Distributed Solar Power for India: Suitability and Challenges

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Growing Energy Aspirations of India

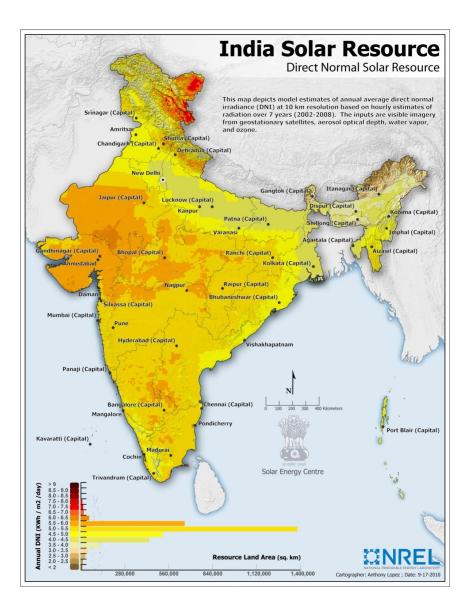
- Energy Policy Objectives:
 - Increase generation ~ 3 times by 2020
 - Energy access to all
 - Reduce CO2 intensity to GDP by 20-25%

 How can we achieve these often conflicting objectives?

ENERGY RESOURCE CRUNCH

Source	Reserves	Longevity	Comments		
Coal	109,798 MT (proven)	~ 50 years	High ash content and low calorific value. Production unable to meet demand. Imports growing		
0i1	757 MT	$^{\sim}$ 5 - 10 years	Domestic production stagnated		
Gas	1241 BCM	$^{\sim}$ 20 years	Priority for fertilizer sector		
Hydro	148 GW	NA	Ecological concerns Most of potential is in North Eastern parts		
Nuclear	70,000 ton U	40 years with Uranium			
Shortage of energy resources					
Opportunity for solar & wind					

OPPORTUNITY FOR SOLAR POWER



SOLAR RESOURCE IN INDIA

- Approximately 650,000 km²
 receives DNI > 5.5
 kWh/m²/day
- Even 1% of this $^{\sim}$ 80,000 MW

Easier said than done!

* Ref: Waste Land Atlas of India, Ministry of Rural

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU NATIONAL SOLAR MISSION (JNNSM)

Part of National Action Plan for Climate Change (2010)

<u>Targets</u>: (Deployment + Cost)

- ✤ Grid Connected
 - 20,000 MW by 2022 (Solar PV & Solar Thermal)
 - Tariffs proposed ~Rs. 15 per kWh
- ✤ Off-grid
 - 2000 MW by 2022
 - 15 million sq. meters solar thermal collector.

Progress under Solar Mission

Very positive response from industry

Agreements signed for 950 MW

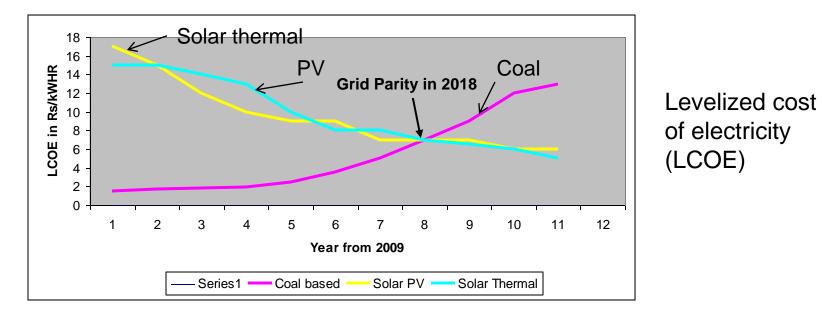
- 480 MW of PV and 470 MW of Solar Thermal
- 140 MW of PV plants commissioned in Rajasthan

Tariffs

- Bidding by solar developers
- Average tariff for PV $^{\sim}$ Rs. 8 per kWh (Half of tariff proposed by regulator!)

Most new projects proposed are in PV! (weaker response for CSP)

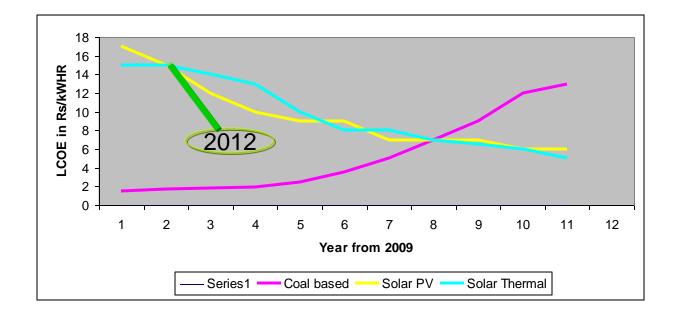
Challenges in Solar Energy Deployment: Grid Parity – a good target to set our goals



	Fossil (coal)	Solar		
Energy Intensity	4000 kCal /kg	1000 W /m2	-	Energy density Is approx 40 times
Efficiency	35-45%	10-40%		
Capital cost	6 Cr /MWe	12-20 Cr /MWe		
LCOE	2-3 Rs /kWhr	9-18 Rs / kWhr		Courtesy: Thermax

Grid Parity: Ultimate Panacea

Capital cost of Solar PV plummeted to Rs. 10 crores/MW!!! LCOE has reduced from 34 \$cents to 19 \$ cents



Steep decrease in PV – almost reaching the peak grid parity How did this non linearity take place?

Is it due to Technological break through?

Self reliance in energy?

Fossil fuel / nuclear: fuel source, environment $\sqrt{}$ Renewable: energy source \times environment (?) technology $\sqrt{}$ materials $\sqrt{}$

manufacturing \checkmark

Indigenous manufacturing vs. imports: c-Si – Import vs. Domestic Costs

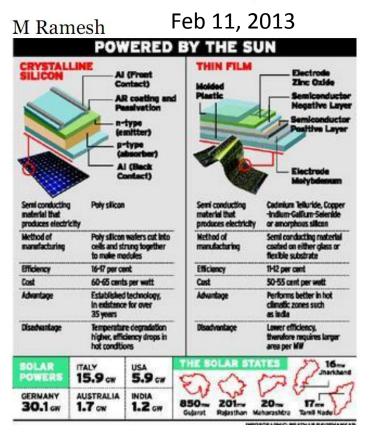
Components	Indian Costs~ (Rs/Wp)	Chinese Costs (Rs/Wp)	US Costs (Rs/Wp)	Indian Indigenous Manufactured Price* (Rs/Wp)
c-Si Cell	23.56^	11.50	12.02	
Glass	2.03	2.81	3.75	
Interconnect Ribbon	1.09^	0.05	1.37	
EVA	1.26^	2.73	2.73	1.37 – 1.64
Backsheet	1.71^	1.56	1.56	2.05 – 2.74
Al Frame	2.08	2.91	3.50	
Sealant	0.07	0.00	0.11	
Junction Box	1.46	0.98	0.98	
0&M#	5	4.58	8.64	
Others [@]	3.74	3.66	6.47	
Total	42	30.78	41.12	





THE MORE HINDU

The solar war heats up



- US complaining against India in the WTO
- Issue over the Indian governments domestic content requirement for solar modules
- First phase of NSM: for crystalline silicon modules. "The NSM projects are importing thin films (mainly from the U.S.)"
- Second phase: extended to Thin Film based modules
- This domestic content requirement was only for projects awarded under the NSM
- "Notably, of the 1,200 MW of capacity in India today, about 850 MW has come under Gujarat's programme" by "importing crystalline silicon modules (mainly from China) "

PV: Highly import dependent

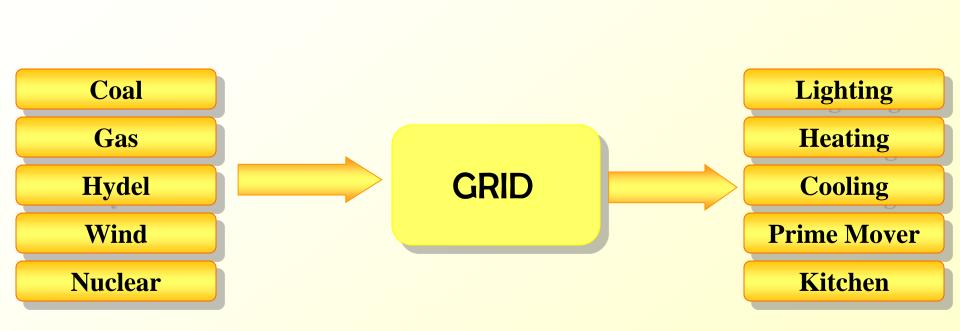
SUSTAINABILITY

- Building India centric technologies ?
- Build what is needed Affordability – Reliability – Sustainability are fully met.
- Make India Global Leader in complete Solar value chain (including manufacturing)
- Innovation

requires a major national effort – need for active involvement of the industry, academia and government

