



# Thermal Storage (TES): key technical and economic component in Solar Thermal Plants

Professor

**GUSTAVO CÁCERES**





# CHILE

*Surface ~ 756.000 km<sup>2</sup>*

*Population ~ 16,6 millones*

*PIB ~ US\$19.000 per capita 2012  
(growing > 5%)*

**No. 1 in Latin-America on Research of HTTES  
recognized by the IEA through his IA ECES  
(Represented by Exp. Obs. Dr. Gustavo Cáceres)**

**No. 1 in Copper**

**No. 1 in Lithium**

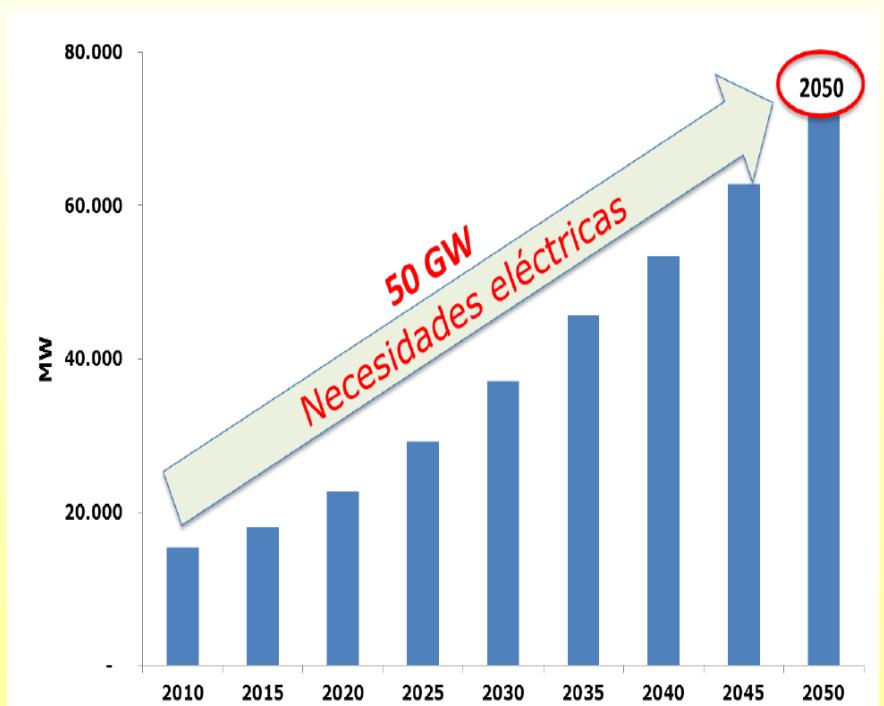
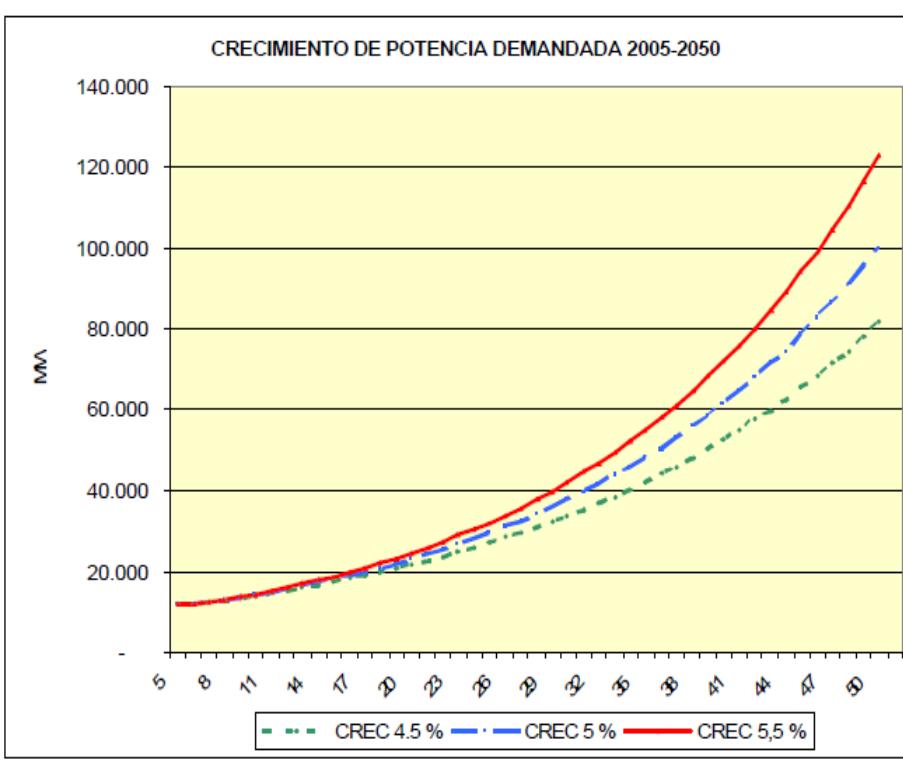
**No. 1 in Rhenium**

**No. 1 in Nitrates**

# Chilean Economic Scope

## Estimated Electricity Demand

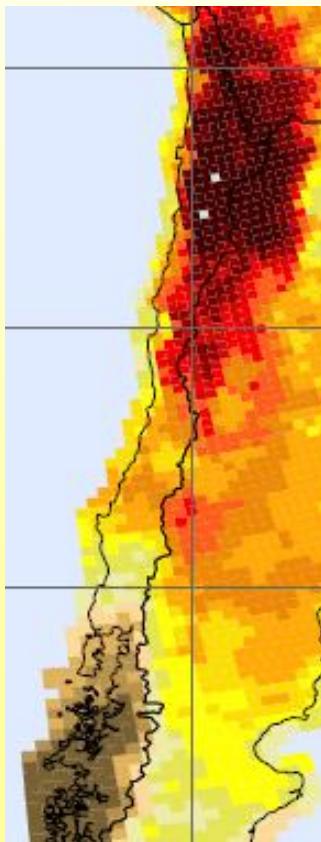
- Considering an annual GDP growth of 5%, in 2020 energy demand would reach more than 23,000 MW. This would imply high average annual increase of installed electricity capacity.



# Chilean Solar Potential

Northern Chile has the best conditions of solar radiation in the world with a potential estimated on 100,000 MW

- Average Normal Radiation of 7 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/day
- On Atacama, radiation amounts to 3000 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year about 50% greater than, for example, Seville
- Large tracts of flat land ideal for solar power plants

