

Energía Solar Térmica de Concentración

Máster en Energías Renovables y Mercado Energético

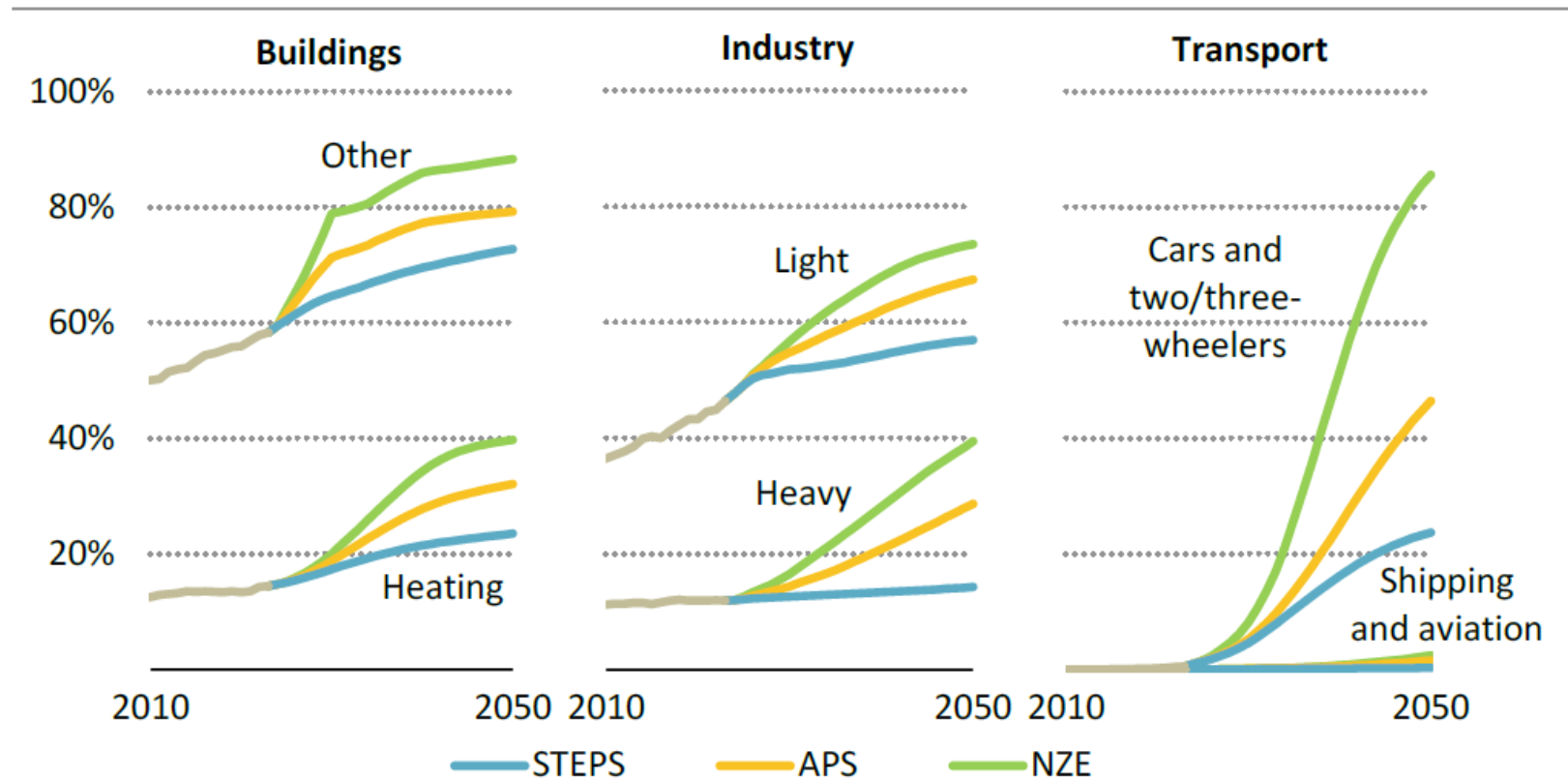
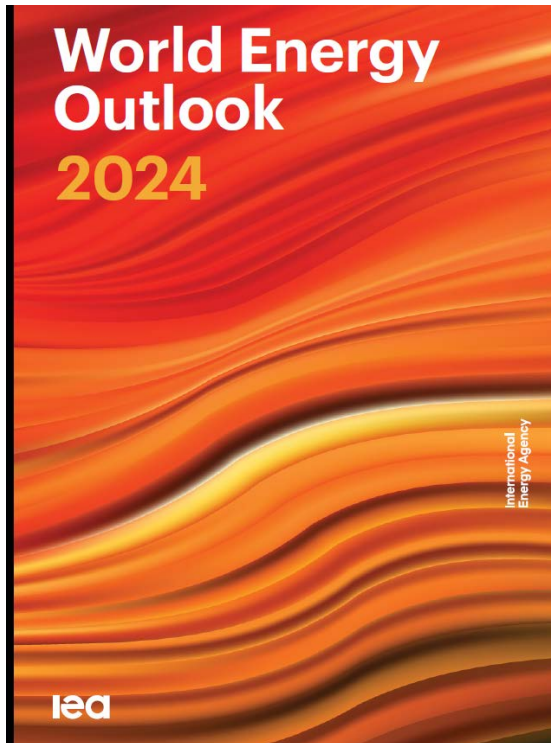
Sesión 13:
Producción combustibles solares. Visita IMDEA Energía

Año de realización: 2024-2025

Manuel Romero Alvarez
IMDEA Energía
Avda. Ramón de la Sagra 3
28935 Móstoles
manuel.romero@imdea.org

The challenge of sectors hard to electrify in the NZE scenario

Share of electricity in total final consumption by end-use sector and scenario, 2010-2050

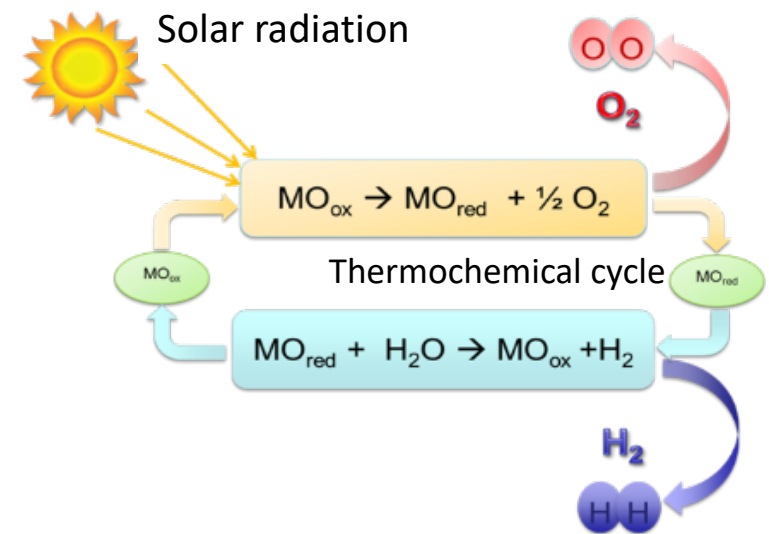
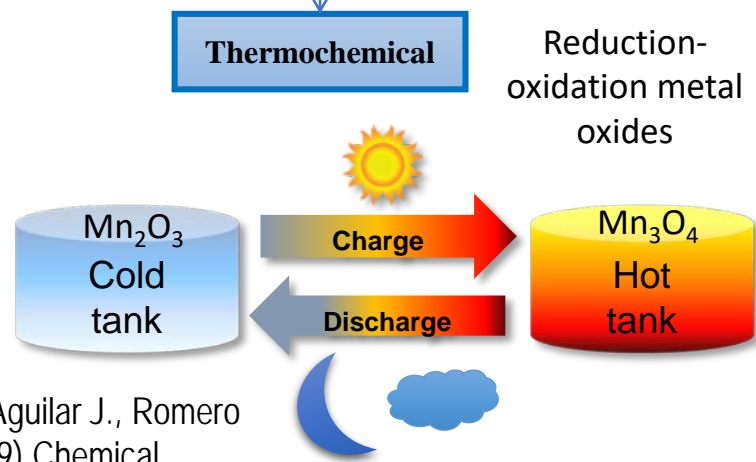
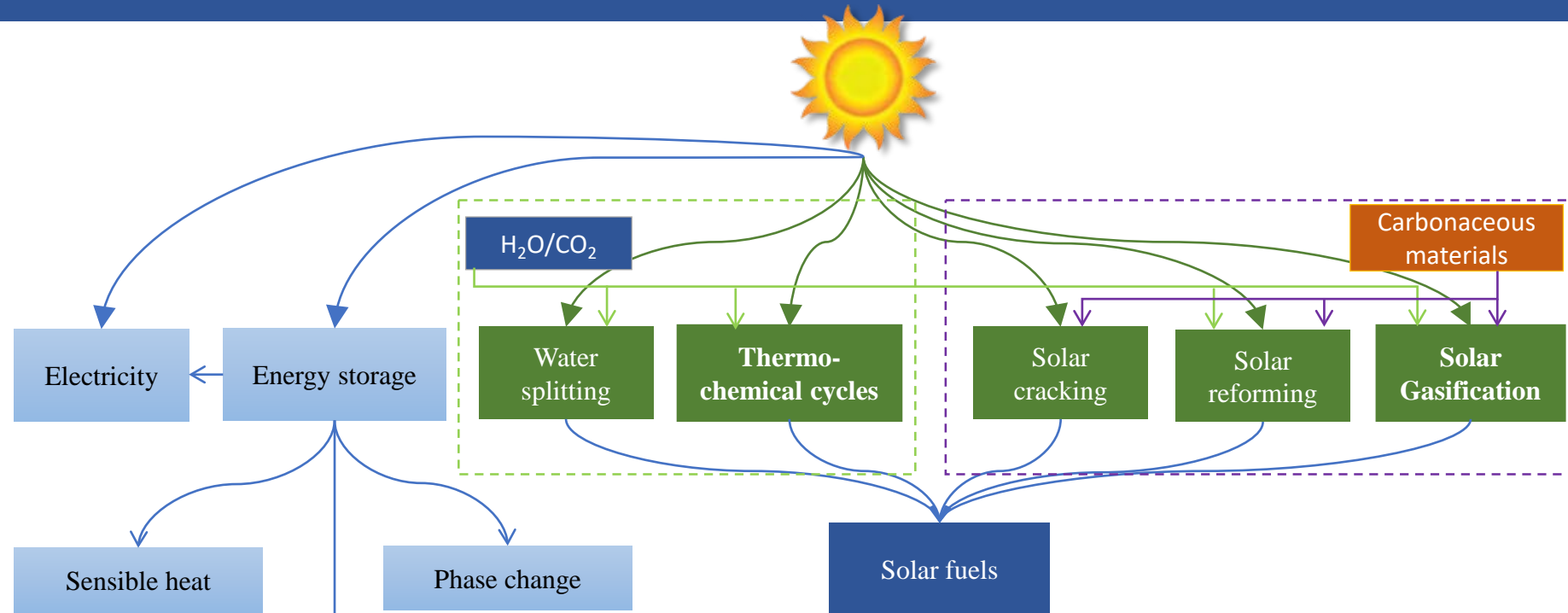


IEA. CC BY 4.0.