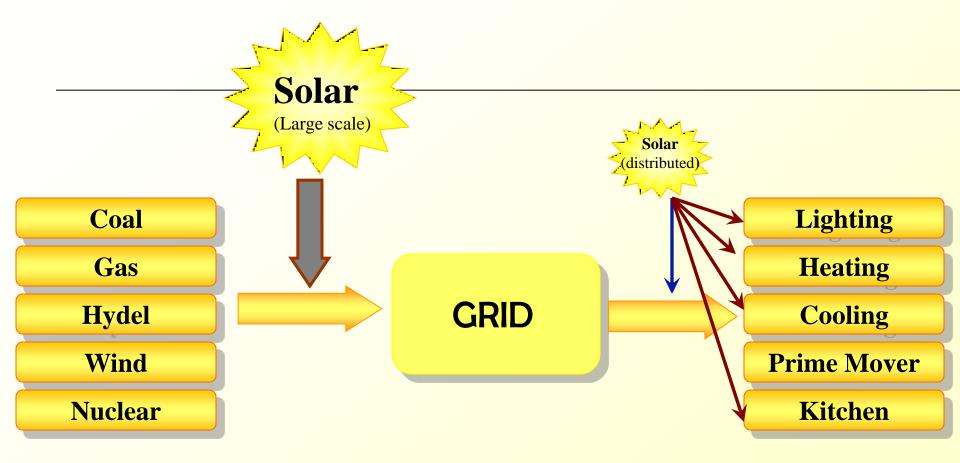
Potential for Solar Thermal ?

Solar in Central and Distributed mode....



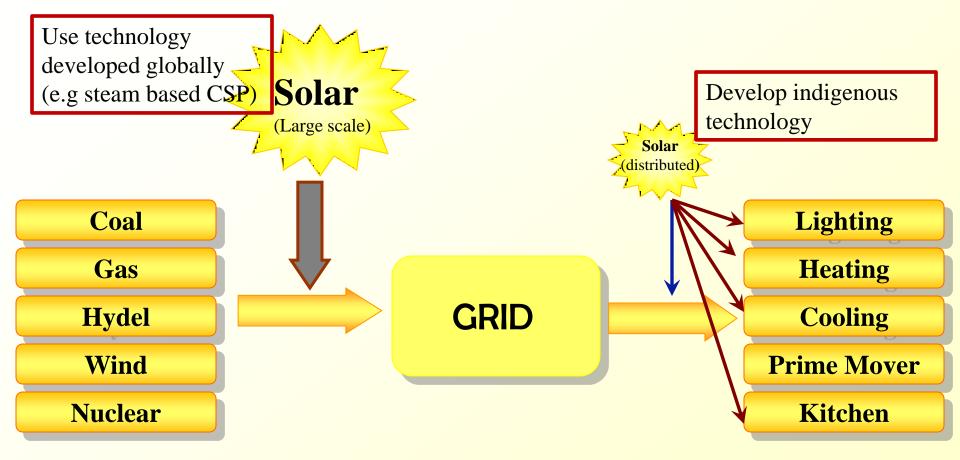
Courtesy: Thermax

Solar in Central and Distributed mode....



Courtesy: Thermax

Solar in Central and Distributed mode....



Courtesy: Thermax

Small scale (distributed) solar thermal plants: *Opportunities and challenges*

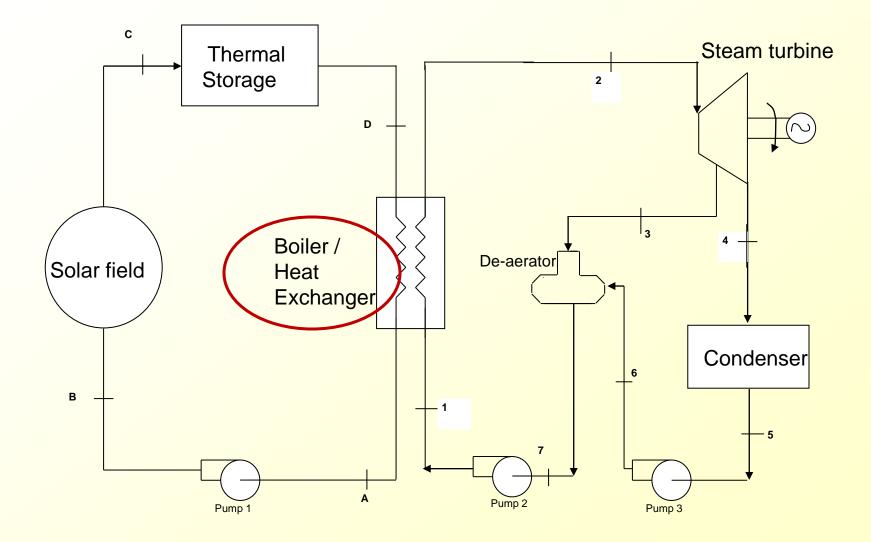
What is concentrating solar power (CSP)?

- Concentrated energy \rightarrow heat up a fluid \rightarrow produce steam \rightarrow activate turbines \rightarrow electricity
- PV : Directly converts sunlight into electricity

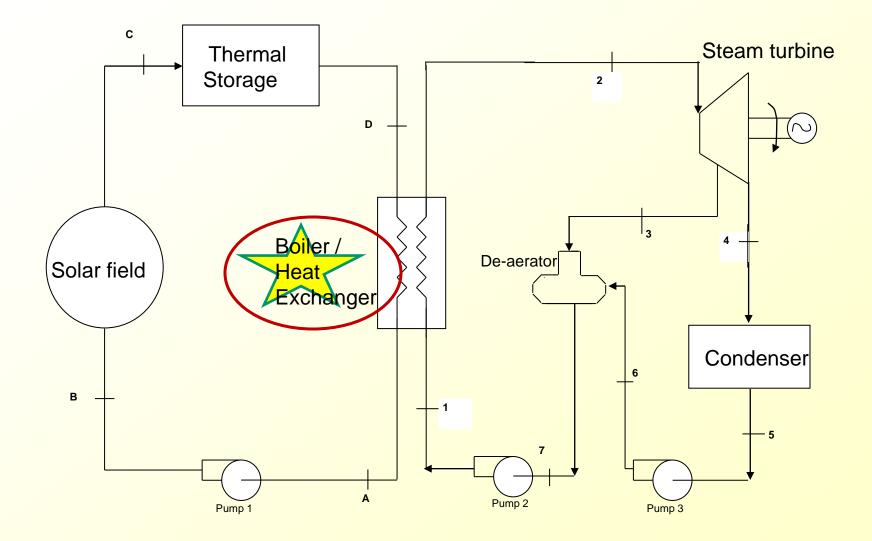
Major advantages of CSP in Indian context

- Higher conversion efficiency
- Possibility of thermal storage, hybridization
- Scalability; grid compatibility
- Easy to establish indigenous manufacturing
- Vast indigenous experience in thermal power technology

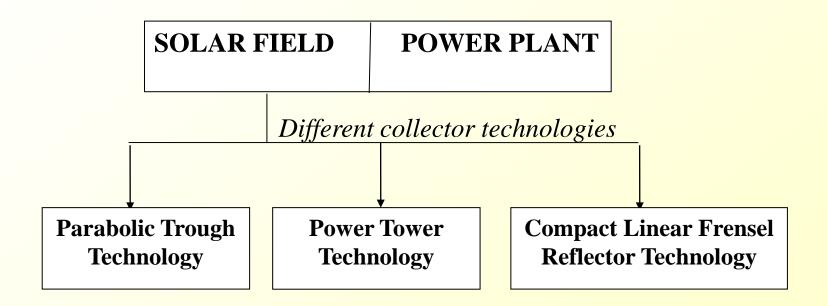
Conventional Steam based Solar Thermal Plant



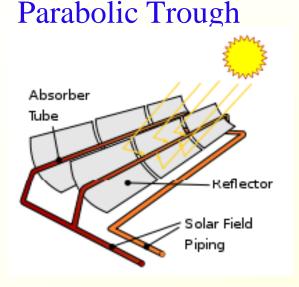
Conventional Steam based Solar Thermal Plant



Main components of a CSP plant



Present Collector Technology Options



Solar Tower



Fresnel System



Collector technology fairly mature Large scale plants (50 MW+) existing

POTENTIAL FOR OFF GRID SOLAR POWER

- Utility scale power plants require resource good DNI, large tracts of flat land and water
 - Potential problems in India
- ~10 % of villages un-electrified and supply poor

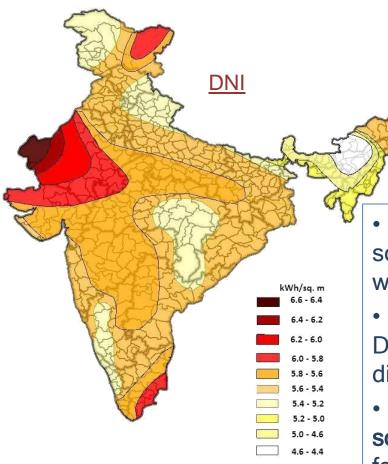
- Need to develop efficient, cost effective small scale (< 1 MW) solar power plants for village applications:
 - Dispatch with use of storage
 - Hybridization with Biomass/Natural gas
 - Include **polygeneration** (cooling, process heat, water desalination)

Steam based CSP for distributed power?