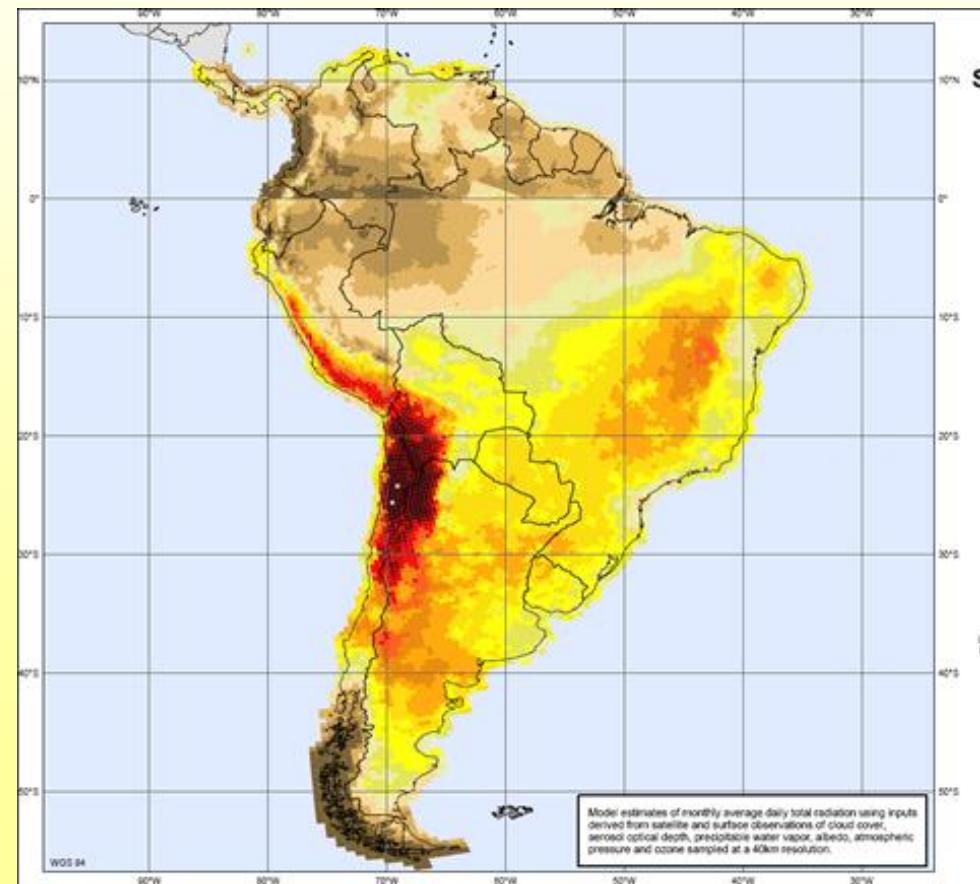


Direct Normal  
Solar Radiation

Annual

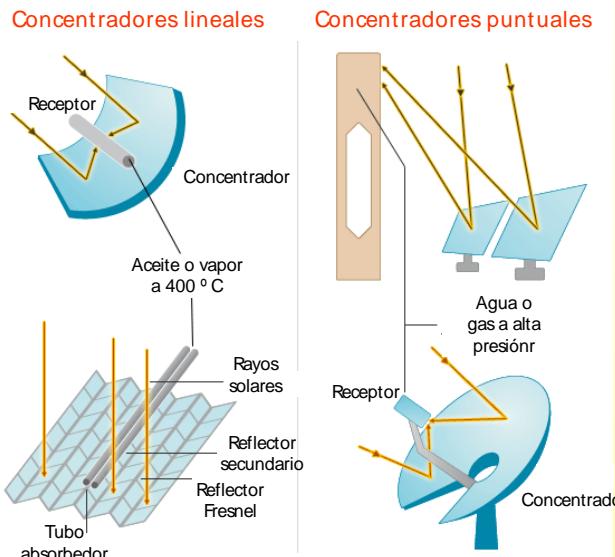
kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/day

> 9
8.5 - 9.0
8.0 - 8.5
7.5 - 8.0
7.0 - 7.5
6.5 - 7.0
6.0 - 6.5
5.5 - 6.0
5.0 - 5.5
4.5 - 5.0
4.0 - 4.5
3.5 - 4.0
3.0 - 3.5
2.5 - 3.0
2.0 - 2.5
< 2

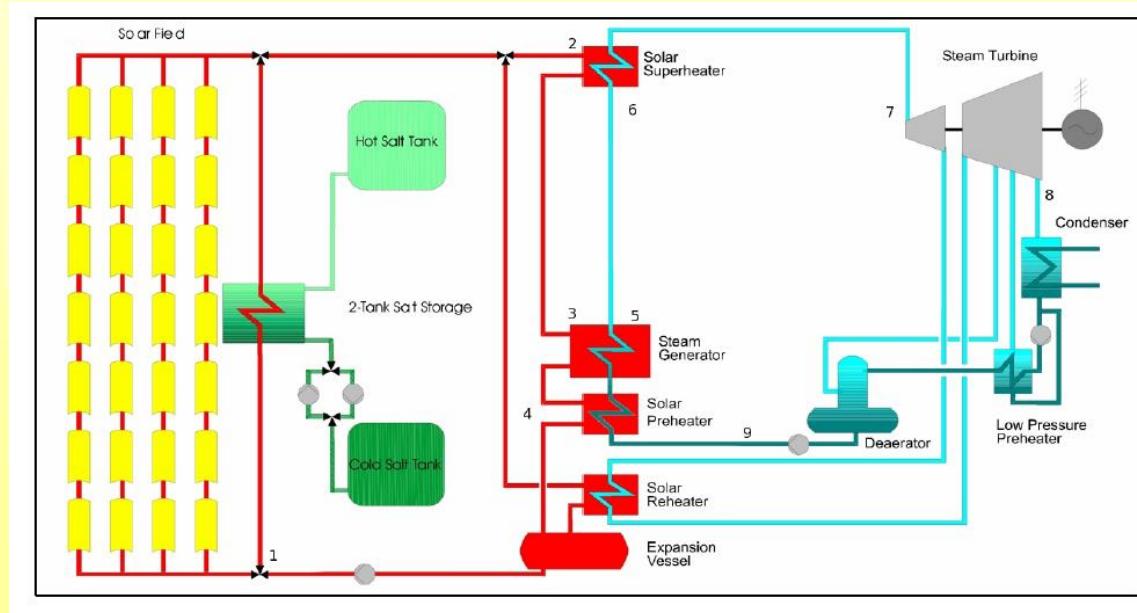


# Solar Thermal or CSP Plants

## Solar Thermal Technology

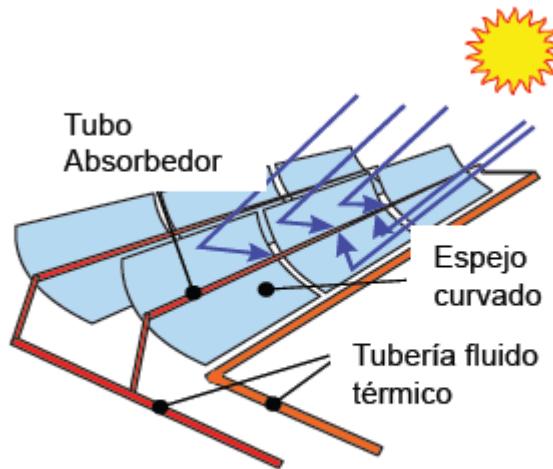


**Operation:** In general, concentrating solar power technology is based on the concept of concentration of solar radiation to produce steam or hot air, which can then be used in conventional power plants. For concentration, most systems use mirror due to its high reflectivity.

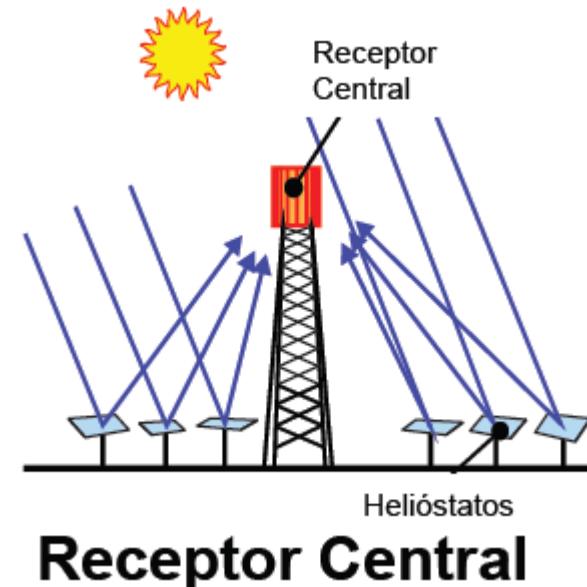


# CSP

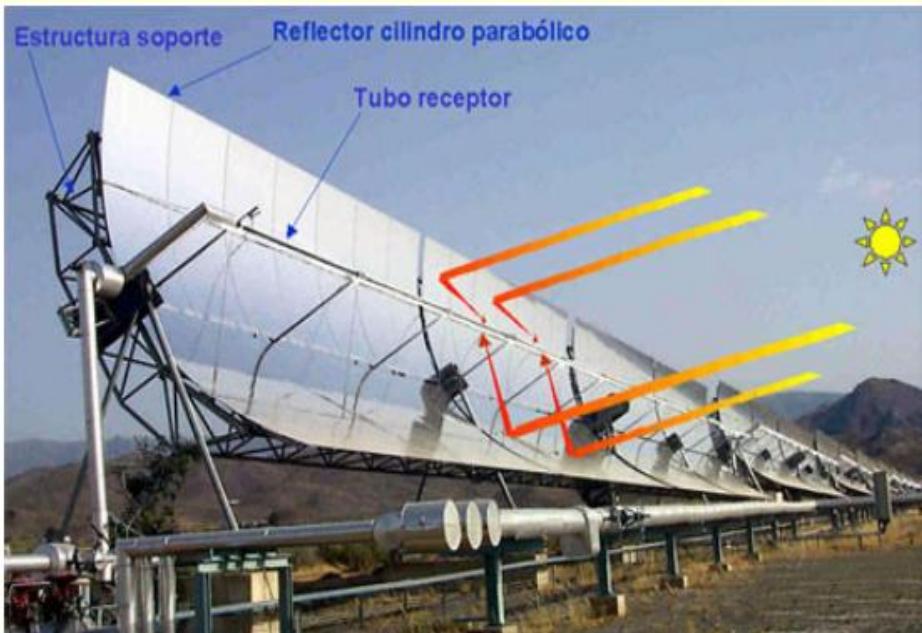
- Sun provides the Earth in 1 hour more energy than the demanded by the planet in 1 year.
- 4 types of technologies:
  - PTC (71%)– SPT (12.9%)– LFC (12.9%) – PDS (3.2%) [12]
- In the world:
  - 8.5 GW under planning or development
  - 7.5 GW installed or under construction
    - Spain has most of the installations
    - 80% are PTC, followed by SPT [72]
  - Installed capacity from CSP ranges from 0.25 to 354 MW
- Commonly equipped with fuel BS and TES
  - 98% of energy stored in TES can be recovered
    - Operation time extended up to 16 hrs. per day
- Working temperatures ranges from 93°C to 700°C (zhao, Tian, [12])