<http://www.iea.org/weo>

Stated Policies Scenario (STEPS).
Announced Pledges Scenario (APS)
Net Zero Emissions by 2050 (NZE)

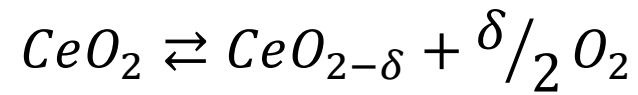
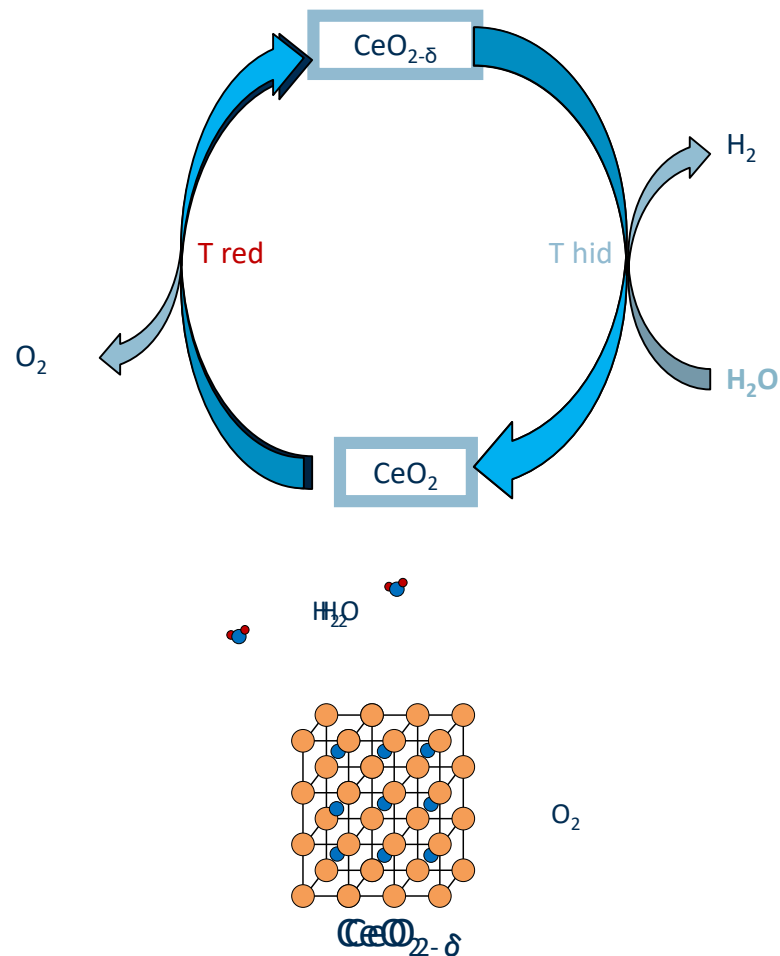
STL: Sun to Liquid Concentrated Solar Radiation



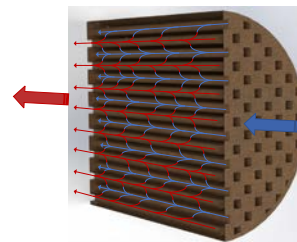
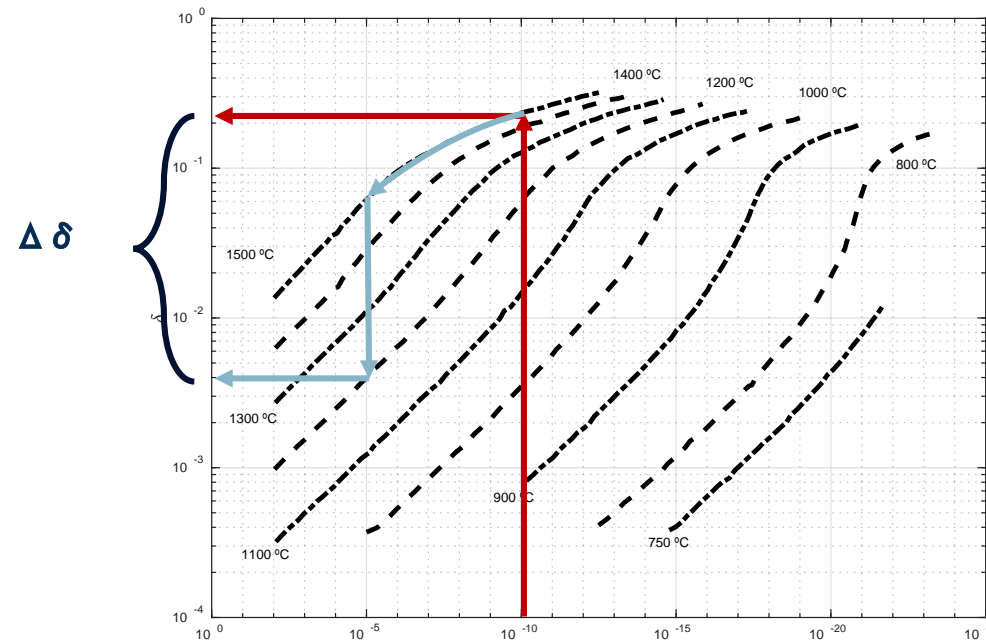
Carrillo A.J., González-Aguilar J., Romero M., Coronado J.M. (2019) Chemical Reviews, 119 (7), pp. 4777 - 4816

J.R. Scheffe, A. Steinfeld, Mater. Today 17 (7) (2014) 341-348 .

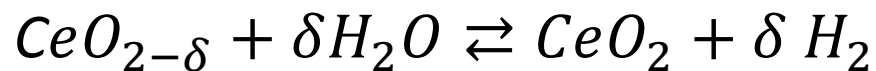
Production of hydrogen with non-stoichiometric metal oxides



$$\delta = \frac{\text{mol vacancies}}{\text{mol } CeO_2}$$

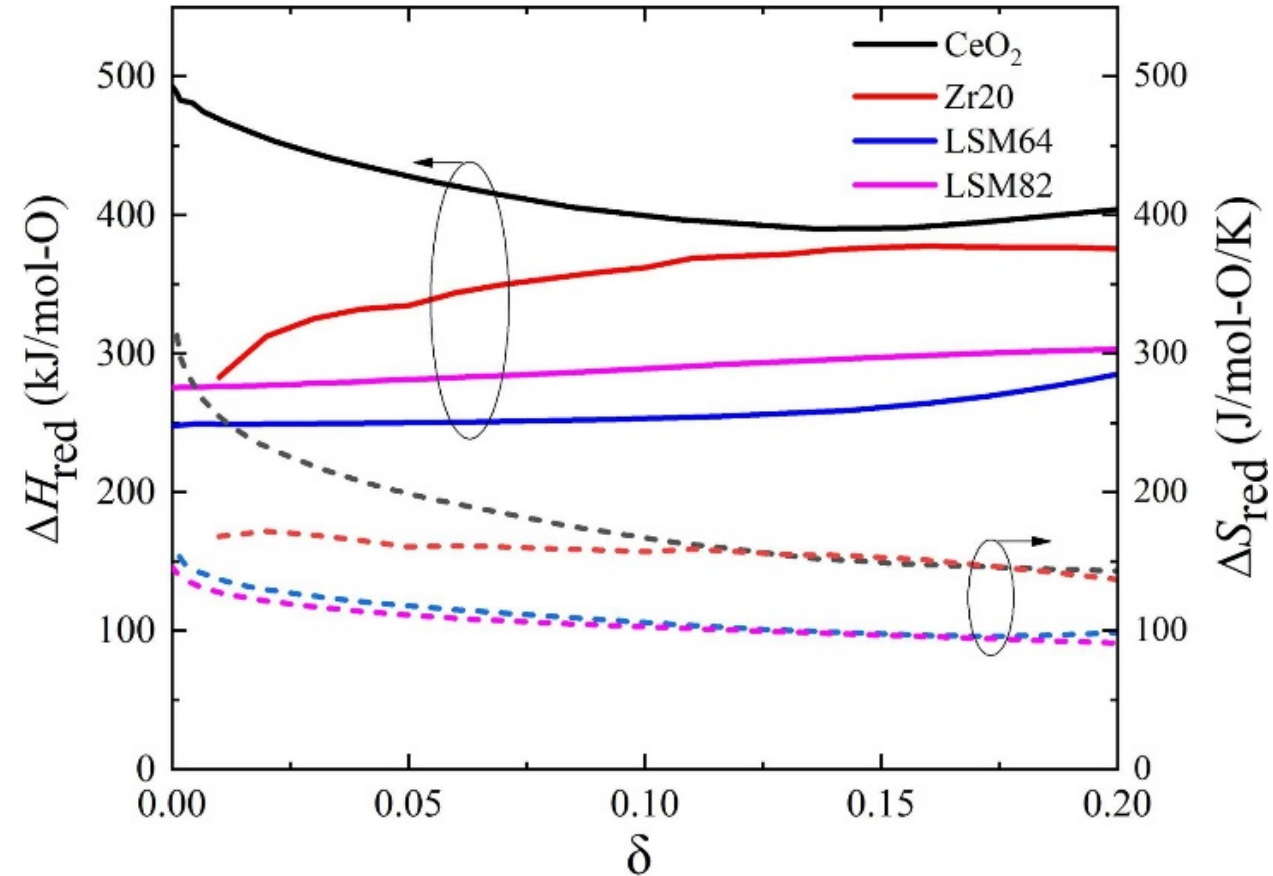
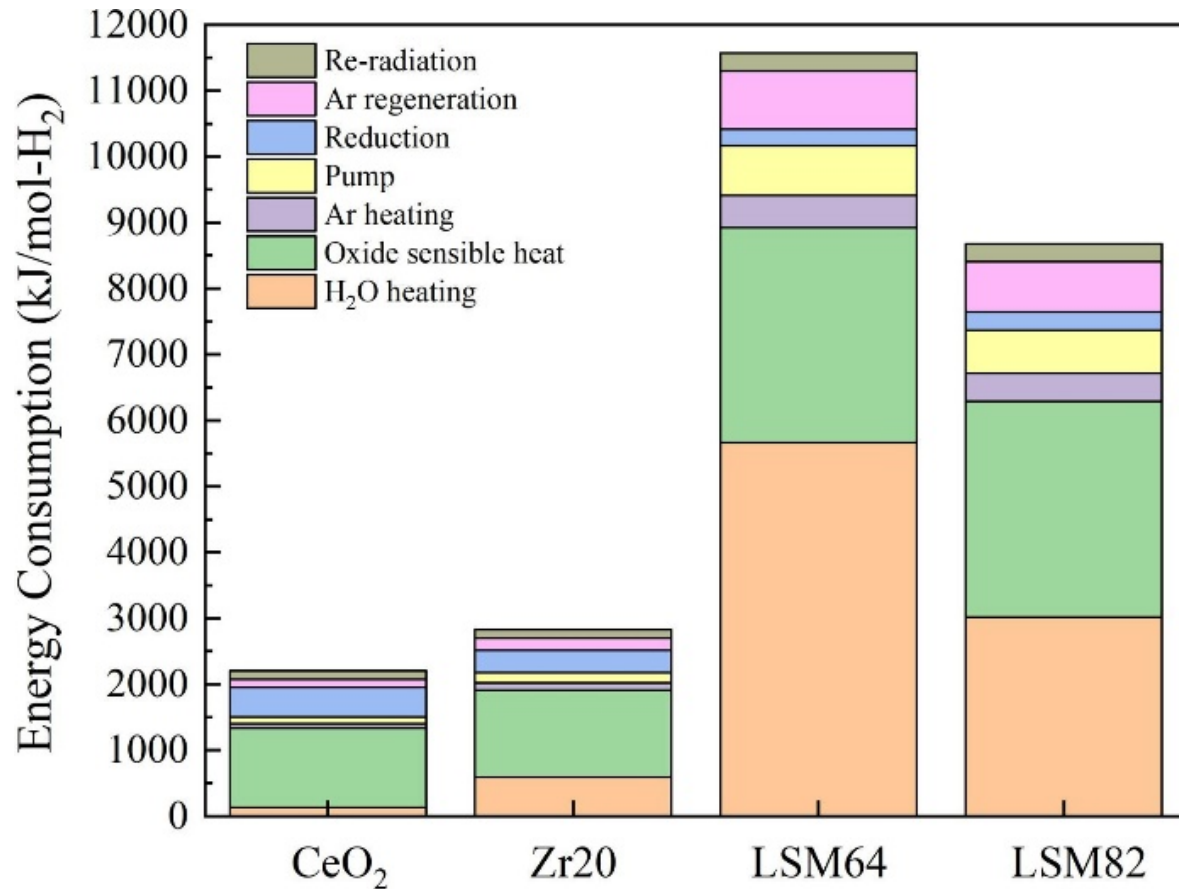


