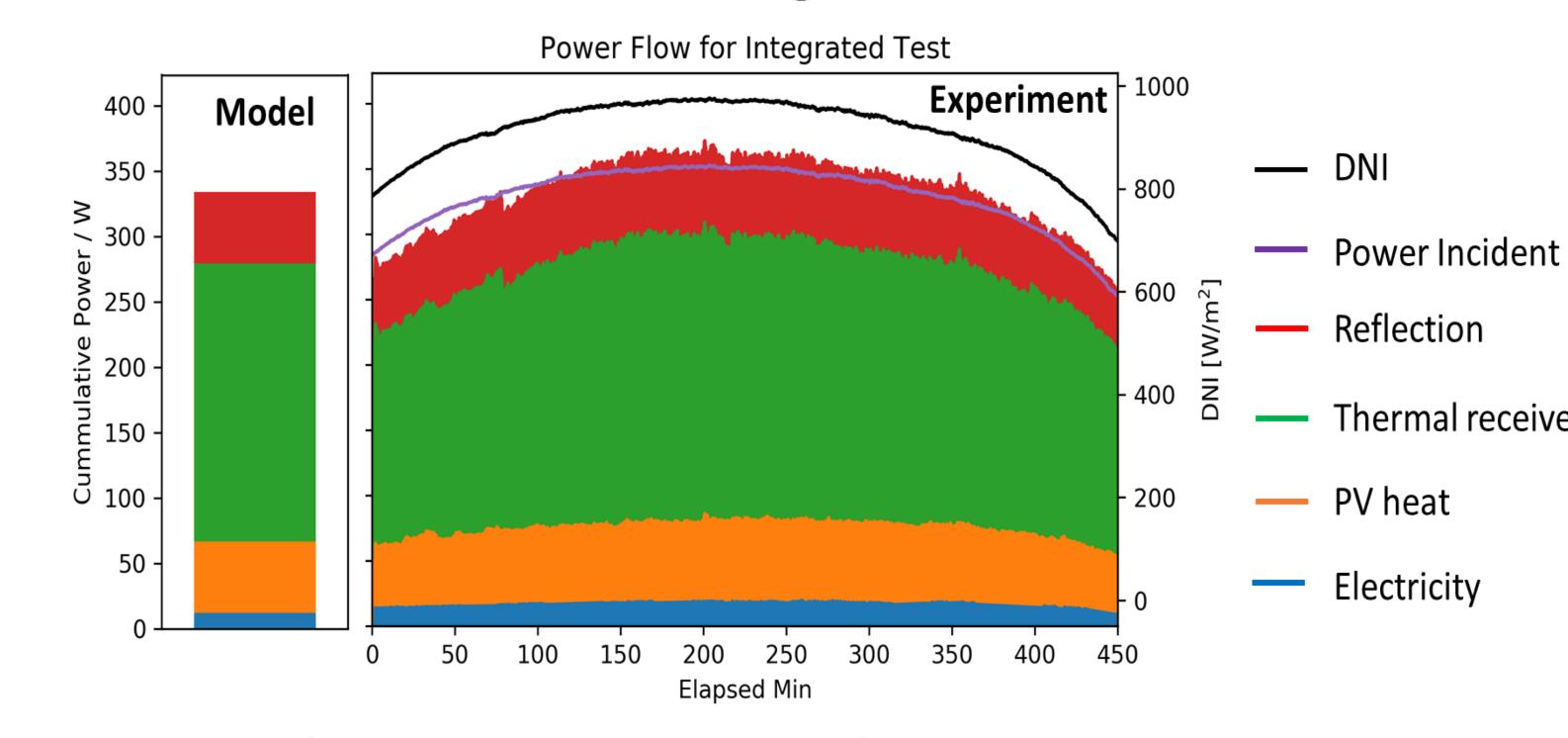


Thermal CPV/T Assembly CPV Module Receiver Tracker PV HTF lines 6.3 x 6.3 cm PV elec. and Ø14.2 cm