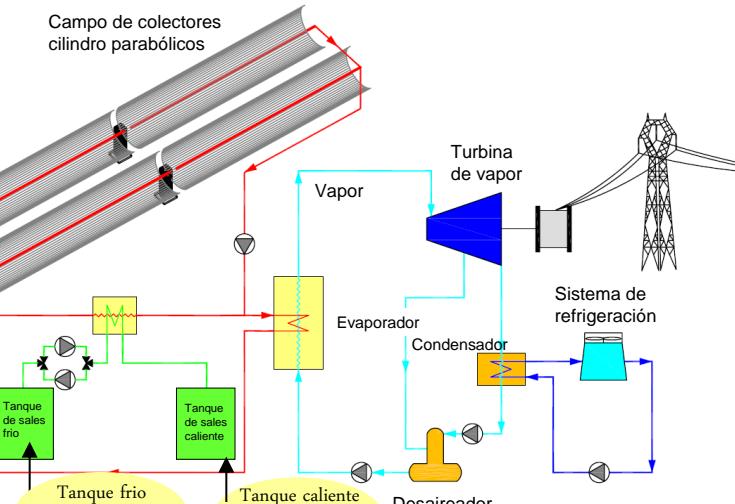
## Cilindro-parabólicos



## Receptor Central

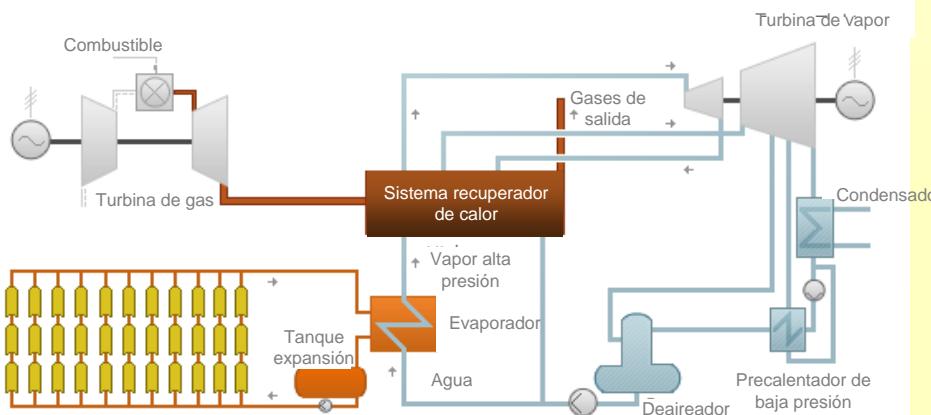


# TECHNOLOGIES THAT GIVES STABILITY



Storage

The most common technology is  
salt storage



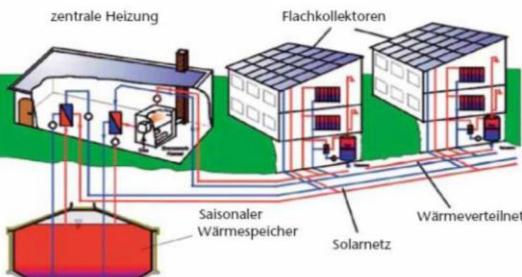
Hybridisation

The most common  
technology is: ISCC =  
Integrated Solar  
Combined Cycle



# Thermal Energy Storage in CSP Plants

# Thermal Energy Storage (TES)



Solar Cooling & Heating



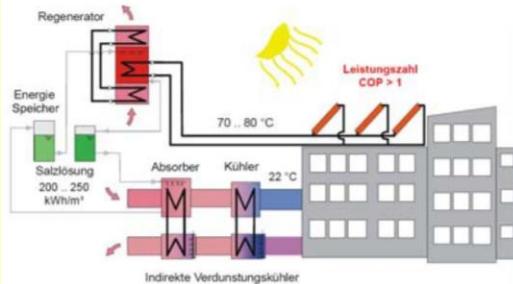
Industrial Process Heat



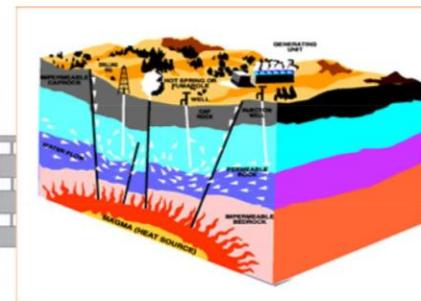
**0 – 100 °C**

**100-300 °C**

**300 -1000 °C**



Geothermal power



Decentral CHP



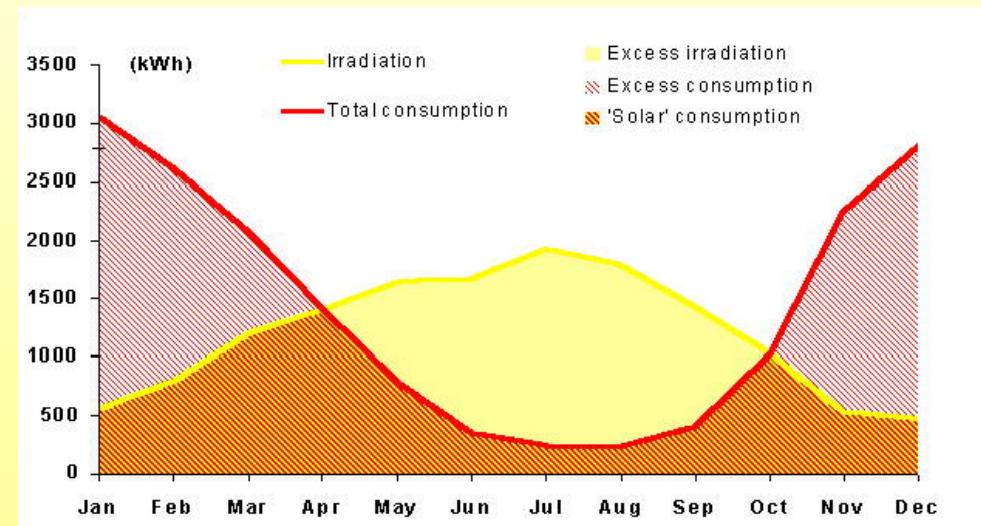
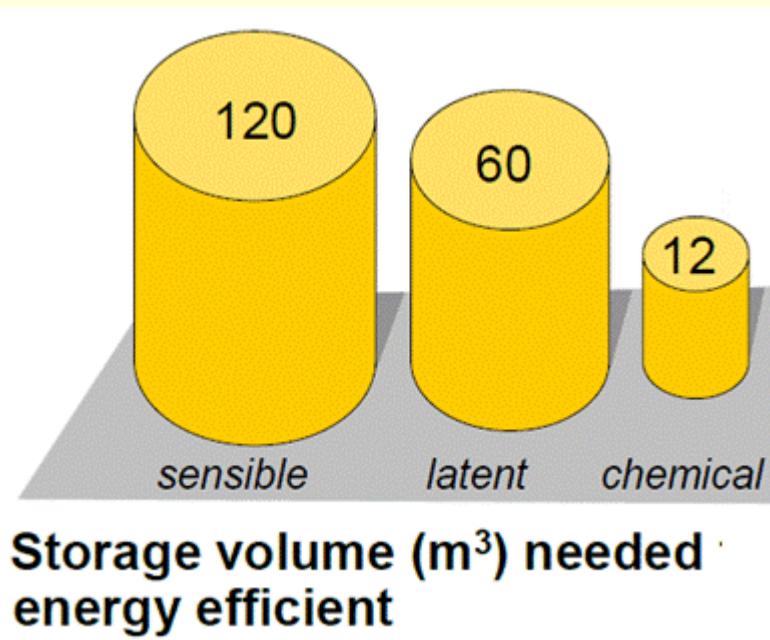
Solar thermal power generation



Deutsches Zentrum  
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.  
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