P_{O_2}
[atm]



Panlener, R. J., Blumenthal, R. N. & Garnier, J. E. A thermodynamic study of nonstoichiometric cerium dioxide. *J. Phys. Chem. Solids* 36, 1213–1222 (1975)

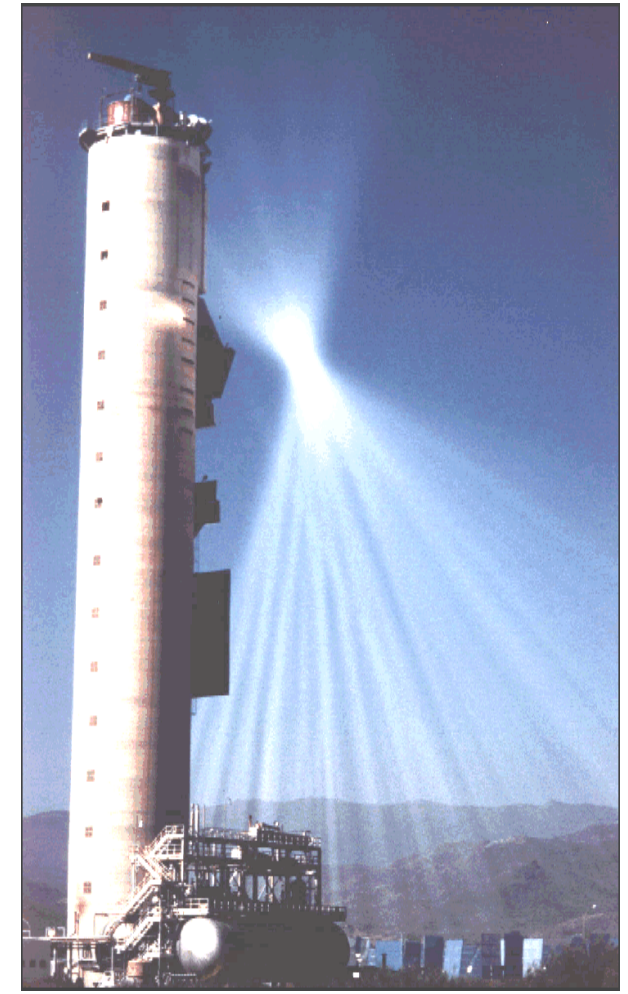
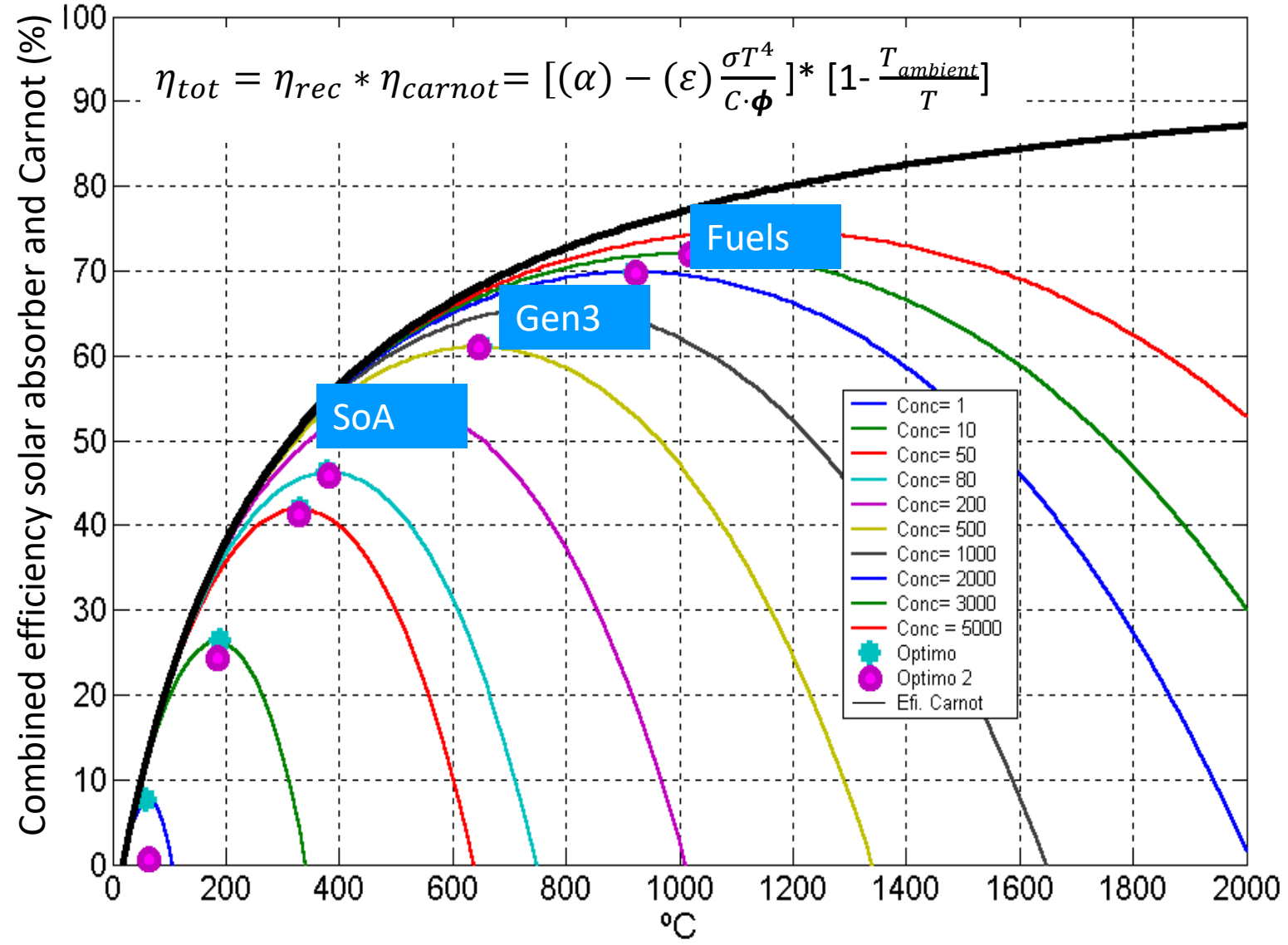
Efficiency under material optimum conditions