Major challenges:

- 1) Viable for large scale only (> 50 MW)
- 2)Water intensive
- 3)Large blocks of land difficult to acquire (socio-economic issues)
- 4)Viable only for high temperature (>400 C), cannot easily handle source temperature fluctuation

Resources for Concentrating Solar Power (CSP): Indian Scenario



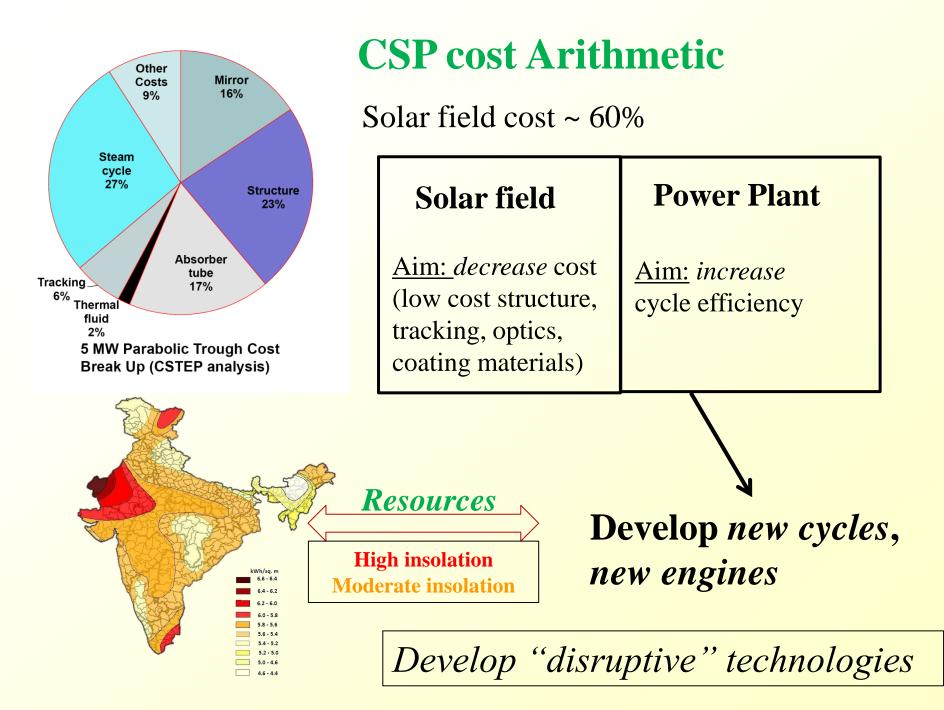
- •Waste Land with high solar insolation (1,96,738 Sq. km)
- •Water requirement: 18,500 m³/MW/yr
- •Grid Connectivity
- •Typical Land Requirement:
 - 5-6 acres/MW

• Conventional Steam based CSP viable for large scale only, high DNI (high operating Temperature), water intensive

 Large part of India, having moderate / reduced DNI (presence of aerosol); Large tracts of land difficult to obtain

• Need for high efficiency, distributed (small scale) CSP requiring small land area, waterless and for moderate operating temperature (low DNI)

• Steam based CSP not viable; High Efficiency Brayton, Organic Rankine cycle (ORC) are potential solutions



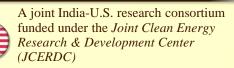
Technology innovations chosen in distributed CSP

Track 1: Supercritical CO₂ Brayton cycle: >50% cycle efficiency even at 700°C receiver temperature Track 2: Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) systems (25 kW -1 MW) Challenge: scale down penalty

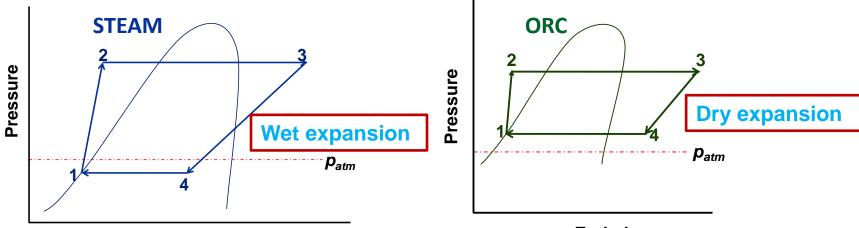
Note:

- No aim to build demonstration plants.
- Identify the major *technology gaps;* and *develop projects* to address those gaps.





Conventional steam vs ORC



Enthalpy

Enthalpy

Parameter	Steam	ORC		
Operating temperature range (°C)	400-600	100-350		
Operating pressure range (bar)	0.01-200	1-100		
Typical Capacity	~10 -100 MW	~0.1 to 1 MW		
Turbine exhaust	Wet expansion	Dry expansion		
Scale down penalty	Low isentropic efficiency of turbine at small scales	Turbine isentropic efficiency > 80 % possible at small scales		
Water requirement	Make up water for cooling tower	Water-less plant possible		

ORC based CSP plants ideal for Indian conditions (high efficiency at small scales, low T, waterless,)

ORC Working fluids

Fluid	Formula/ name	MW [kg/mol]	T _{crit} [°C]	P crit [bar]	BP [°C]	E _{evap} [kJ/kg]
Water	H20	0.018	373.95	220.64	100.0	2257.5
Toluene	C7H8	0.092	318.65	41.06	110.7	365.0
R245fa	C3H3F5	0.134	154.05	36.40	14.8	195.6
n-pentane	C5H12	0.072	196.55	33.68	36.2	361.8
cyclopentane	C5H10	0.070	238.55	45.10	49.4	391.7
Solkatherm	solkatherm	0.185	177.55	28.49	35.5	138.1
OMTS	MDM	0.237	290.98	14.15	152.7	153.0
HMDS	MM	0.162	245.51	19.51	100.4	195.8

ORC Challenges and scope for innovation

- At 1 MW level, turbine isentropic efficiency is quite high (~75-80%)
- Efficiency drops at lower scales (25-100 kW level)
- Need to develop *high efficiency small scale* expanders (e.g. positive displacement expander)
- High temp. fluids are generally **flammable** (e.g. toluene)
- Non-flammable R245fa: low operating temp (low efficiency)
- Address flammability issues for high temp. fluids
- Storage, hybridization, polygeneration (e.g. solar cooling)

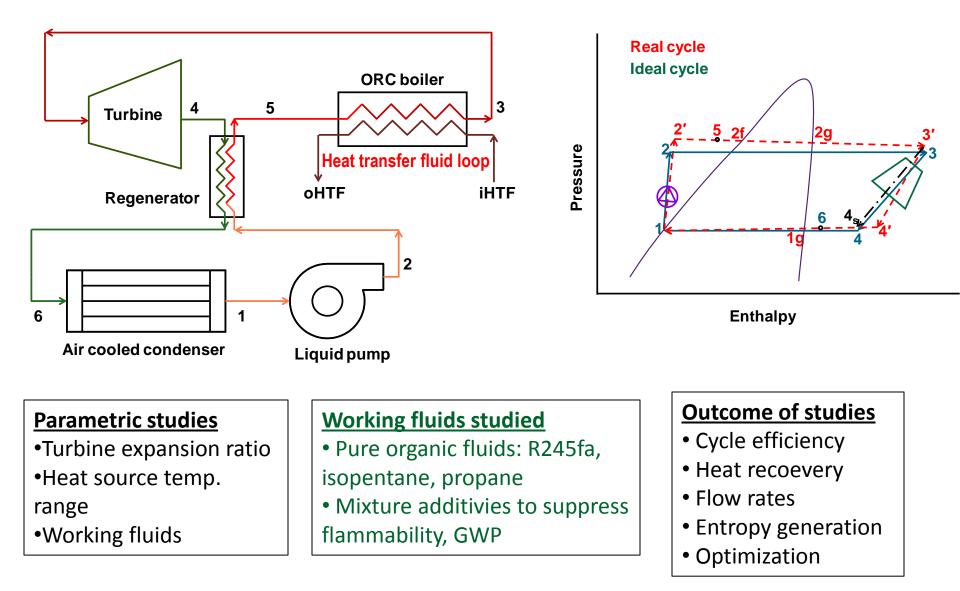
High temp. working fluid; high η small scale expander

Issues with ORC fluids

- Properties for ideal ORC fluid for solar themal:
 - Low GWP and zero ODP
 - Non-toxic, non-flammable
 - High operating T (~ 300°C, for high cycle efficiency)
- Problems with common/available ORC fluids
 - R-245fa (high GWP, low operating temperature 150°C)
 - Isopentane (flammable , operating temperature < 200°C)
 - Toluene (flammable, a little toxic, condenser pressure < 1 bar)

Can we create **mixtures of ORC** fluids addressing the above issues?