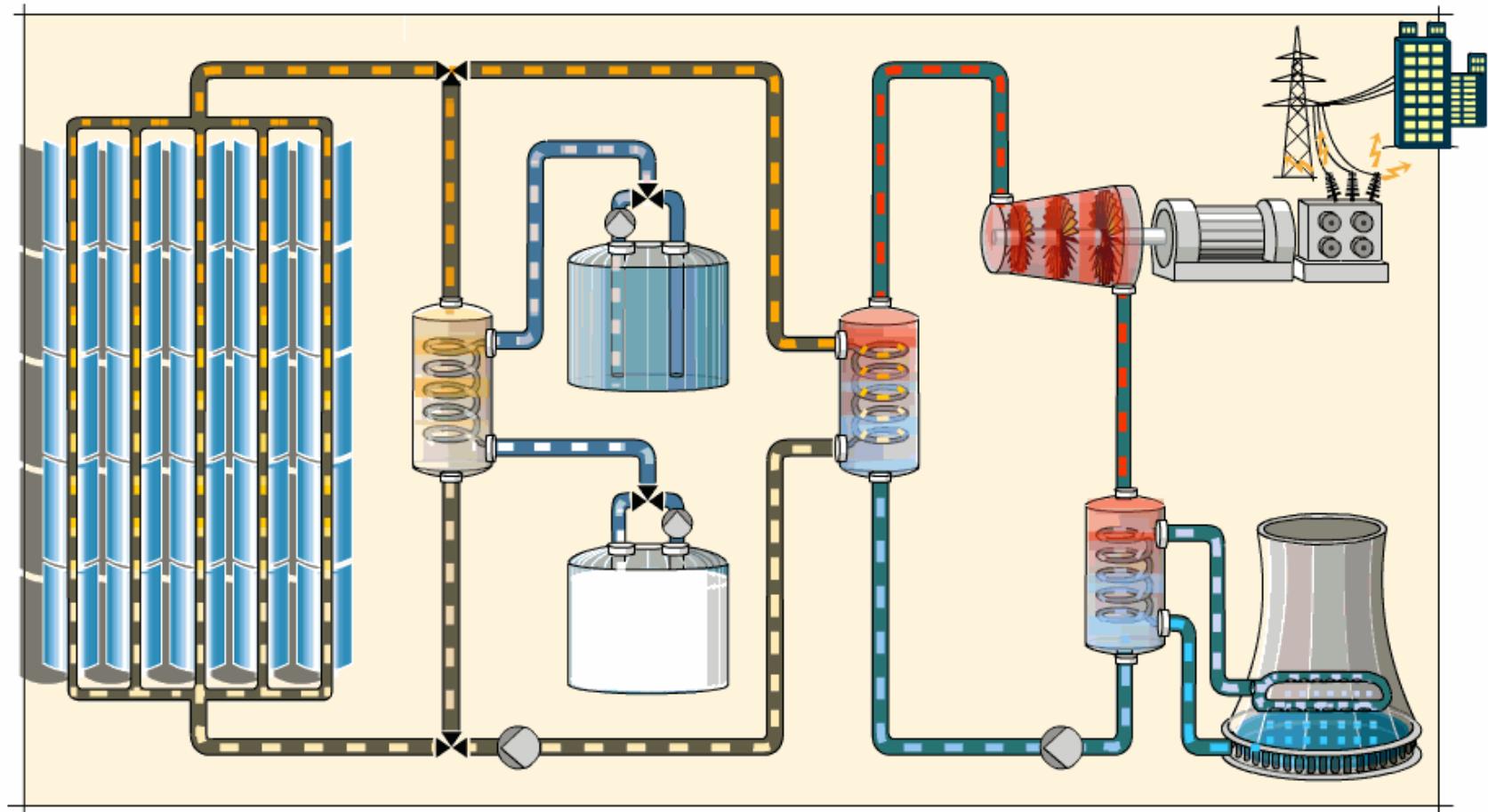
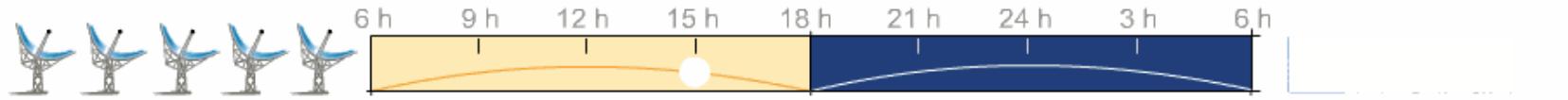
# Mechanisms of Thermal Storage

- **Sensible heat:** storage energy by increasing temperature in a single phase (solid or liquid phase)
- **Latent heat:** storage energy by phase change
- **Thermochemical:** heat from chemical reaction



# TES for CSP Plants

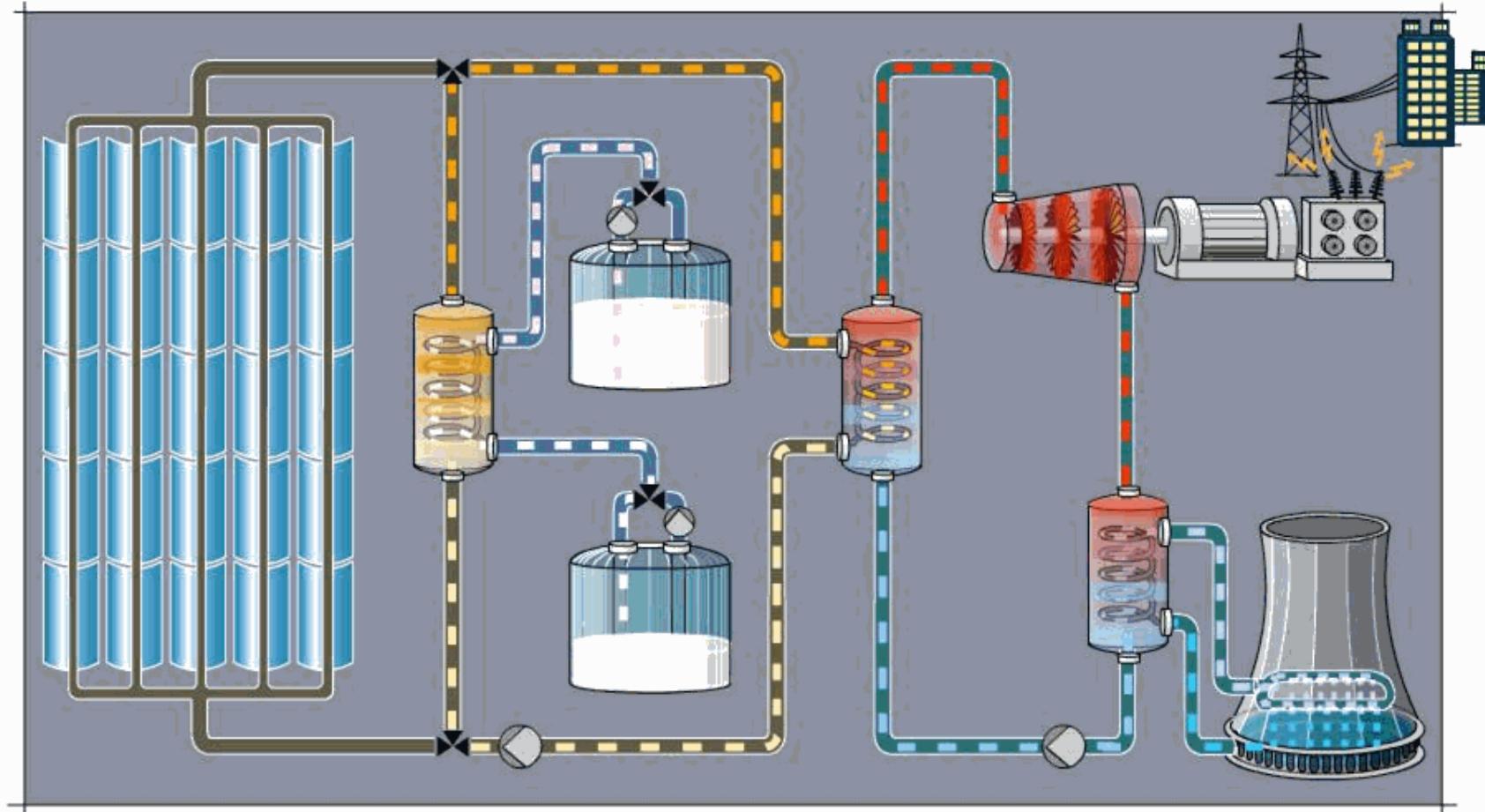
- Active Thermal Energy Storage
  - Convection or circulation of fluid storage
  - One or Two Tank Systems
    - a) Direct system: HTF is also the storage medium
    - b) Indirect system: HTF and storage medium are different
- Passive Thermal Energy Storage
  - Not circulation of fluid storage
  - One or more exchangers modules



Durante el día  
**Solar fields**

En las horas de alta irradiación el campo solar suministra suficiente energía para producir electricidad. **TES 2 tanks** enarreglo al mismo **Steam power block**. El sistema térmico está llenado con una sal líquida. El sistema de dos tanques se compone de un