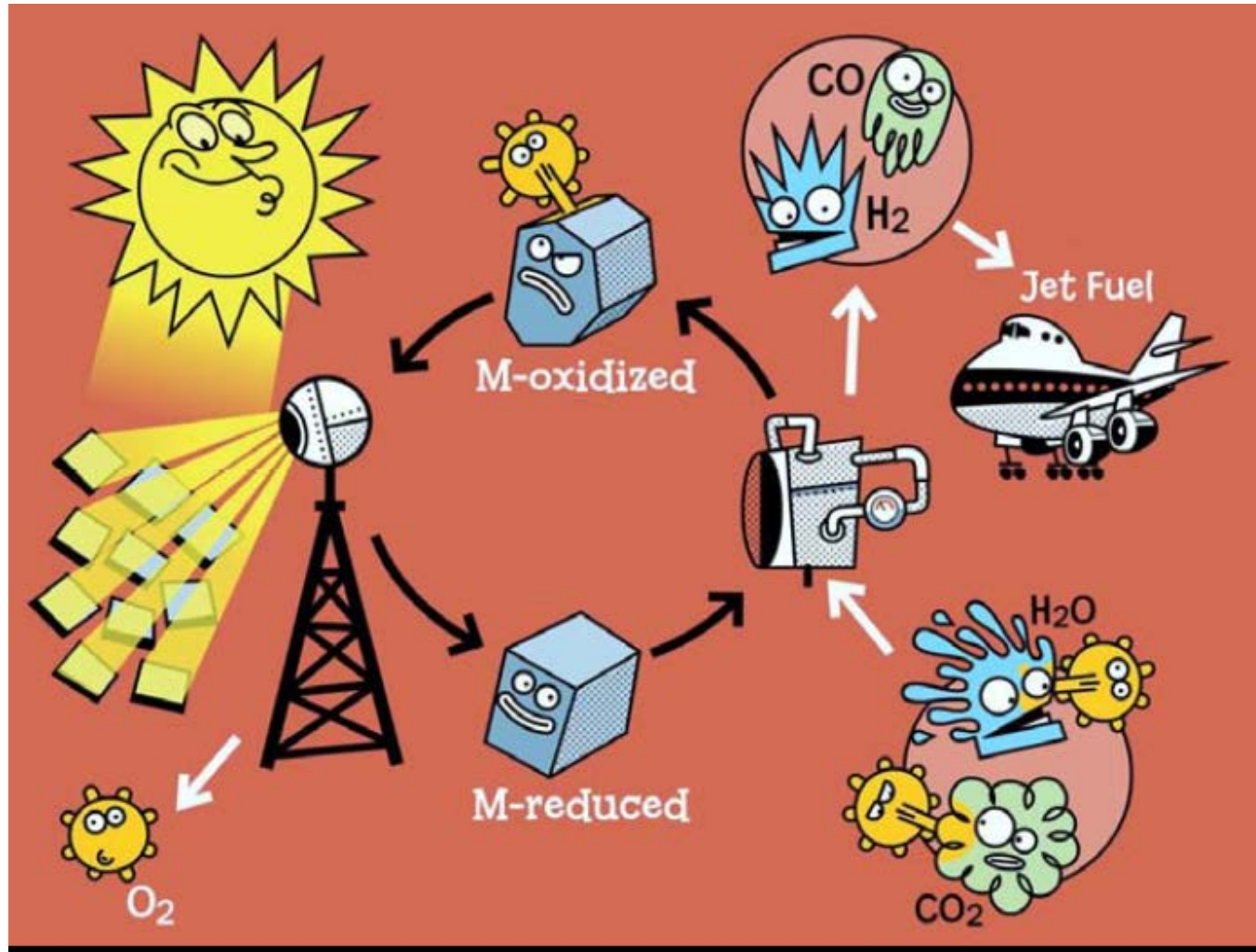
Lou J, Tian Z, Wu Y, Li X, Qian X, Haile S.M., Hao Y, Solar Energy 241 (2022) 504–514

Challenge 1: Solar fuels, beyond SoA of solar towers

$T_{amb}=20^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\phi = 770 \text{ W/m}^2$ and $\alpha=\varepsilon=0.95$



The good coupling of solar tower technology and thermochemical redox reactors



Romero and Steinfeld, Energy Environ. Sci., 2012, 5, 9234



SolarPACES Lifetime Achievement Award, Rome, October 11th, 2024



SUN to LIQUID

Fuels from concentrated sunlight

(2016-2019)



Contact:

Dr. Andreas Sizmann

Tel:

+49 (0)89 307 4849-38

Email:

andreas.sizmann@bauhaus-luftfahrt.net

valentin.batteiger@bauhaus-luftfahrt.net Web: **www.sun-to-liquid.eu**

Address:

Bauhaus Luftfahrt e.V.

Willy-Messerschmitt-Str. 1 82024

Taufkirchen

Germany



A project gathering **7 partners** from **5 European countries**:

ABENGOA



Bauhaus Luftfahrt
Neue Wege.



DLR

**Deutsches Zentrum
für Luft- und Raumfahrt**
German Aerospace Center

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energy**

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INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

SUN-to-LIQUID

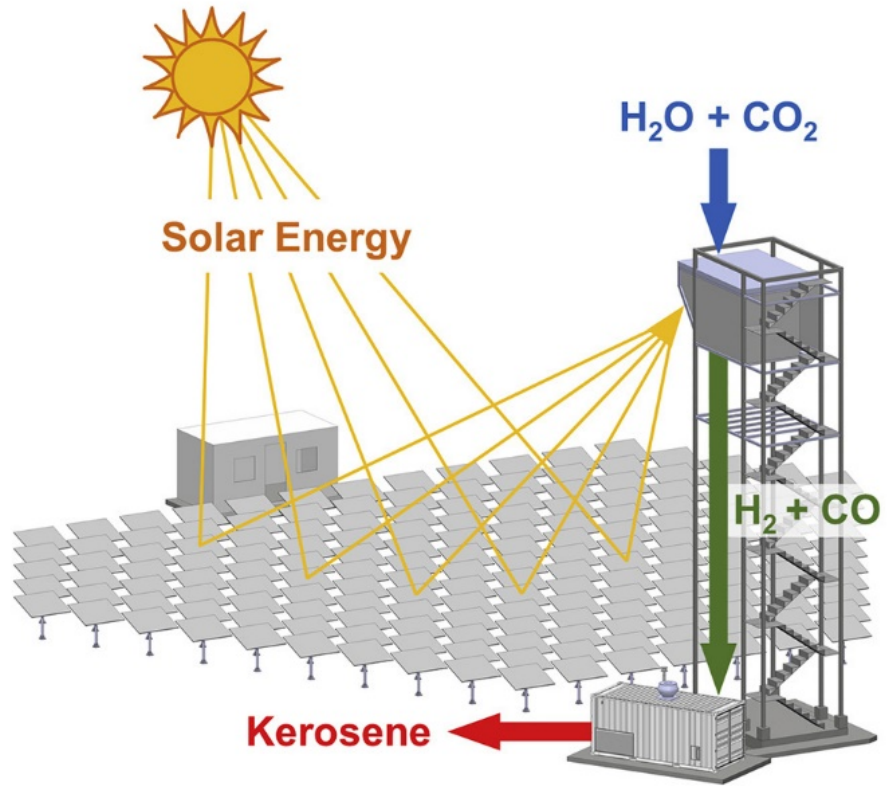
<http://www.sun-to-liquid.eu>

This work was supported by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) under contract number 15.0330



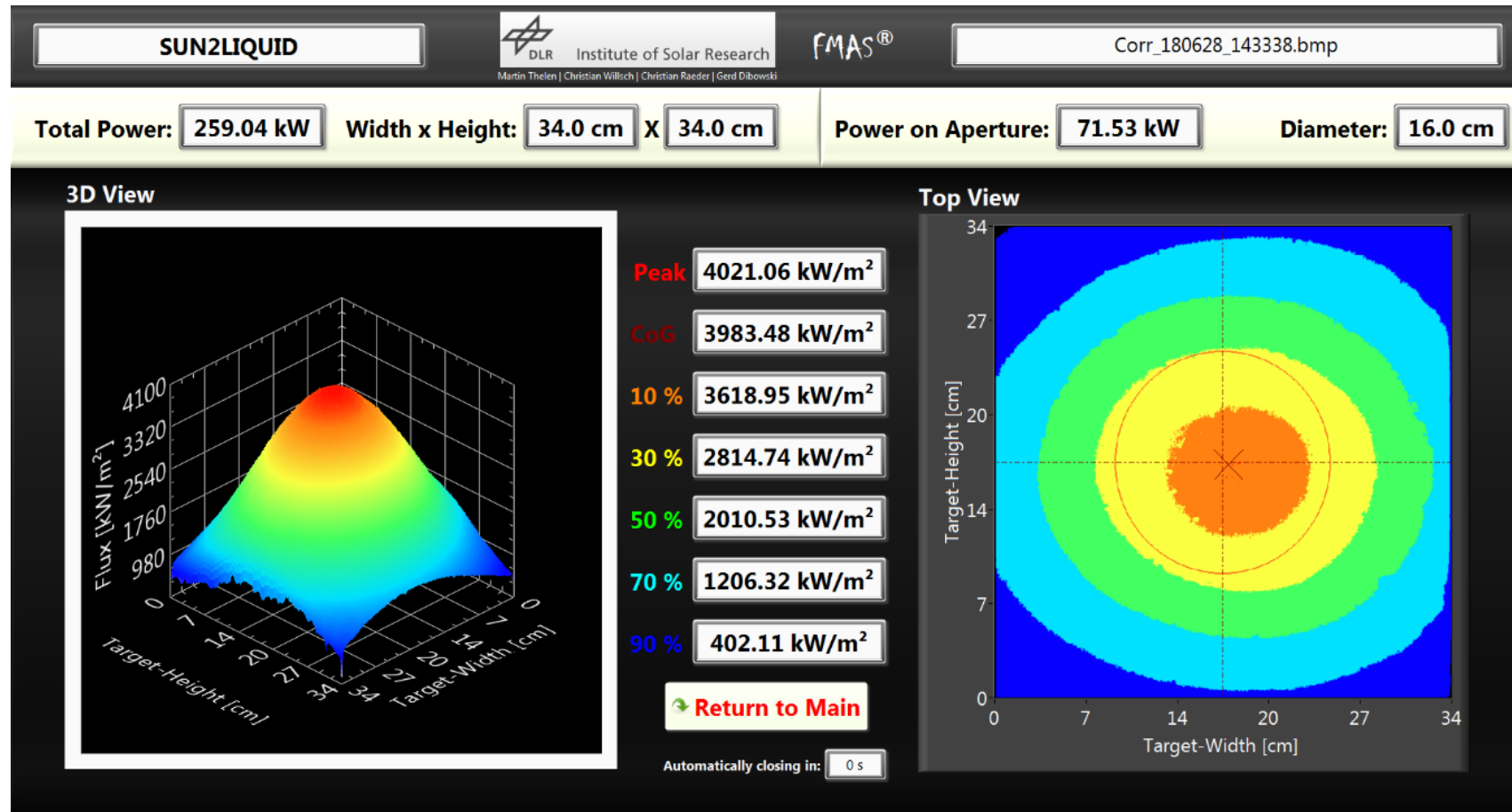
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 654408