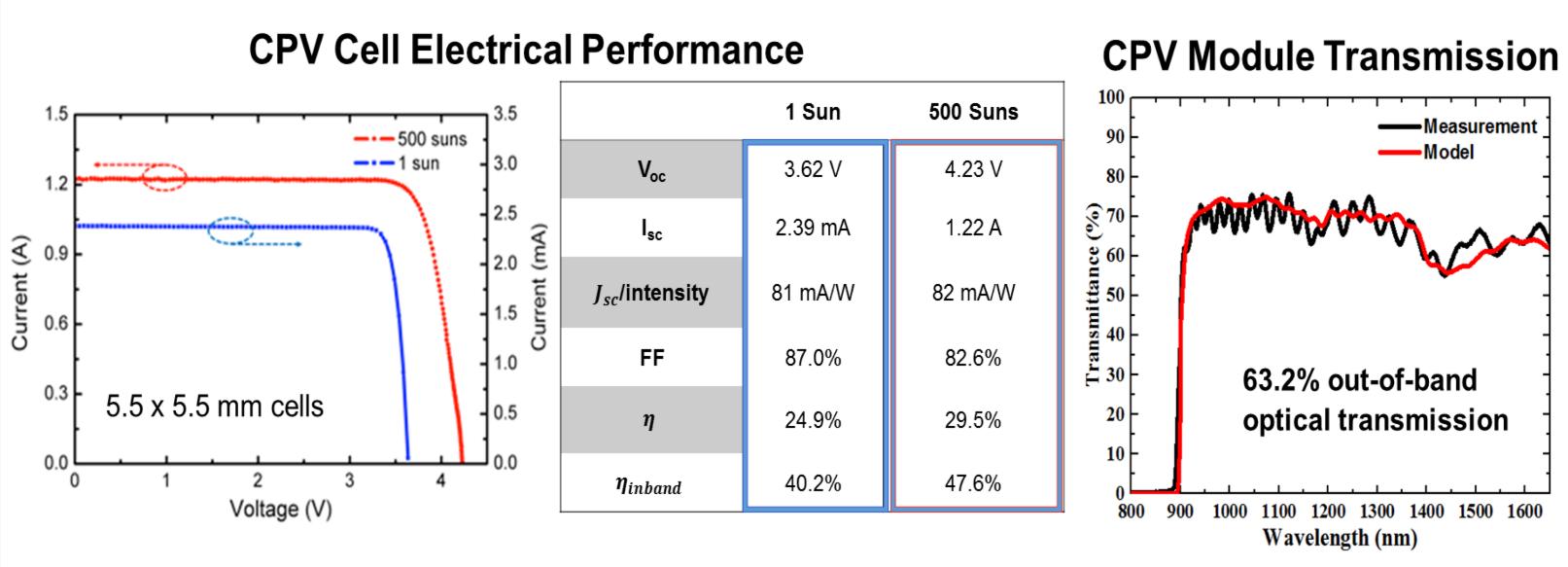
aperture

System Specifications Per Dish	
Collector Area:	2.7 m ² (29 ft ²)
Efficiency:	73% (Sun to elec. & heat)
Thermal System	
Peak Temperature:	590 °C (1100 °F)
Peak Thermal Power:	1704 W (5,800 Btu/hr)
Electrical System	
Peak Solar Concentration:	1070 suns
Peak Electrical Power:	291 W
Output Voltage:	120 VAC
Techno-Economic Data – LCOH (¢/kWh _{th})	
1.2-3.0 (<250°C)	1.3-3.2 (nat. gas)
Optical losses: 563 W	
Thermal losses: 164 W	
PV heat: 431W	
Thermal energy: 1,704W	
Solar energy per dish:	