# Solar plant: charging TES



Solar fields

TES 2 tanks

Steam power block

**Solar plant: discharging TES**

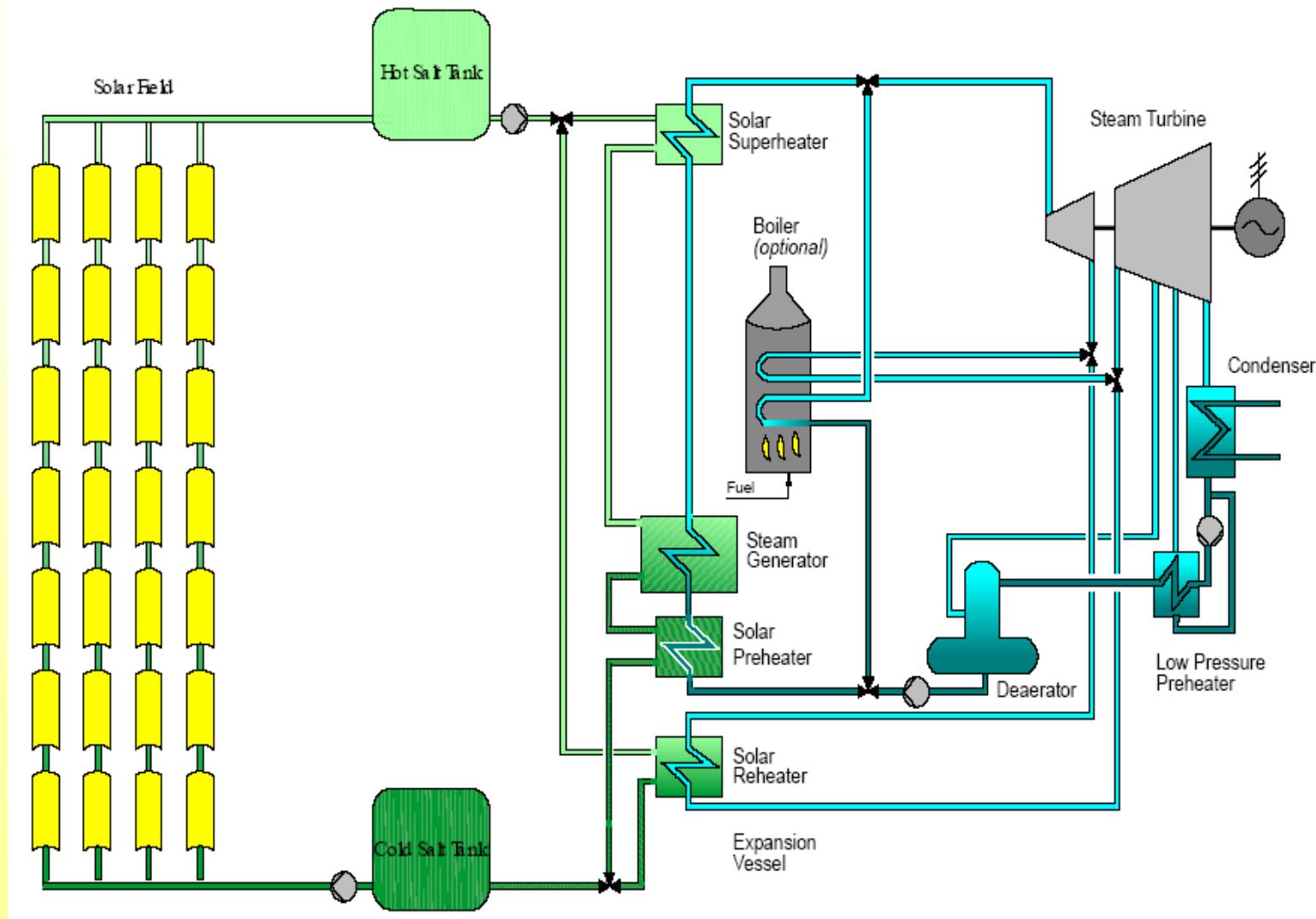
# ACS-COBRA (TECNOLOGIA CCP)

**ANDASOL 1, 2, 3 (Aldeire, Granada, España). DNI: 2136 kWh/m<sup>2</sup> year**

- Solar Field  
510.120m<sup>2</sup>  
Parabolic  
through  
collectors
- Thermal  
Storage for 7,5  
hours with  
molten salts
- Annual  
production of  
176 GWh,  
with 12% Gas
- Cost (EPC) ≈  
260 M€/plant



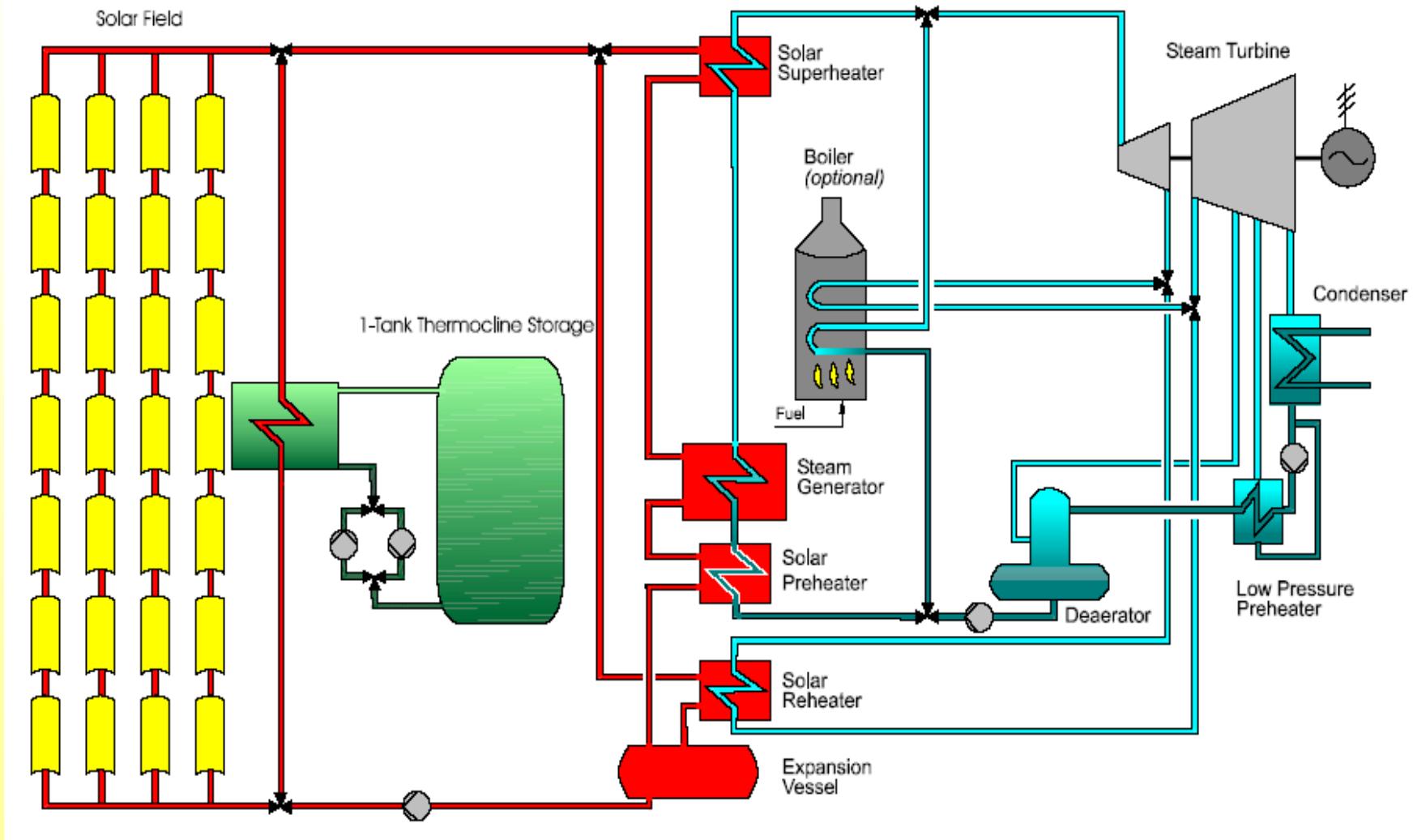
## Active TES: 2-Tank Salt Storage (Direct System)