Solar field ACES / VHCST

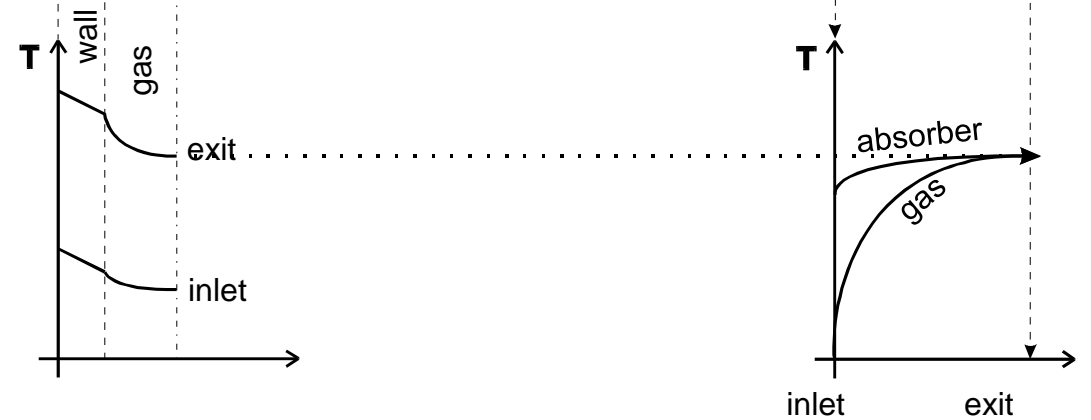
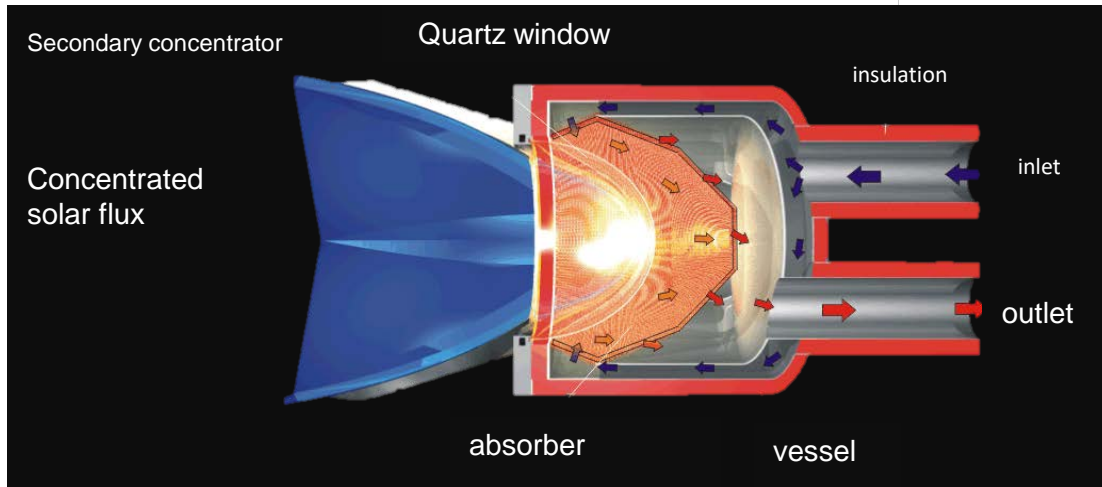
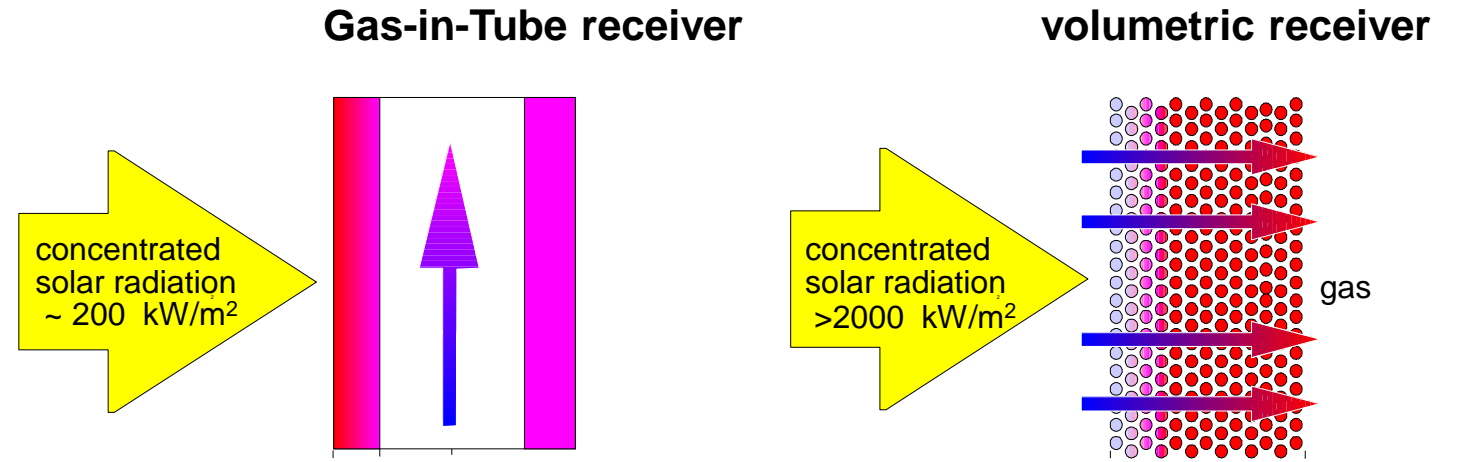
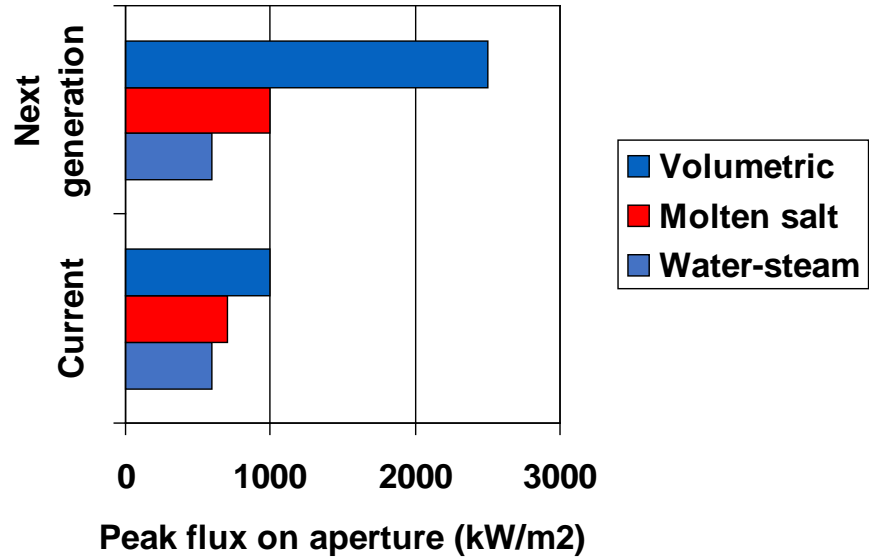


Testing and characterization of high-flux solar concentration system

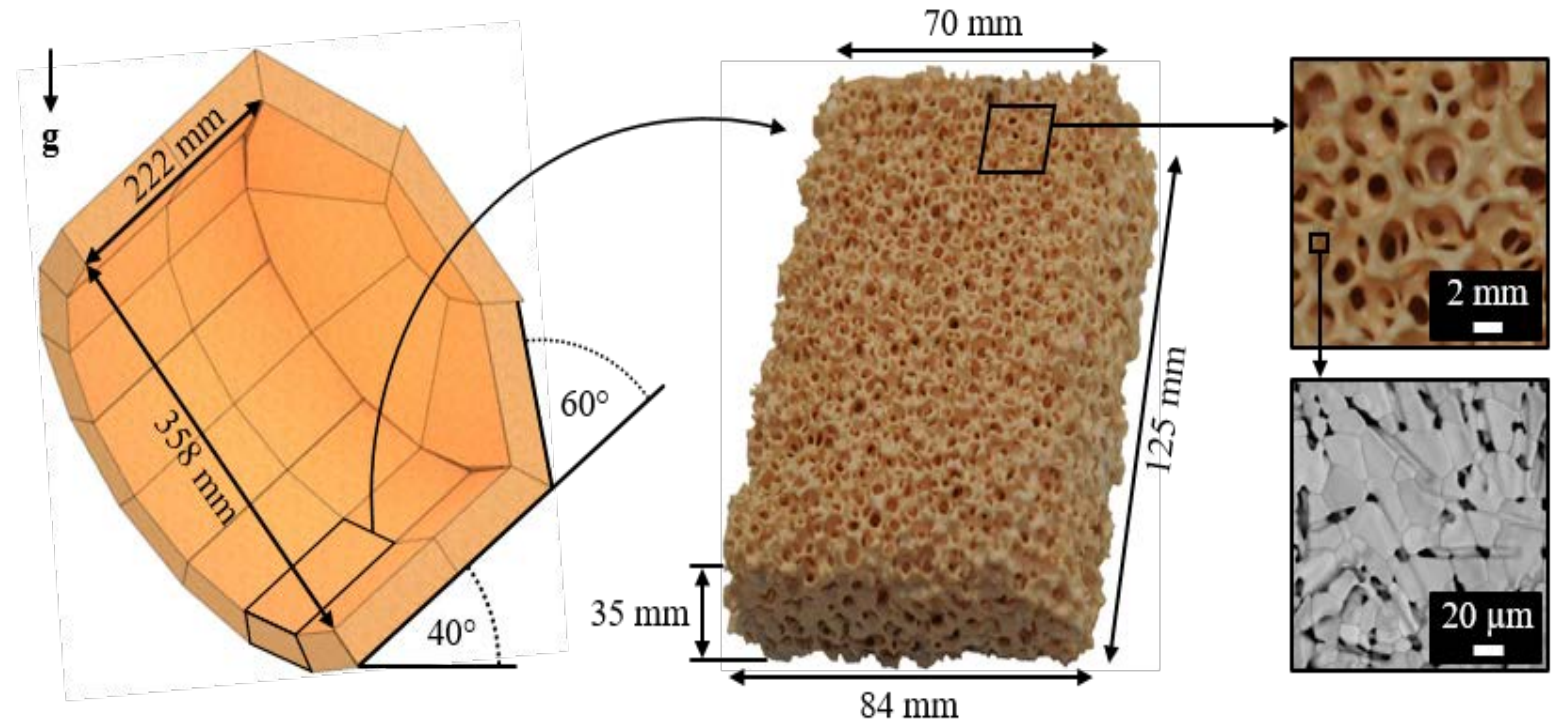
- Highest measured power ever achieved: 71.5 kW onto 16-cm aperture (new calorimeter on site), solar noon on 28th June 2018, for a DNI of 800 W/m²



Fundamentals of a volumetric solar receiver



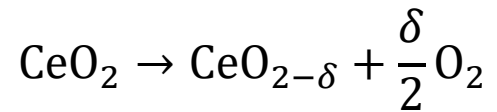
Internal distribution of Ceria RPC bricks



Details on the self-supporting, interlocking ceria structure assembled out of 41 separate RPC bricks, including the center-back keystone. The RPC features dual-scale porosity: millimeter-scale pores made by struts which contain micrometer-scale pores.