Thermodynamic Analysis of ORC based CSP



Non-Flammable Mixtures studied

Isopentane + R-245fa (70/30 by mole fraction):

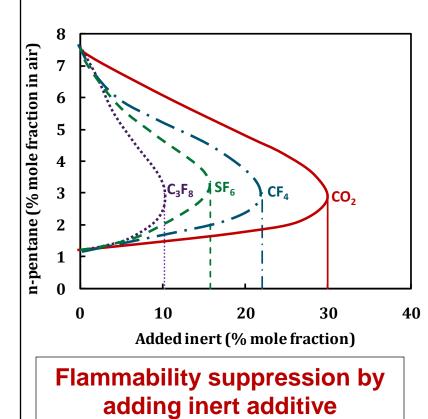
- Non flammable
- Good efficiency, but still low operating Temp.

Isopentane + CO2 (70/30 by mole fraction):

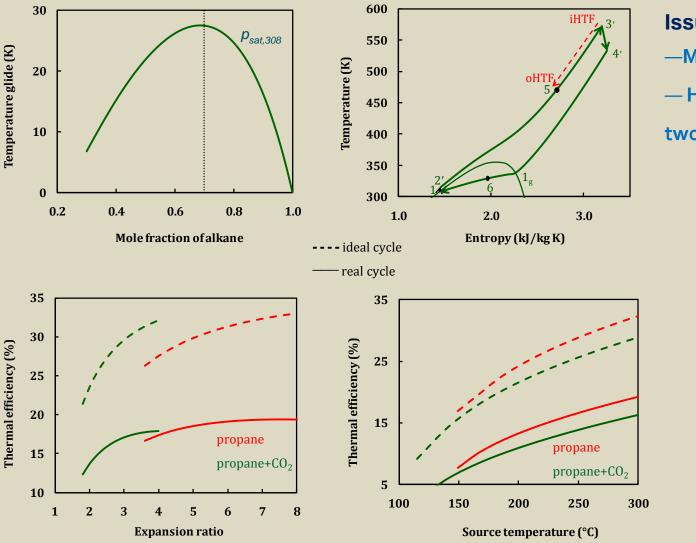
- Non flammable
- Not good efficiency, but moderate source temperature possible

Propane + CO2 (70/30 by mole fraction):

- Non flammable
- Excellent efficiency, moderate source T possible



Propane + CO₂ (70/30 mole fraction)



Issues / remarks —Moderate temp. glide — Heat recovery extended to two phase dome

Thermax's ORC Project at Shive



Distributed solar systems (Sponsor: Karnataka Govt.)

RESEARCH CENTRE FOR SOLAR POWER IN CHALLAKERE CAMPUS

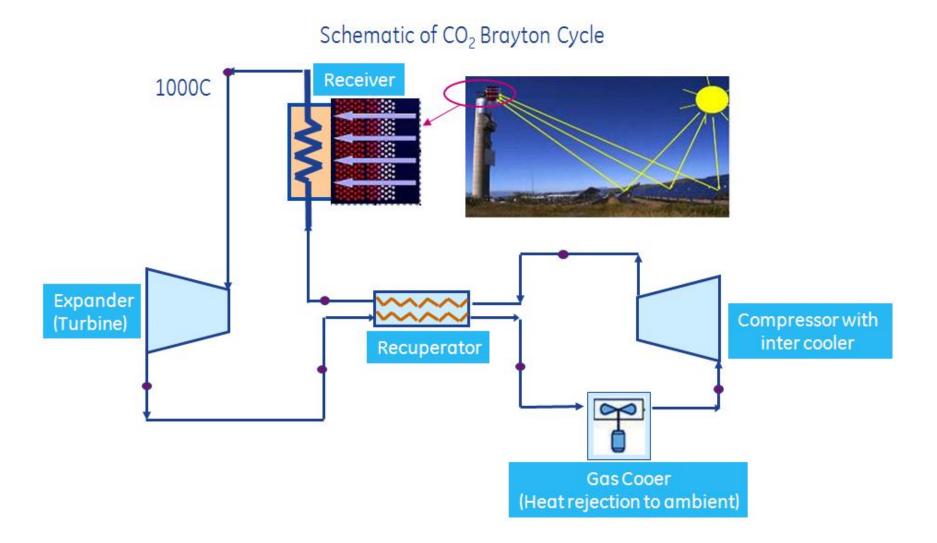
- 2 Research Test Beds
- 100 kWe Organic Rankine Cycle CSP
- PV Test Bed (60 kW)



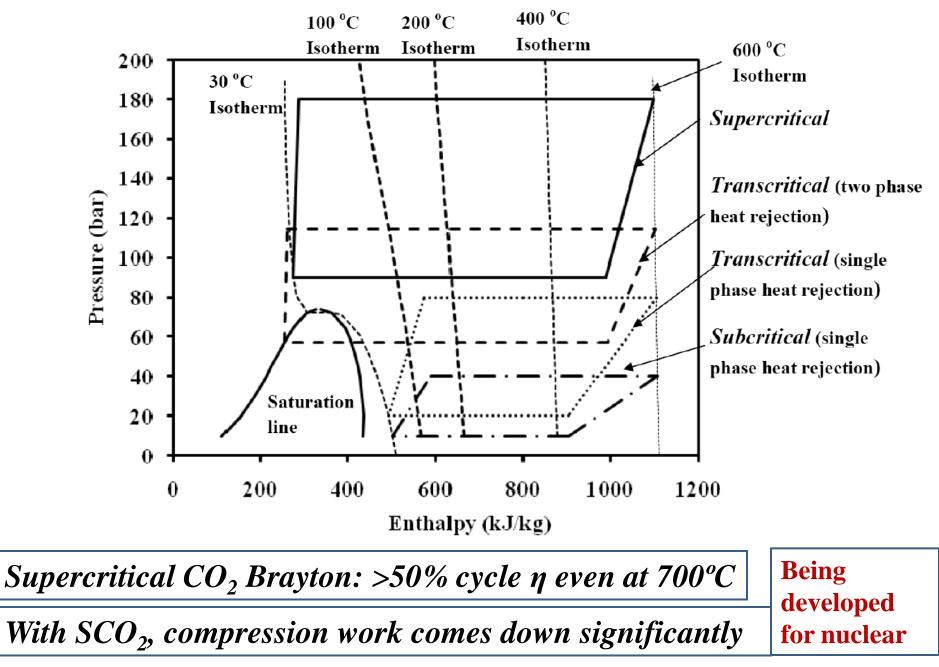
Industrial Collaborator: Thermax Ltd, Pune Project roll out: July 17, 2013