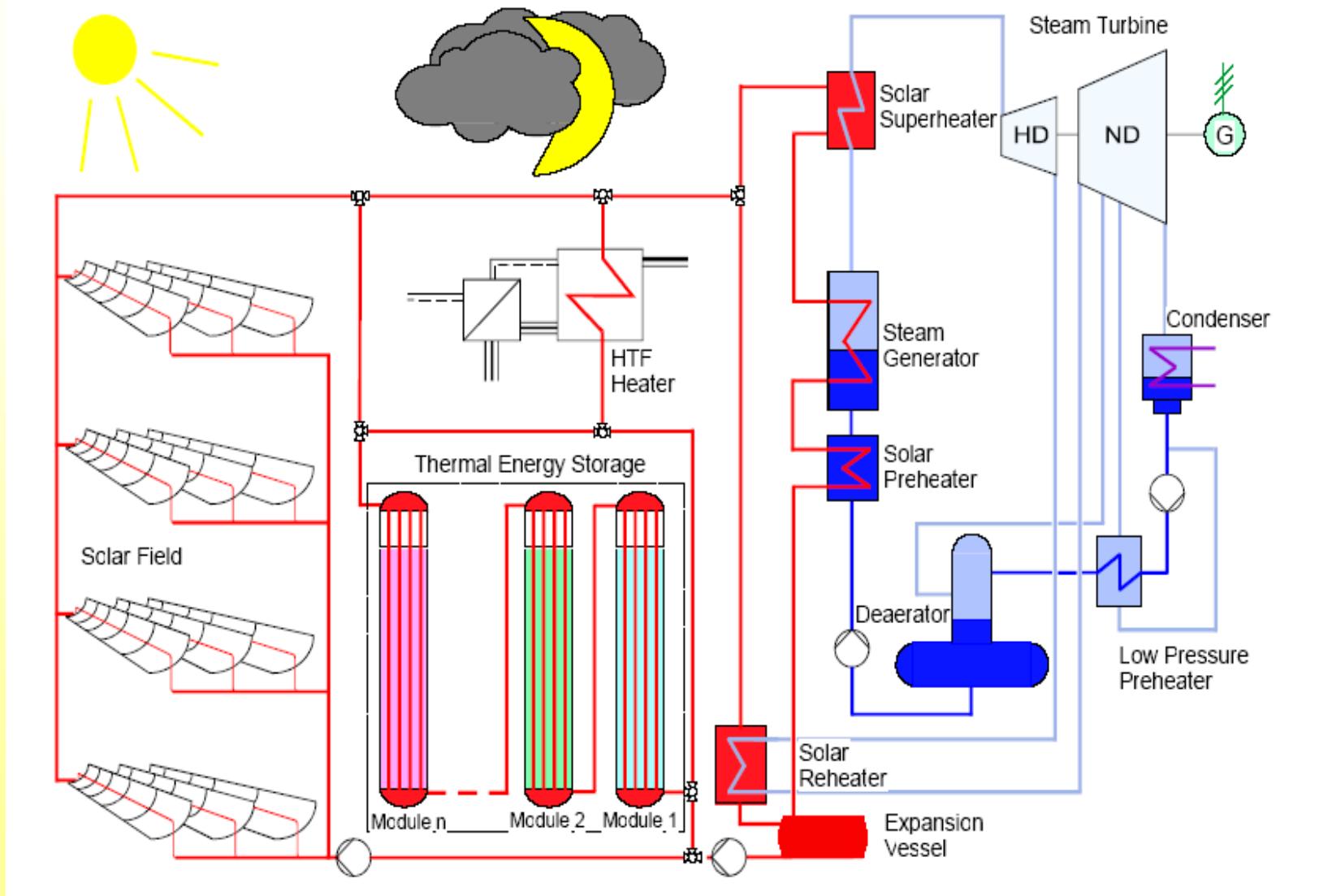
# GEMASOLAR (TORRESOL ENERGY)



# Active TES: 1-Tank Thermocline Storage

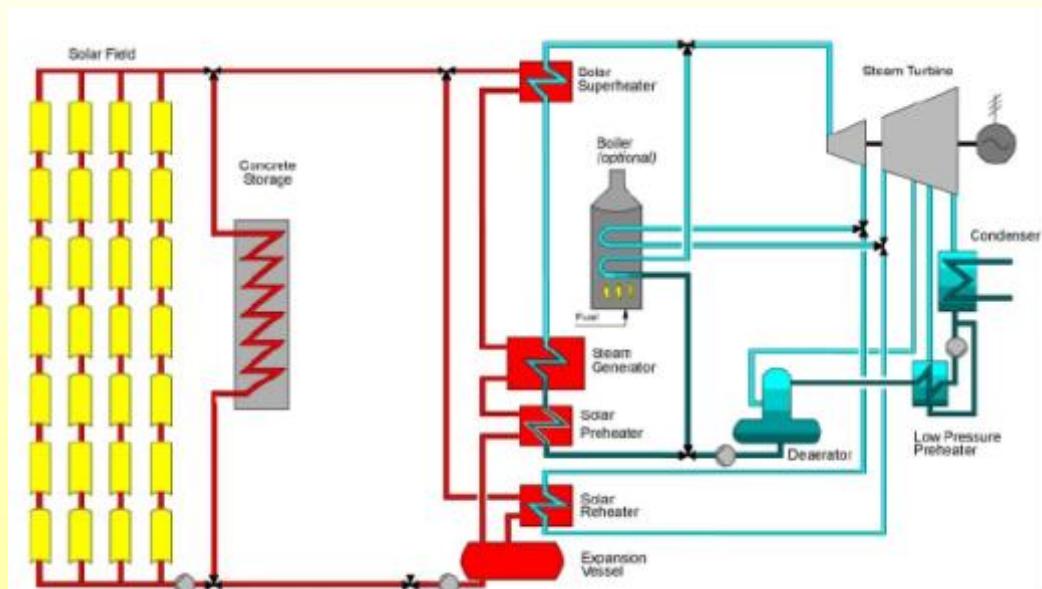


# Passive TES: PCM Storage



# Passive TES: Concrete

Solar plant: HT concrete



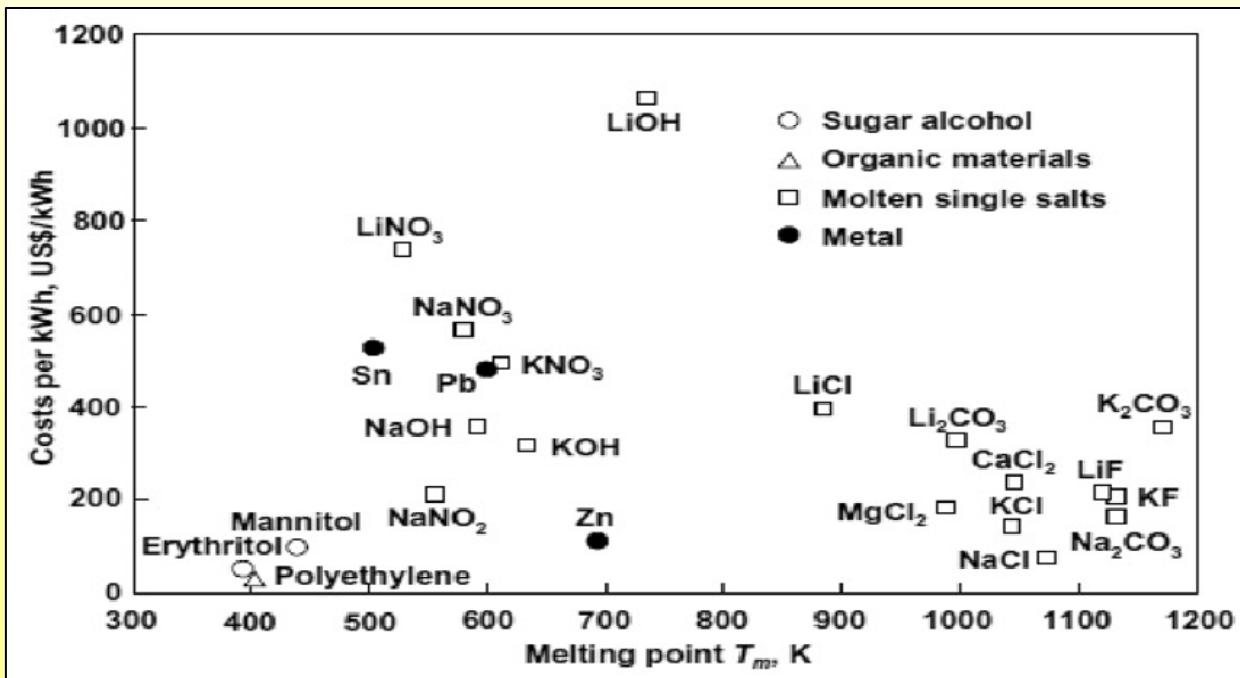
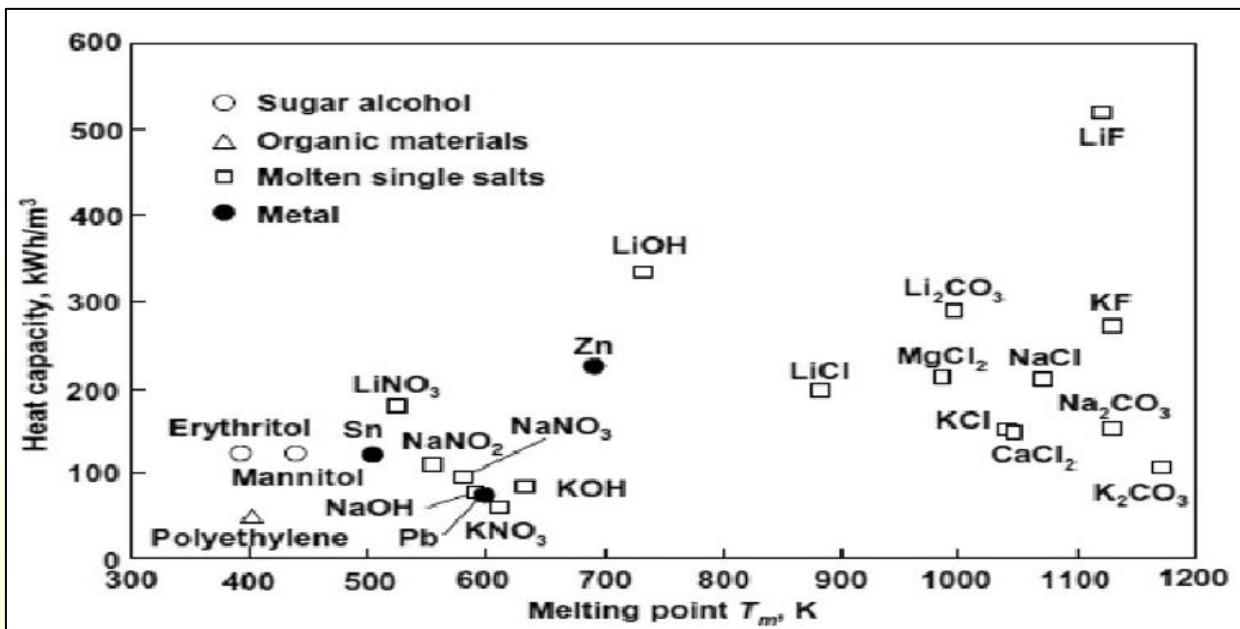
Scheme of a parabolic through plant, with concrete (or castable ceramics) storage system (Herrmann, 2006)