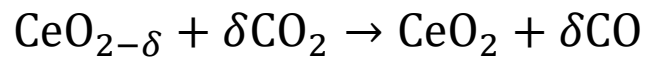
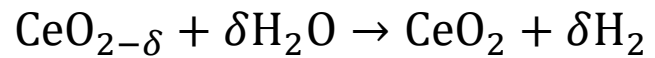
Operation of the Solar Reactor

1st step: Reduction

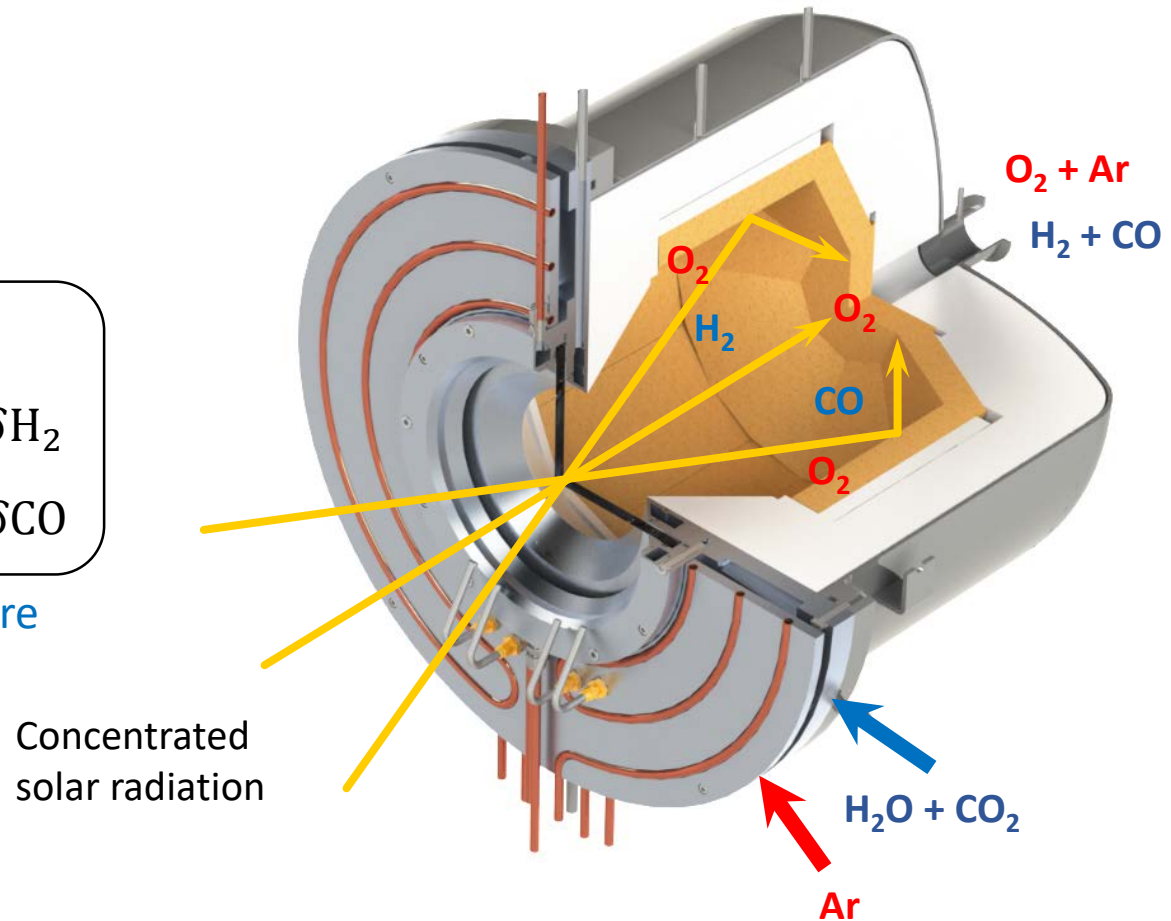


1500 °C, vacuum

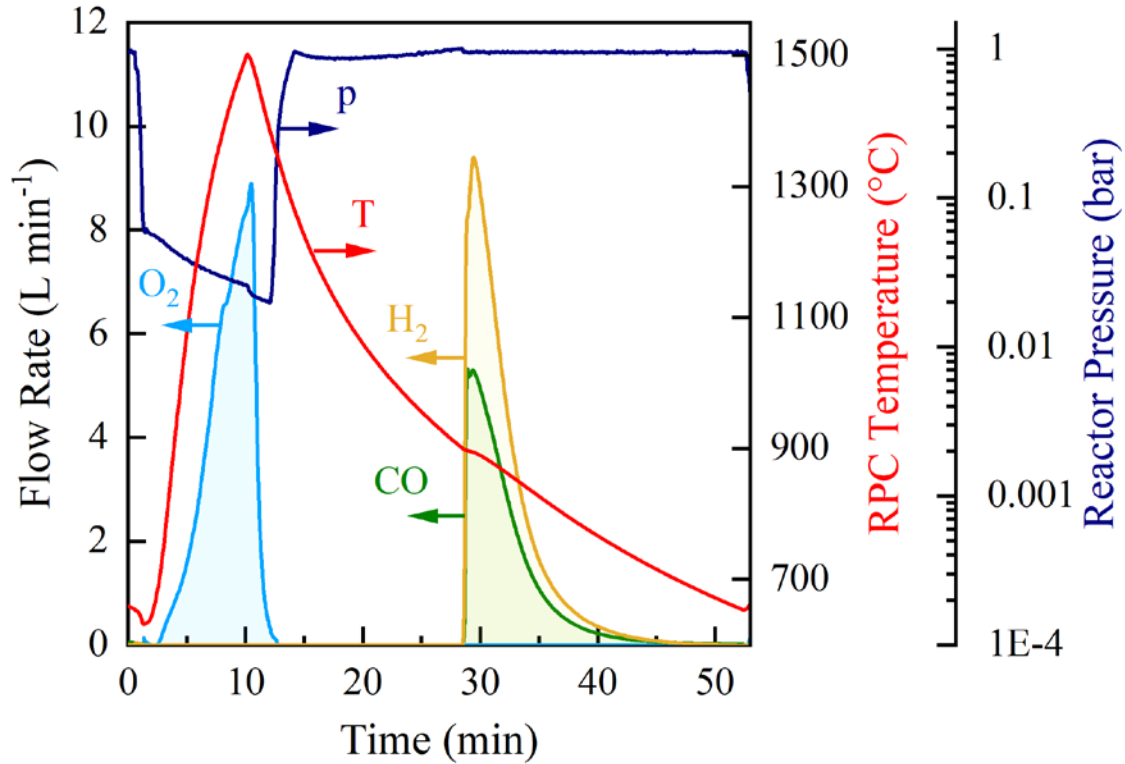
2nd step: Oxidation



900 °C, atmospheric pressure



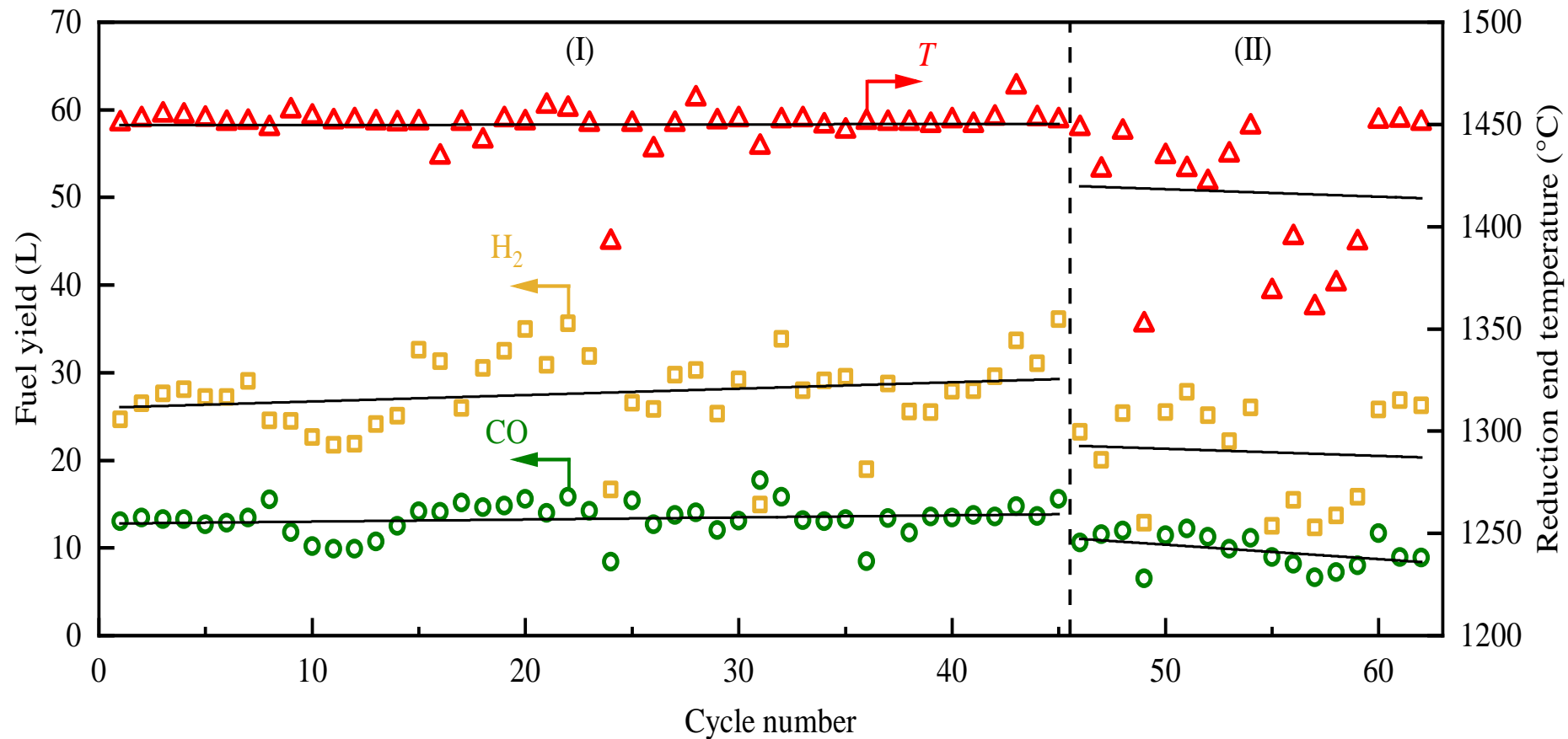
Co-Splitting of H₂O and CO₂ at mean solar flux concentration of 2,500 kW/m²



$$\eta_{\text{solar-to-syngas}} = \frac{q_{\text{syngas}}}{q_{\text{input}}} = \frac{q_{\text{syngas}}}{q_{\text{solar}} + q_{\text{pump}} + q_{\text{inert}}}$$