> First major research establishment at IISc's Challakere Campus

High Efficiency Closed loop CO₂ Brayton cycle

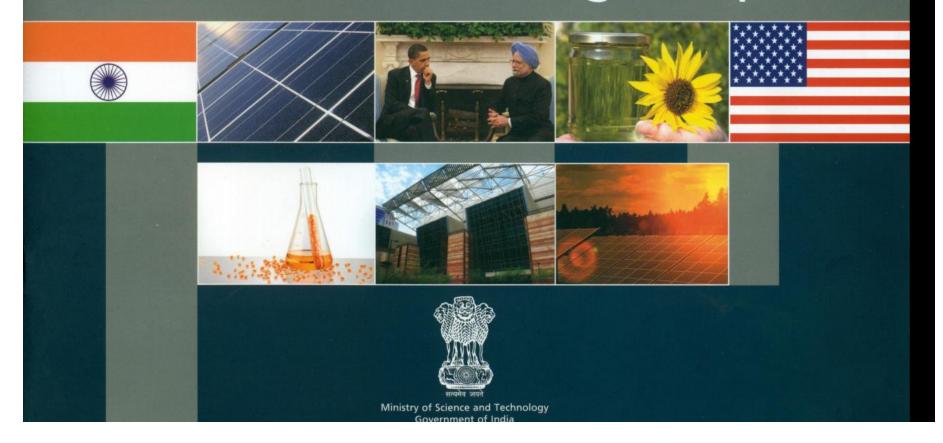


CO2 Brayton Cycles



Thermodynamic cycle (schematic cycle diagrams shown in Fig. 1 below)	Salient features	Cycle efficiency range	Suitability (locations/ applications)	Technology gaps / challenges identified for research projects
 High Efficiency Closed Cycle CO₂ Brayton cycle (100 kW – 1 MW) 				Development of a cost effective heliostat field is common to all the sub systems identified in this category
(a) Supercritical CO2 Brayton cycle	 70 – 170 bars High η even for low to moderate Tmax (400-600C) 	50 – 60% with single stage compression and regeneration	 Low to Moderate DNI Higher capital cost, hence good for larger installations for grid feeding 	High pressure receiver; high pressure turbo-expander, high pressure heat exchangers
(b) Transcritical CO2 Brayton cycle (two-phase)	 20 – 80 bars High η even for moderate Tmax (600-800C) CO2 condensation temperature <30C 	50-55% with single stage compression and regeneration	 Moderate to high DNI Low temperarure ambient (<25C) Several locations in US Winter climate, hill stations, Himalayan locations 	Moderate pressure receiver with storage, moderate pressure CO2 turbo- expander, moderate pressure heat exchangers; CO2 pump,
(c) Transcritical CO2 Brayton cycle (single-phase)	 20 – 80 bars High η even for moderate Tmax (600- 800C) 	50-55% with two stage compression and regeneration	 Moderate to high DNI Can work with high temperature ambient 	Moderate pressure receiver with storage, moderate pressure turbo-expander, moderate pressure heat exchangers; hybridization with auxiliary heating (e.g. biomass combustor)
(d) Subcritical CO2 Brayton cycle (single-phase)	 5 – 20 bars High η for high Tmax (800- 1000C) 	~ 50% with two stage compression and regeneration	 Moderate to high DNI 	High temperature receiver, high temperature turbo- expander for CO2, heat exchangers; hybridization with auxiliary heating (e.g. biomass combustor)

Indo-U.S. Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Center Setting the pace





Recognizing the need to address climate change, ensure mutual energy security, and build a clean energy economy that drives investment, job creation, and economic growth; Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and President Barack Obama launched the U.S.-India Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE) under the U.S.-India Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation on Energy Security, Energy Efficiency, Clean Energy and Climate Change. This MoU was signed on November 24, 2009 during Prime Minister Singh's visit to the United States. As a priority initiative under the PACE umbrella, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Government of India signed an agreement to establish the **Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Center (JCERDC)** on November 4, 2010 during President Obama's head of state visit to India. The JCERDC is the first bilateral initiative designed specifically to promote clean energy innovation by teams of scientists and engineers from India and the United States.

SERI IUS

Solar Energy Research Institute for India and the United States

Solar Energy Research Institute for India and the United States (SERIIUS)

A Joint Research Consortium for Accelerating Solar Electricity Development

U.S.-India Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Centre

India	United States			
Consortium Leads				
Indian Institute of Science–Bangalore	National Renewable Energy Laboratory			
Research Thrust Leadership				
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay	Sandia National Laboratories			
Center for the Study of Science, Technology and Policy	RAND Corporation			



Solar Energy Research Institute for India and the United States (SERIIUS)

A Joint Research Consortium for Accelerating Solar Electricity Development

India

Consortium Leads

Indian Institute of Science–Bangalore Dr. Kamanio Chattopadhyay National Renewable Energy Laboratory Dr. Lawrence Kazmerski

United States

Research Thrust Leadership

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay Center for the Study of Science, Technology and Policy Sandia National Laboratories RAND Corporation

Consortium Partners

Institutes and National Laboratories

International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials Solar Energy Center Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

University Partners

Indian Institute of Technology Madras Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science Arizona State University Carnegie Mellon University Colorado School of Mines Massachusetts Institute of Technology Purdue University Stanford University University of Central Florida University of South Florida Washington University in St. Louis

Industry Partners

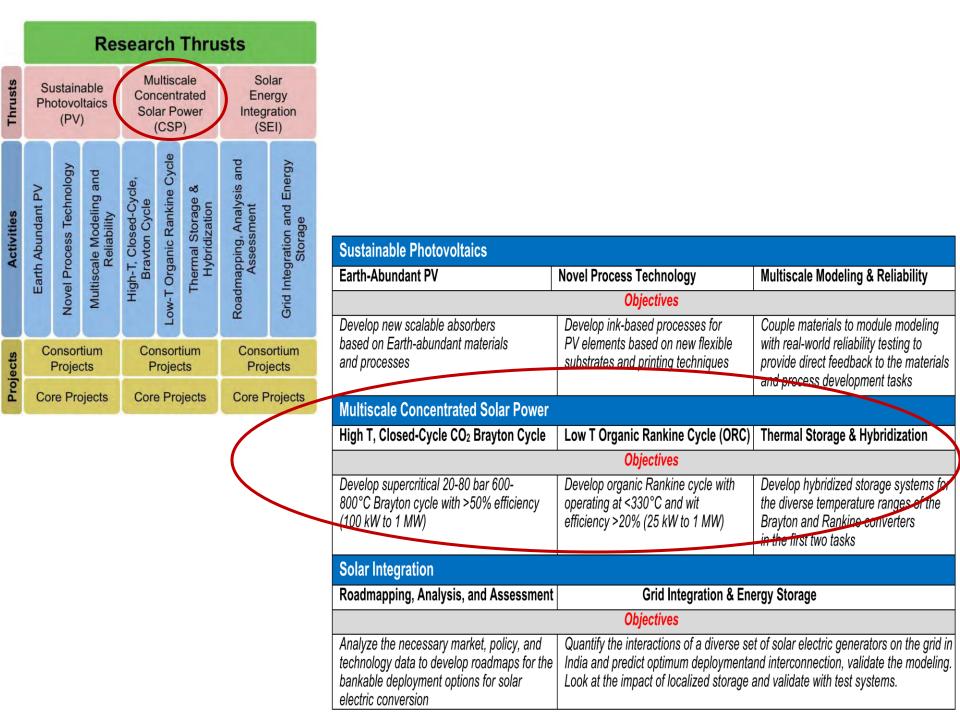
Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd Clique Developments Ltd. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. Moser Baer India Ltd. Thermax Ltd. TurboTech Precision Engineering Ltd. Wipro Ltd.

Corning Incorporated Konarka Technologies, Inc. MEMC Corporation Solarmer Energy, Inc.

DE-FOA-0000506: U.S.-India Joint Clean Energy Research and Development

Our Team:







A turbine that uses supercritical carbon dioxide can deliver great power from a small package.

By Steven Wrigh

n most respects, carbon dioxide is an energy problem. The gas is mixed to varying degrees with methane in underground formations and must be stripped before natural gas is injected into pipelines. It's created by the combustion of carbon fuels and must be vented away from engines. And the build-up of that CO₂ in the atmosphere has been implicated in global climate change. Carbon dioxide has some interesting properties, however, Blocks of frozen carbon

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING | MARCH 2013 |

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF SOLAR ENERGY. AND ADUANCES IN EFFICIENCY AND COST ARE MAKING CONCENTRATING SOLAR THERMAL POWER AN ATTRACTIVE OPTION.

BY MARK CRAWFORD

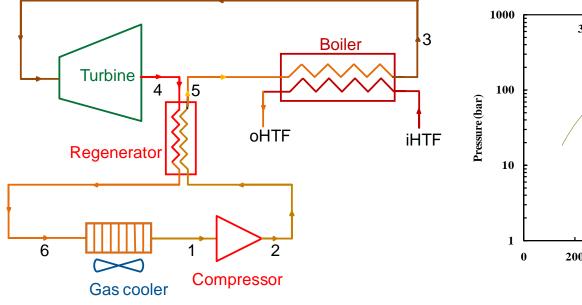
NEW HEAT-TRANSFER FLUIDS CAN BE USED TO REACH CONVERSION EFFICIENCIES OF 50 PERCENT OR GREATER.

INDUSTRIAL SOLAR

The SunShot Initiative is funding other research that might be able to deliver new technologies to meet various technical and cost targets within the next three to five years, Pitchumani said. These include highly efficient reflector materials integrated with low-cost structures for collectors, lean solar field manufacturing and assembly approaches, self-aligning and tracking heliostats, self-cleaning mirrors, solar selective coatings for enhanced absorption with lower radiative loss, and corrosion-resistant materials and coatings.