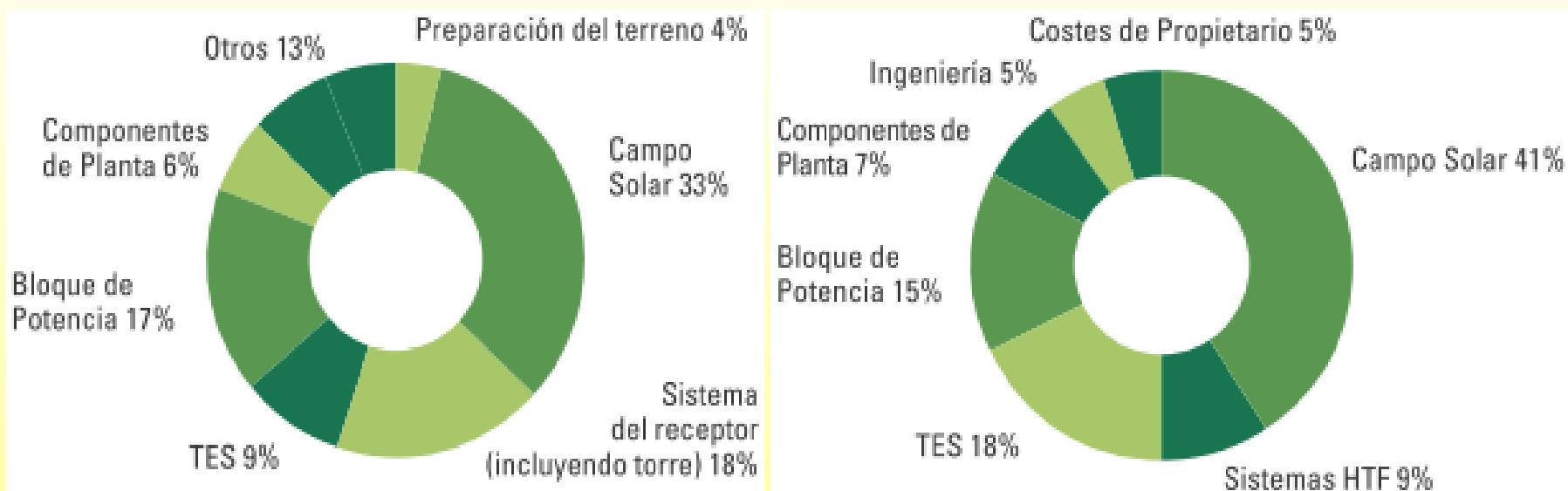
High temperature concrete storage system (Tamme 2003)

# Preliminary ECONOMIC ANALISYS

# TES Materials



# Costs of TES System



SPT

PTC

# Costs of TES System

<u>Item</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>Contingency</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
Land	2,671	0%	2,671
Structures and Improvements	3,273	15%	3,763
Collector System	513,420	5%	539,091
Thermal Storage System	94,944	5%	99,691
Heat Transport Fluid System	60,173	10%	66,190
Electric Power Generation System	98,570	10%	108,428
Master Control System	2,270	15%	2,610
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Total Field Cost	775,321	6%	822,445
Engineering, Procurement, and Home Office	12,750	15%	14,662
Construction Management and Field Procurement	5,005	15%	5,756
Startup and Checkout	2,296	15%	2,640
Contractor Fee (3 percent)	23,861	0%	23,861
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	43,911	7%	46,919
Total Overnight Construction Cost	819,232	6%	869,363

**Estimate Summary 250 MWe Plant with 3 Hours of Thermal Storage .(Kelly 2005)**

**Table 2** H.L. Zhang <sup>a,\*</sup>, J. Baeyens <sup>b</sup>, J. Degrève <sup>a</sup>, G. Cacères <sup>c</sup>

Comparison for 50 MW<sub>e</sub> CSP plants with TES. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews 22 (2013) 466–481

Parameters	PTC with oil, without storage and back-up	SPT with steam, without storage and back-up	SPT with molten salt, TES storage and back-up system
Mean gross efficiency (as % of direct radiation)	15.4	14.2	18.1
Mean net efficiency (%)	14	13.6	14
Specific power generation (kW h/m <sup>2</sup> -year)	308	258	375
Capacity factor (%)	23–50	24	Up to 75
Unitary investment (€/kW h <sub>e</sub> )	1.54	1.43	1.29
Levelized electricity cost (€/kW h <sub>e</sub> )	0.16–0.19	0.17–0.23	0.14–0.17

# CSP: CAPACITY FACTOR

*Reference Equivalent hours for solar thermal technology facilities*

Tecnología	Horas equivalentes de referencia / año	Factor de capacidad
Torre sales con almacenamiento de 15h	6.450	73,63%
Cilindro parabólico con 9h almacenamiento	4.000	45,66%
Cilindro parabólico con 7h almacenamiento	3.950	45,09%
Cilindro parabólico con 4h almacenamiento	3.450	39,38%
Cilindro parabólico sin almacenamiento	2.855	32,59%
Torre vapor saturado	2.750	31,39%
Fresnel	2.450	27,97%
Stirling	2.350	26,83%