Outdoor On-Sun Integrated Performance

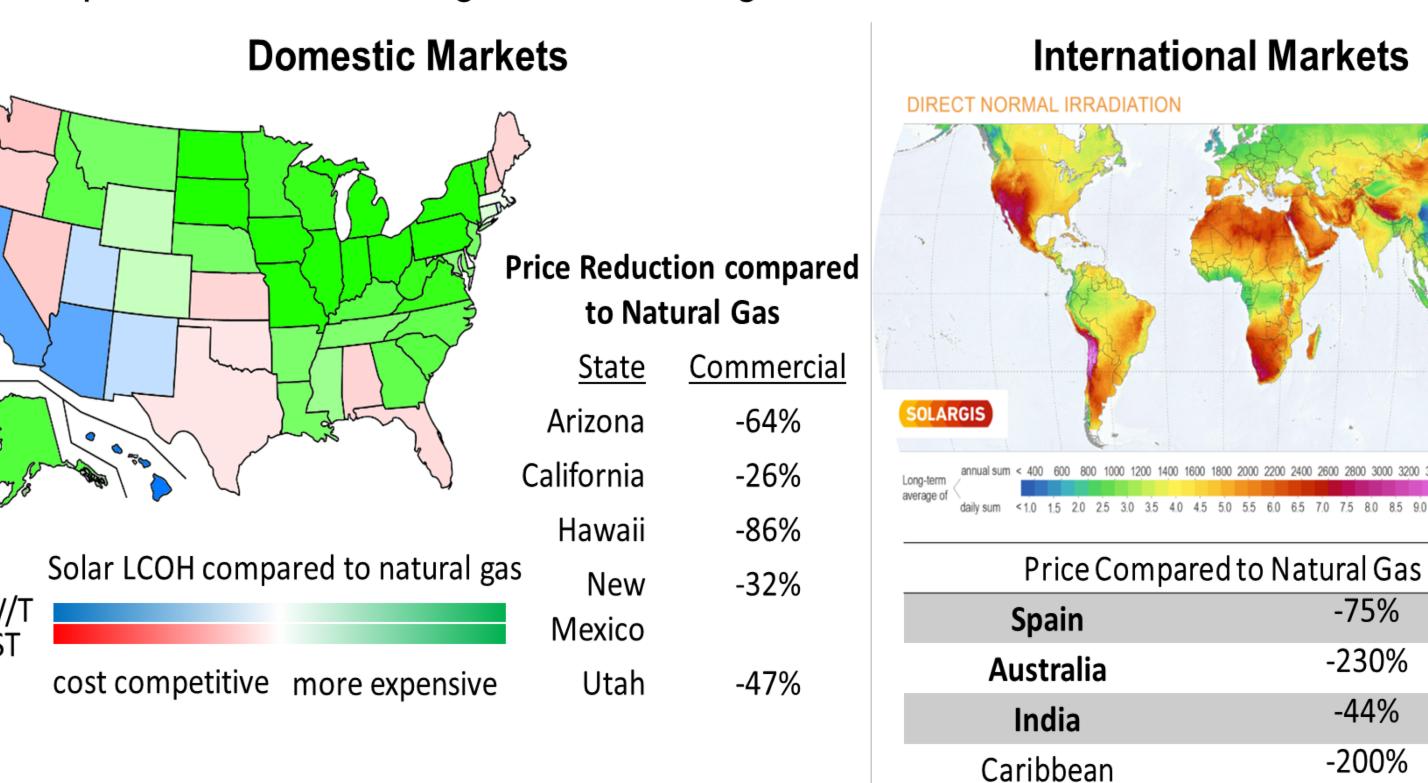


Infrared-Transmissive CPV Performance



Market Analysis

- > Target IPH markets: food/chemical processing, agriculture, hospitals, prisons, universities, military bases, data centers, and enhanced oil recovery.
- > Technoeconomic analysis shows thermal-only or hybrid systems are cost competitive with natural gas in select regions.



Ongoing Work

- > Extensive field testing of full-scale CPV/T receiver prototypes, with emphasis on improving efficiency and reliability
- Seeking commercialization partners for pilot scale installations!

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