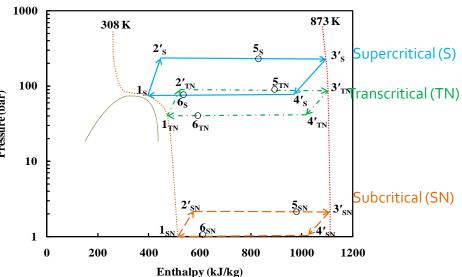
"High-temperature, higher-efficiency power cycles, such as the supercritical CO_2 cycle at the 1 MW and 10 MW scales, and the solar-integrated Brayton cycle, will trend toward higher (greater than 50 percent) efficiency operation with dry cooling," Pitchumani said. "Some of these have broader relevance beyond the solar industry to the nuclear and fossil industries as well."

Performance studies of Brayton cycles Working fluids • Air, CO₂



Parametric studies

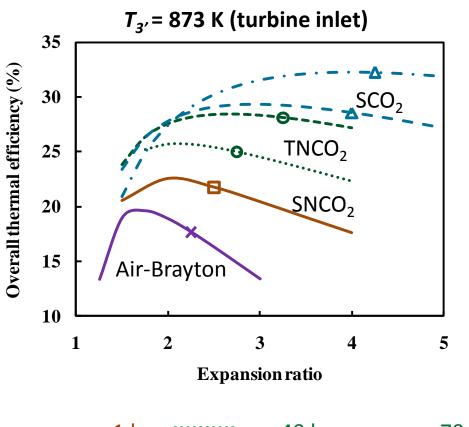
- •Turbine expansion ratio
- •Low side pressure
- •Heat source temp.
- range



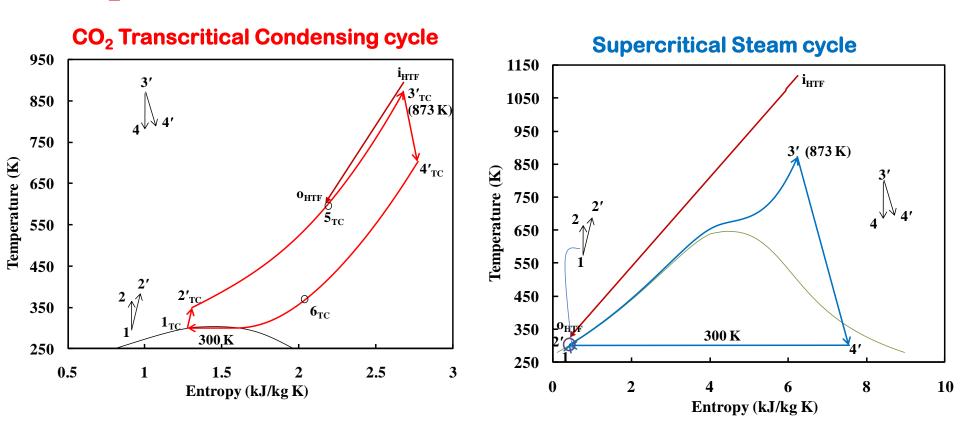
Outcome of studies

- Cycle efficiency
- Heat recovery
- Flow rates
- Entropy generation
- Optimization

Real cycle efficiency and its optimization



---- $p_1 = 1$ bar, ······ $p_1 = 40$ bar, ----- $p_1 = 70$ bar, ---- $p_1 = 75$ bar, ---- $p_1 = 85$ bar, \Box SN-CO₂ cycle, o TN-CO₂ cycle, Δ S-CO₂ cycle, \times air Brayton cycle at low side pressure of 1 bar CO₂ vs Steam



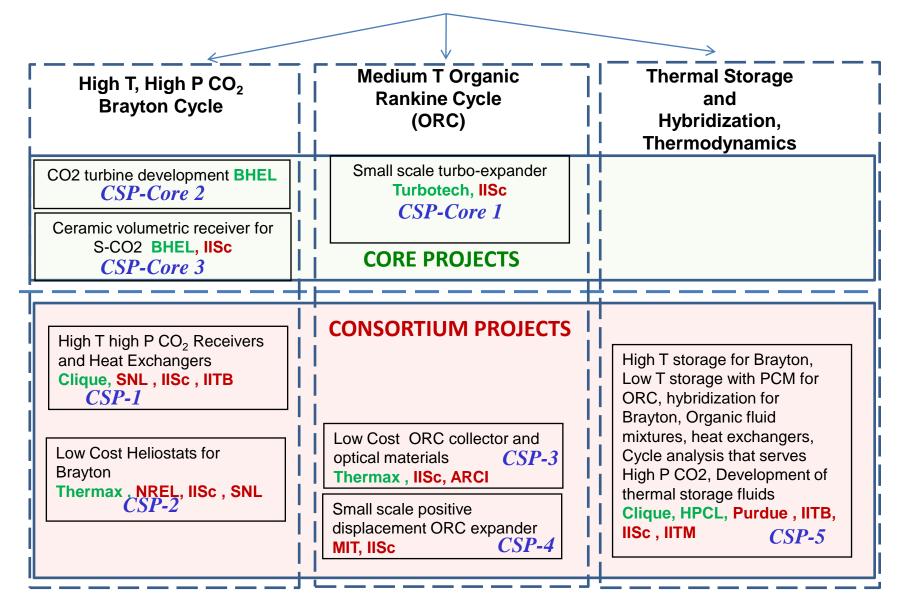
More heat source temperature required for the same turbine inlet temperature for steam.

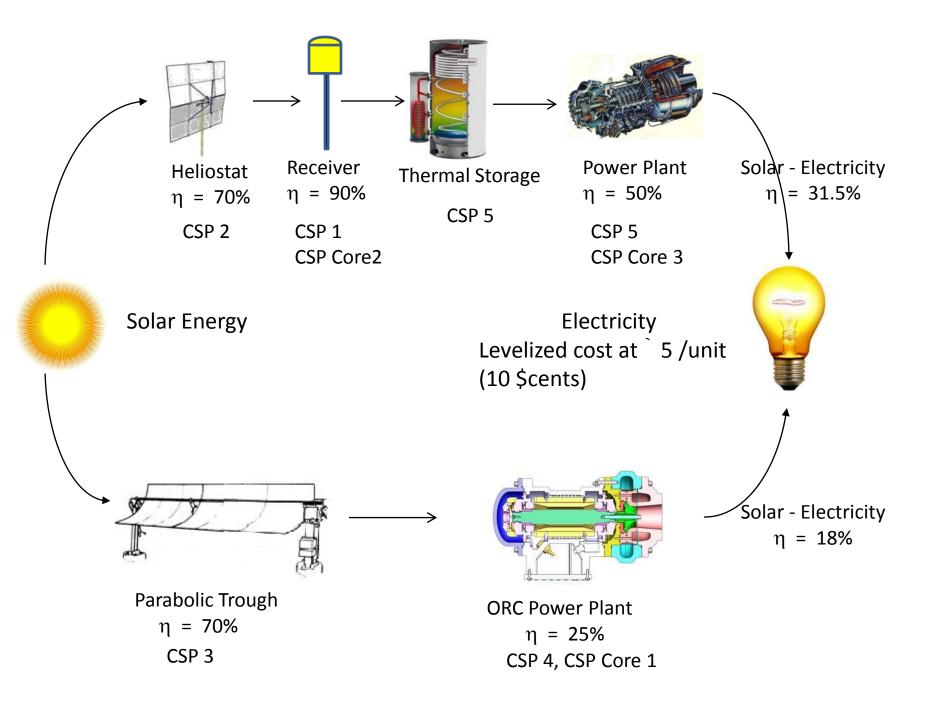
Easier choice of Heat transfer fluid (HTF) for CO₂.