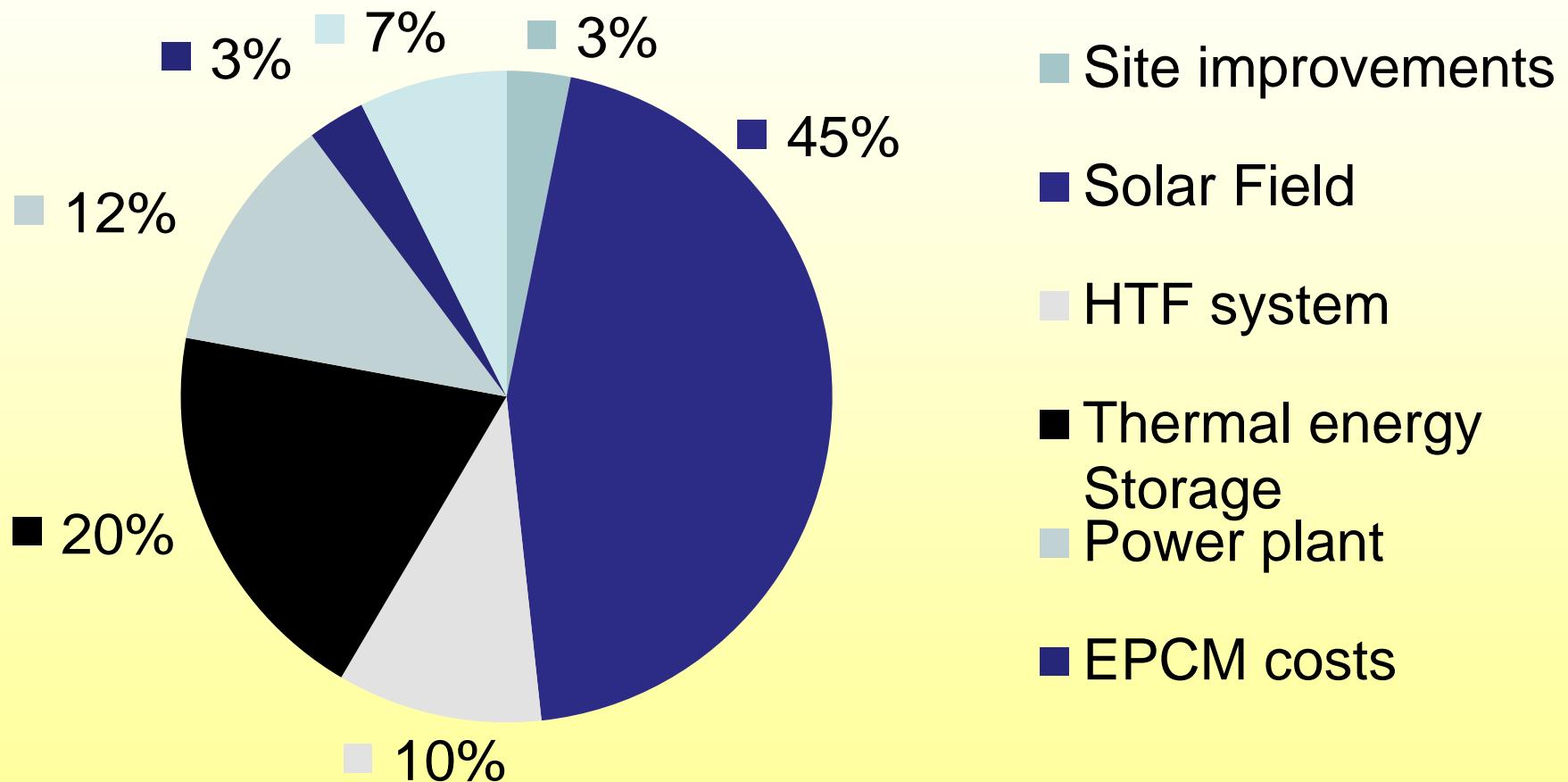
# Economic analysis in USA 2010

- **Parabolic Trough Reference Plant**
  - Worley Parsons - C. Turchi, NREL (2010)

Parabolic Trough CSP Characteristics	
Capacity	100 (MWe)
TES	6.3 (hours)
TES size	1988 (MWth)
Capacity Factor	47%
Annual net generation	426,717 (MWh)
Life	30 (years)



# Cost structure



# Worley parsons – NREL

- Total installed cost        8 (MMUSD/MWe)
- LCOE                        180 (USD/MWh)

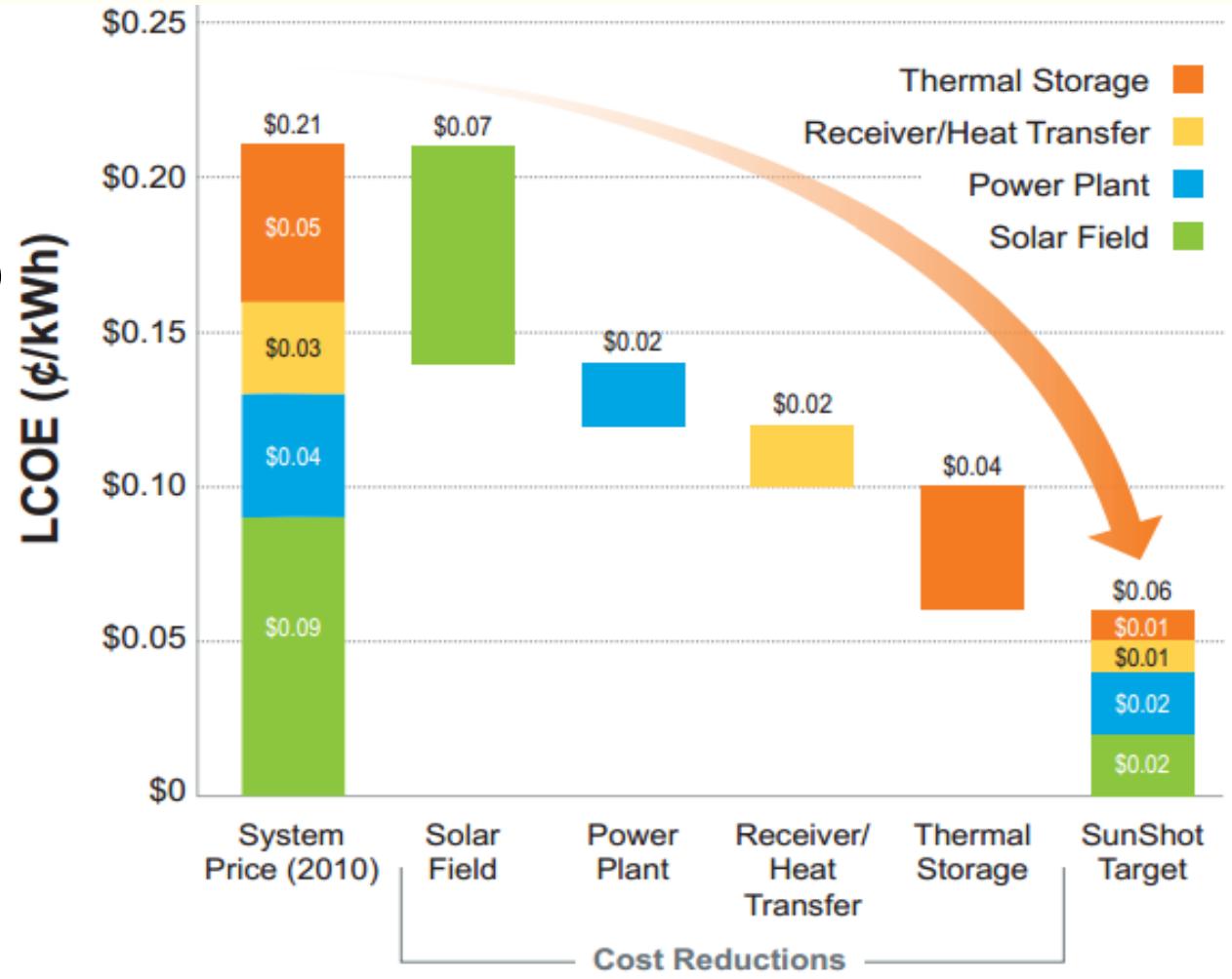
# LCOE results 2012

	Installed cost (2010 USD/kW)	Capacity factor (%)	O&M (2010 USD/kWh)	LCOE (2010 USD/kWh)
<b>Parabolic trough</b>			0.02 to 0.035	0.14 to 0.36
No storage	4 600	20 to 25		
6 hours storage	7 100 to 9 800	40 to 53		
<b>Solar tower</b>			0.02 to 0.035	0.17 to 0.29
6 to 7.5 hours storage	6 300 to 7 500	40 to 45		
12 to 15 hours storage	9 000 to 10 500	65 to 80		

CSP costs and performance in 2011 (IRENA, June, 2012)

# CSP

- LCOE
- SunShot CSP Program (DOE)



# Conclusion

**Thermal Energy Storage (TES) is a key technical and economic component for CSP Plants**

- Can reduce the LCOE
- Improve Capacity Factor
- Give stability to electricity generation
- Is low carbon emitions and can replace currents fossils back-up

## *Acknowledgements of Chilean National Projects*



**Solar Energy Research Center**  
CONICYT/FONDAP/15110019



**Proyecto Fondecyt N°1120490 en nuevos materiales TES:** Development of High Temperature Thermal Energy Storage Material Based on Salt/Copper Foam Composites

# Works and Projects TES y CSP



## PUBLICACIONES RECENTES (años 2012 y 2013)

- 1) G. Cáceres, N. Anrique, A. Girard, J. Degrève, J. Baeyens et al., "**Performance of molten salt solar power towers in Chile**", *J. Renewable Sustainable Energy* 5, 053142 (2013); doi: 10.1063/1.4826883
- 2) Zhang, HL., Baeyens, J. Degrève J., Cacères G., "**Concentrated solar power plants: Review and design methodology**", *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 22, 2013, pags. 466–481.
- 3) A. Brems, G. Cáceres, R. Dewil, J. Baeyens, F. Pitié, "**Heat transfer to the riser-wall of a circulating fluidised bed (CFB)**", *Energy*, 50, 2013, pags. 493-500
- 4) Girard, A., Muneer, T., Caceres, G., "**Achieving Higher Heat Pump COP through the use of roof-top thermal solar collectors**", *Energy Conversion and Management* , 2013 (DOI: 10.1177/1420326X13480057)
- 5) N. Corral, N. Anrique, D. Fernandes, C. Parrado, G. Caceres, "**Power, placement and LEC evaluation to install CSP plants in northern Chile**", *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 16, 2012, pags. 6678–6685.
- 6) D. Fernandes, F. Pitié, G. Cáceres and J. Baeyens, "**Thermal energy storage: How previous findings determine current research priorities**", *Energy*, vol. 39, 2012, pags. 246-257.

Participación como observador experto en el IA ECES de la Agencia Internacional de la Energía, (es la primera universidad de Latinoamérica en obtener una plaza).

Una de las universidades líderes en el SERC-Chile

Proyecto Fondecyt en nuevos materiales TES: **Development of High Temperature Thermal Energy Storage Material Based on Salt/Copper Foam Composites**

Colaboración con universidades o centros extranjeros como: **WARWICK (UK), NAPIER (UK), 4CMR (U. de Cambridge, UK), LEUVEN (Belgica), Lab. PROMES (Francia), U de Perpignan (Francia)**.

# Thanks for your attention!!!

Professor  
**GUSTAVO CÁCERES**