Variable	Symbol	Value	Unit
Ceria RPC mass	m_{RPC}	18.1	kg
Average solar power input during reduction	P_{solar}	42.0±6.2	kW
Reduction start-end temperature	$T_{\text{reduction,start}}$	632-1502	°C
Oxidation start-end temperature	$T_{\text{oxidation,start}}$	900-654	°C
Ar flow rate during reduction	V_{Ar}	5.0	L min ⁻¹
H ₂ O flow rate during oxidation	$\dot{n}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$	0.033	mol s ⁻¹
CO ₂ flow rate during oxidation	\dot{n}_{CO_2}	0.0074	mol s ⁻¹
Reactor pressure during reduction		26-70	mbar
Reactor pressure during oxidation		atmospheric	
Reduction duration		8.8	min
Duration of cooling-down		18.3	min
Oxidation duration		24.0	min
Cycle duration		51.1	min
Total amount of O ₂ released		36.2±0.7	L
Avg. nonstoichiometry of ceria after reduction	δ	0.031±0.001	
Total amount of H ₂ O produced		48.9±3.9	L
Total amount of CO produced		24.4±2.0	L
Molar ratio H ₂ /CO		2.01±0.35	
Solar-to-syngas energy efficiency	$\eta_{\text{solar-to-syngas}}$	4.1±0.8	%

Total amounts of produced H₂ and CO per cycle for 62 consecutive redox cycles



Nominal ceria RPC temperature at the end of the reduction step and total amounts of produced H₂ and CO per cycle for 62 consecutive redox cycles, yielding 5,191 G 364 L of syngas with a composition 31.8% G 3.2% H₂, 15.2% G 2.4% CO, and 53.0% G 3.6% CO₂ (H₂O condensed).

Zoller S., Koepf E., Nizamian D., Stephan M., Patané A., Haueter Ph., Romero M., Gonzalez-Aguilar J., Lieftink D., de Wit E., Brendelberger S., Sizmann A., Steinfeld A. *Joule* 6, 1606–1616, July 20, 2022

Specific test validation





SUNtoLIQUID II

FUELS FROM CONCENTRATED SUNLIGHT

(2023-2027)


Efficient solar thermochemical synthesis of liquid hydrocarbon fuels using tailored porous-structured materials and heat recuperation

HORIZON-CL5-2022-D3-03-07 - Development of algal and renewable fuels of non-biological origin



Grant Agreement number	101122206
Project acronym	SUN-to-LIQUID II
Project title	SUNlight-to-LIQUID – Efficient solar thermochemical synthesis of liquid hydrocarbon fuels using tailored porous-structured materials and heat recuperation
Type of action	Research and Innovation (RIA)
Start date of the project	01/11/2023
Duration	48 months
Coordinator	Dr Andreas Sizmann (Bauhaus Luftfahrt)
Contact	contact@sun-to-liquid-2.eu
Link to Cordis	https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101122206
Link to Press release	Press release
Link to previous project	https://www.sun-to-liquid.eu/

Project funded by

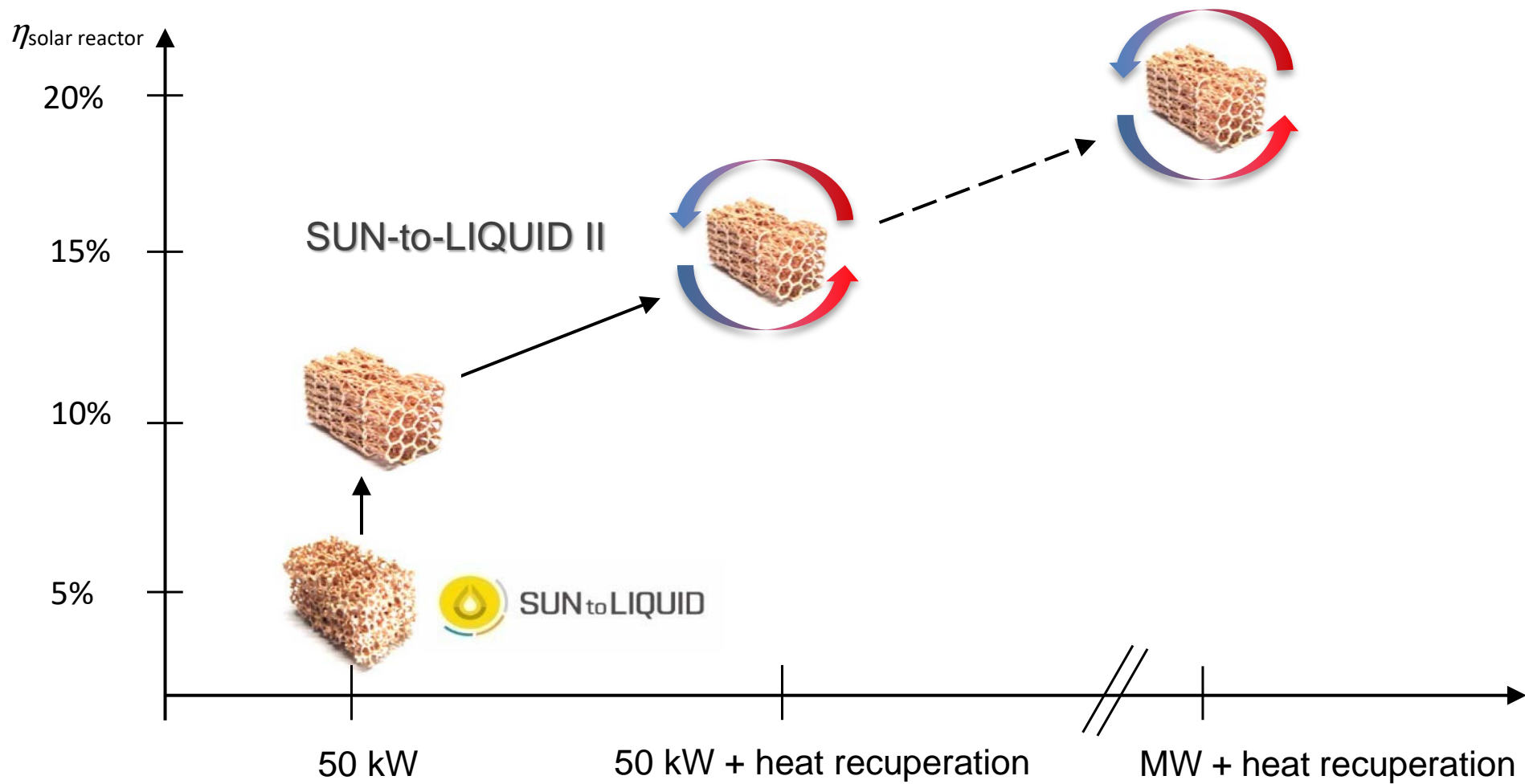
 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération Suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confedraziun svizra
Swiss confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education,
Research and innovation SERI