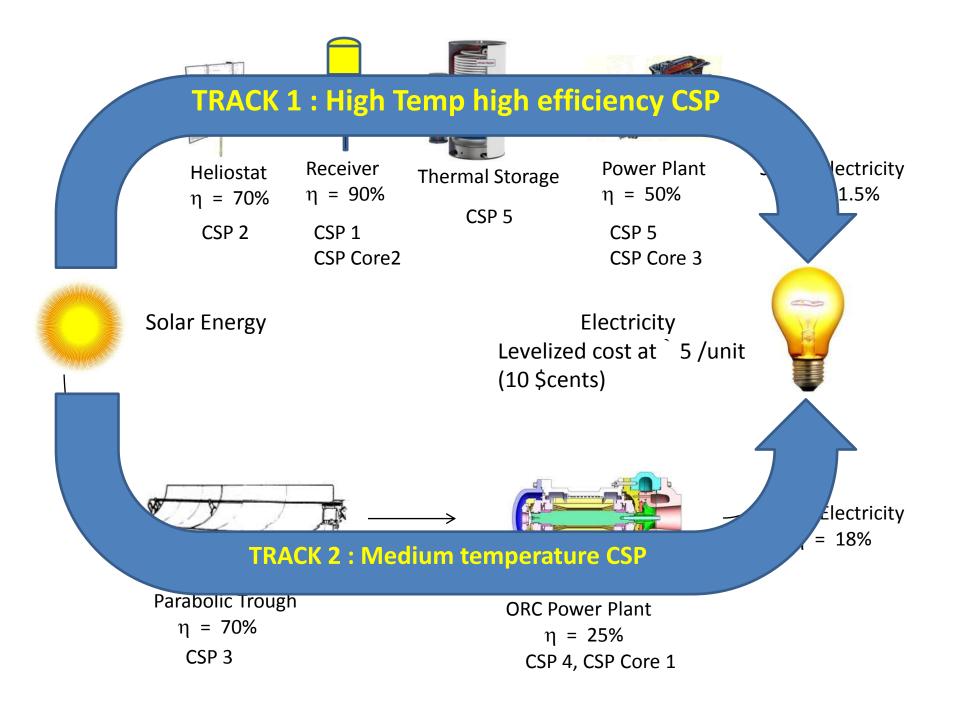
CO₂ Brayton: Critical science and engineering challenges

- High *T* high *P* receivers for CO2.
- *Hybridization* for stable and reliable power
- High *T thermal energy storage* system for Brayton cycle : molten salt, PCM? Heat Transfer Fluid ?
- *Heat exchangers* for auxiliary heating
- High efficiency and low cost *reflectors* for power tower system
- High efficiency *compressors and turbo-expanders*

CSP Thrust







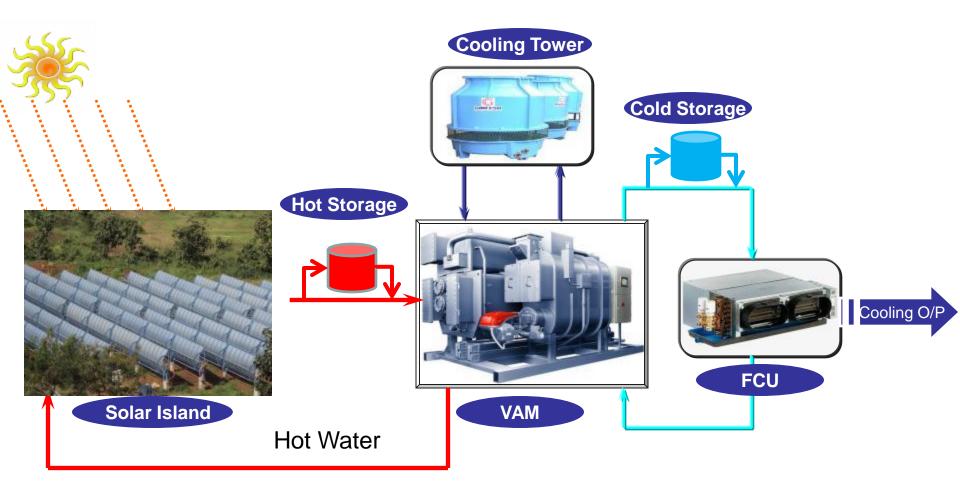
Solar Cooling

- Vapour Absorption Cycle
- Vapour Compression Cycle (thermal compression with adsorption)
- Flash evaporation + Thermal compression (Cooling + Desalination)

Solar Cooling

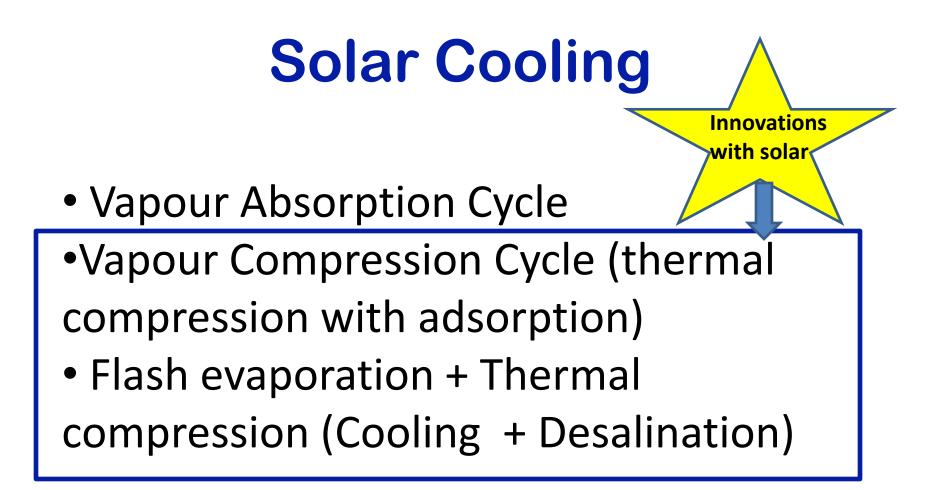
- Vapour Absorption Cycle V (mature)
- •Vapour Compression Cycle (thermal compression with adsorption)
- Flash evaporation + Thermal compression (Cooling + Desalination)

Solar Cooling by Vapour Absorption (THERMAX)



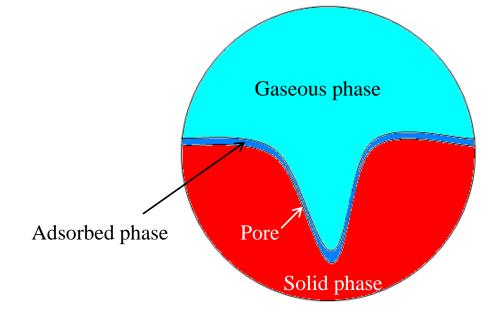
Approved : Jun 2010 - Commissioned : July 2011

THERMAX - CONFIDENTIAL

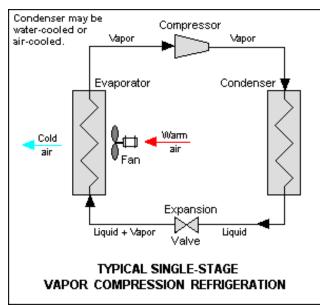


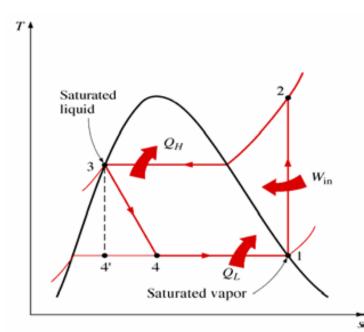
Adsorption basics

- Adsorption: Atoms (gas or liquid) adhering to a surface
- Silica gel + water system: steam (gaseous phase) is adsorbed on the surface of porous silica gel (solid phase); Steam adsorbed in micro (<2 nm) /meso (2-50 nm) pores of silica gel.
- activated carbon + refrigerant (e.g R290 + R218 mixture)
- Heat of adsorption is released during adsorption process and heat of desorption has to be supplied during desorption.