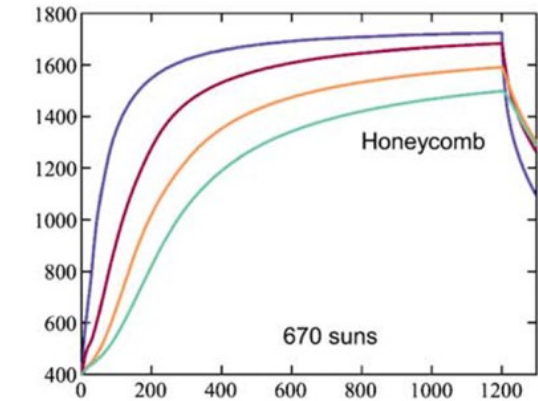
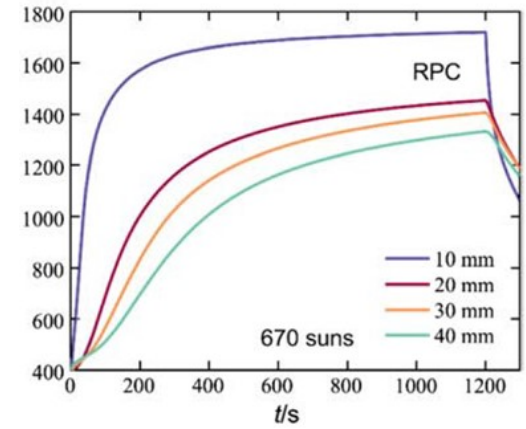
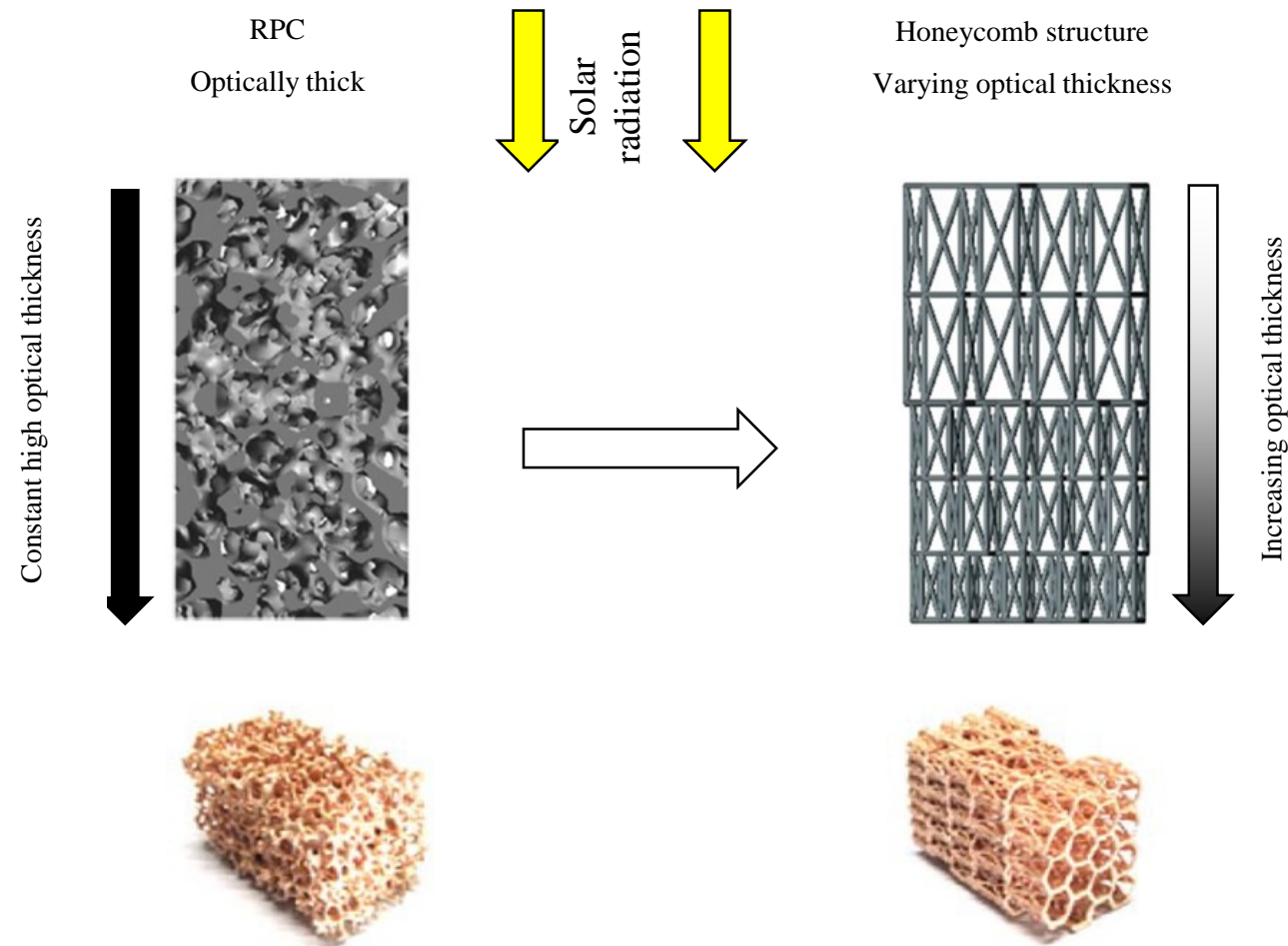


Funded by
the European Union

Ambition



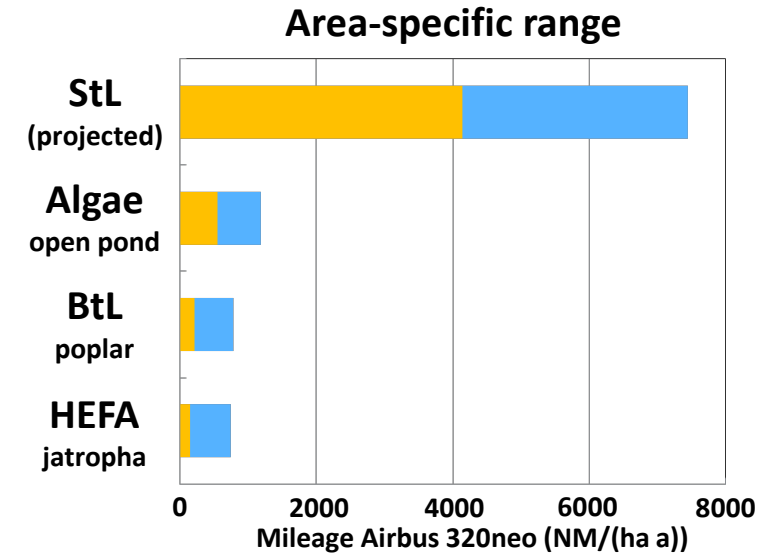
Outlook: Ceria ordered structures



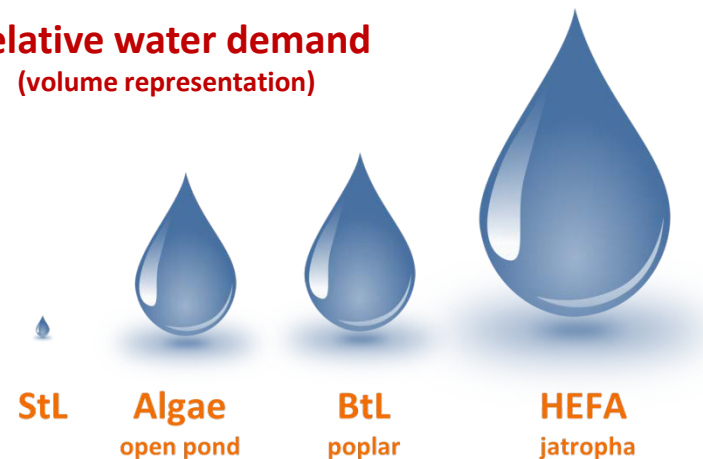
- *M. Hoes, S. Ackermann, D. Theiler, P. Furler, A. Steinfeld, 2019, 1900484.*
- *S. Sas Brunser, F.L. Bargardi, R. Libanori, N. Kaufmann, H. Braun, A. Steinfeld, A.R. Studart. Adv. Mater. Interfaces 2023, 2300452*

Perspectives: Resource Efficiency

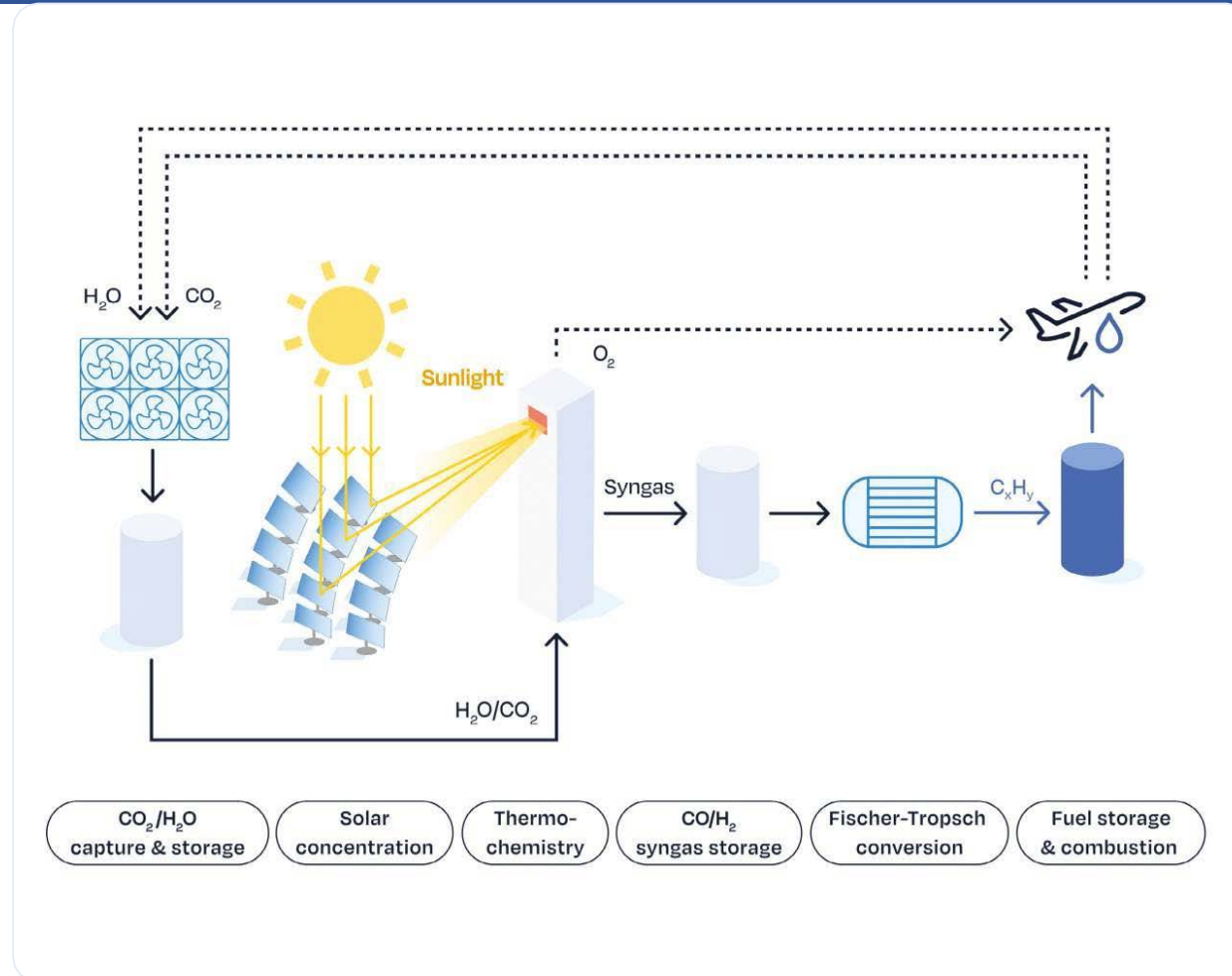
- Use of biofuels is controversial
 - Biofuels are available (TRL 9) and approved for civil aviation (e.g. FT-SPK, HEFA, AtJ)
 - Controversial environmental performance
 - Relatively low area specific yield
 - High water demand
 - Limited GHG reduction potential (LUC)
- Solar fuel production from H₂O and CO₂
 - Large GHG reduction potential
 - Resource efficiency: High yield, no arable land required, very low water consumption
 - Complementary production to biofuels



Relative water demand
(volume representation)



Thank you for your attention!



Results presented originating from educational cooperation between Dr. Manuel Romero and Dr. José González-Aguilar, IMDEA Energía and Prof. Steinfeld's PREC-ETHZ and from partnerships at H2020 EU project Sun-to-Liquid (EU GA 654408), HE Sun to Liquid II (EU GA 101122206) and Swiss SERI.