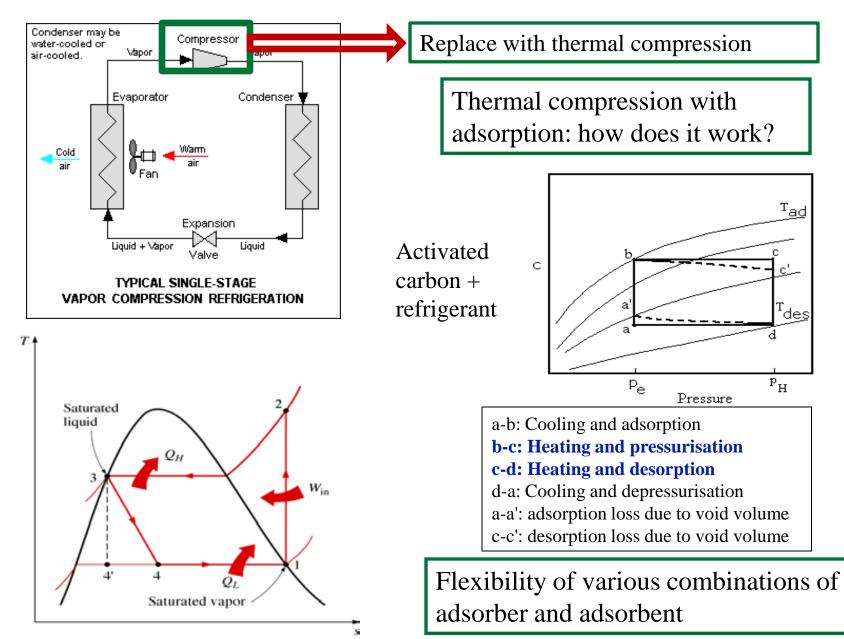


VAPOUR COMPRESSION COOLING CYCLE

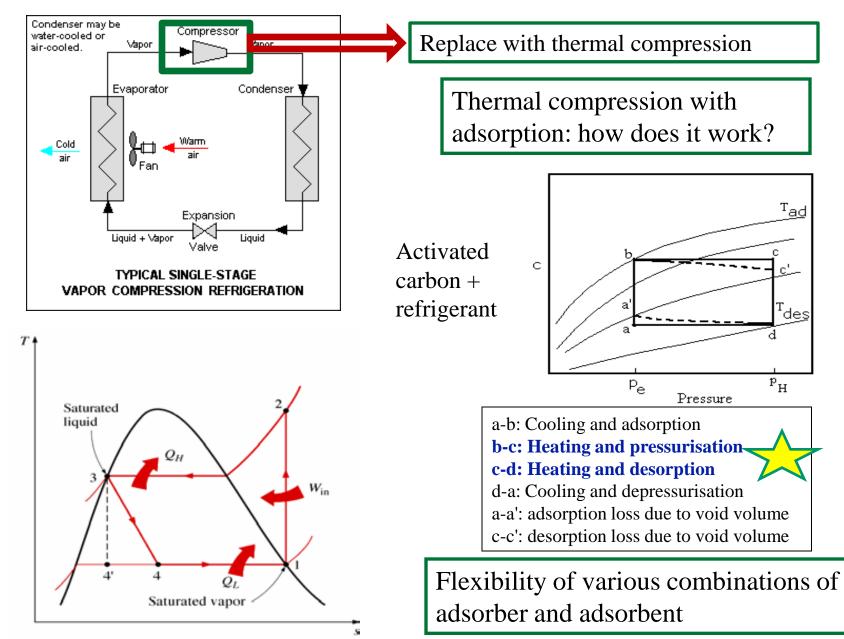




VAPOUR COMPRESSION COOLING CYCLE

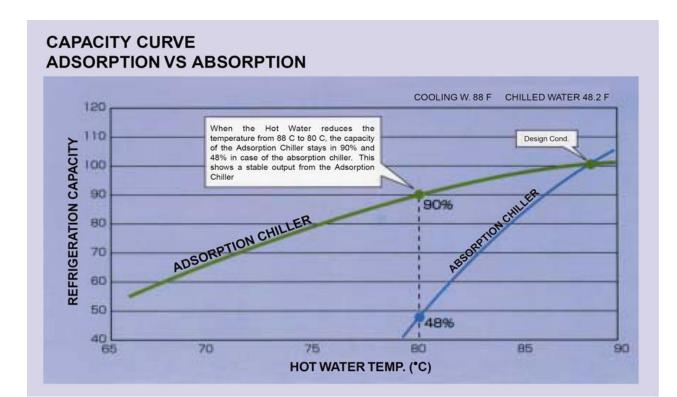


VAPOUR COMPRESSION COOLING CYCLE



Adsorption System vs Absorption System (e.g. Li-Br water)

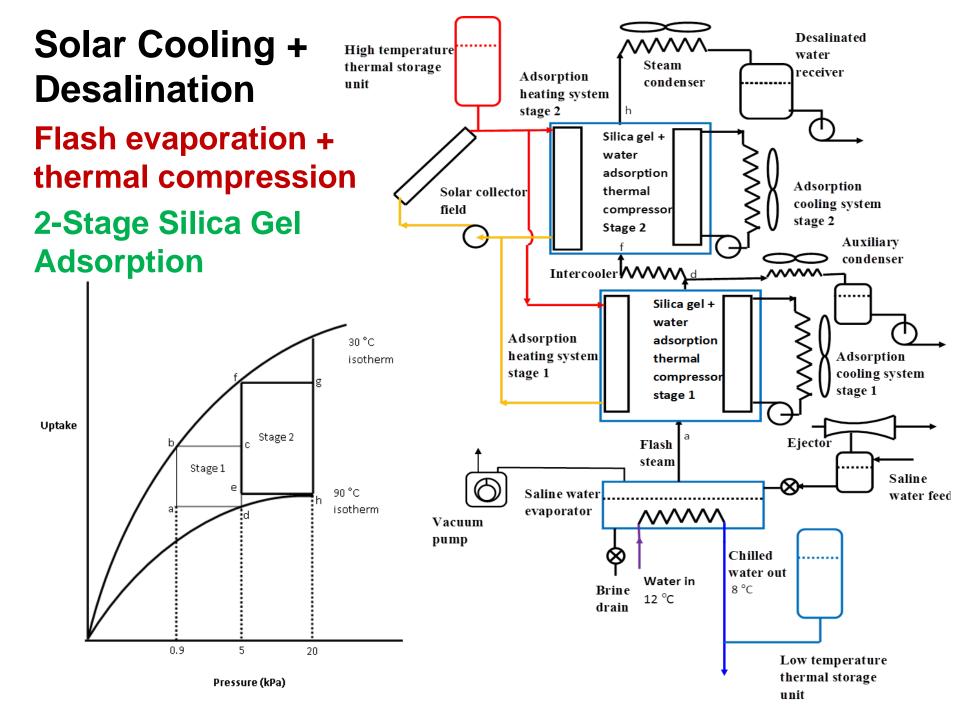
- Environment friendly and non-corrosive materials
- No solution pump, solution heat exchangers, fewer moving parts
- No danger of crystallisation (LiBr water- messy recrystallization problems and possible stoppage if desorption temperature is not controlled)
- Can work with lower heat source temperatures
- Simpler construction and high potential for cost reduction
- Steady operation and better part-load performance



SOLAR COOLING AND PRODUCTION OF POTABLE WATER WITH TWO STAGE SILICA GEL WATER ADSORPTION SYSTEM

R & D PROJECT PROPOSAL Sponsored by DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

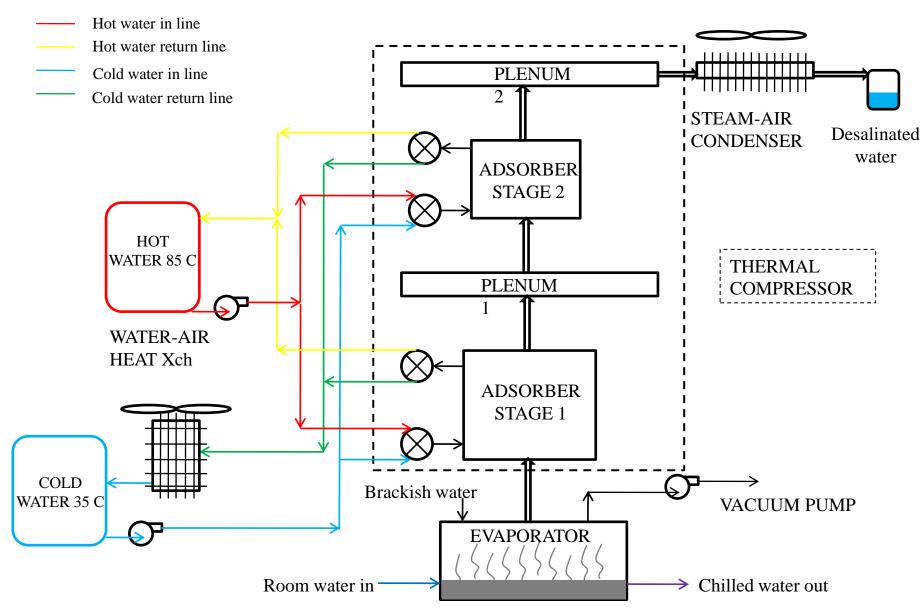
- Rural areas: need for
 - 1) refrigeration for food preservation
 - 2) potable water
- Both are generally energy intensive. If low grade thermal energy such as *solar energy* can be used for meeting the above objectives, then solution is *affordabl*e as well as *sustainable* – boost for rural economy



Solar Cooling + Desalination

Sponsor: DST

Flash evaporation + thermal compression (2-stage)





- India specific CSP options evaluated
- Steam based CSP not viable
- Steam good for process heat, cooking etc.
- CO₂ Brayton for high T applications (high efficiency, scalable, waterless)
- ORC (mixtures) for low T (low/moderate insolation, scalable, low cost storage, low cost collector, hybridization)
- Solar for process heating or cooling has high conversion efficiency

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Thank you