
FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS ISE

Potential of PV on Trucks: A Field Study



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www.ise.fraunhofer.de

Fraunhofer ISE

At a Glance



Institute Directors:
Prof. Dr. Hans-Martin Henning
Dr. Andreas Bett

Staff: ca. 1150

Budget 2016: € 81.2 million

Established: 1981



Photovoltaics



Solar Thermal Technology



Building Energy Technology



Hydrogen Technologies



Energy System Technology

Module Technology at Fraunhofer ISE

Customized modules

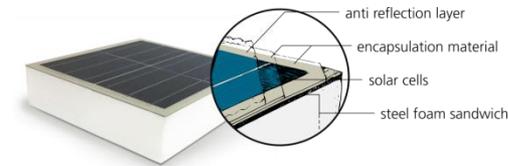
- Automotive applications
 - Design and Manufacturing process for 3D spherically shaped PV Modules
 - Cost efficient prototyping
 - Module power characterization and analysis
 - PV active thermal insulation panels for refrigerated trucks



Module Technology at Fraunhofer ISE

Customized modules

- Automotive applications
- Light-weight modules
 - special applications with weight limitations
 - PV on composite substrates, excellent stiffness at minimal weight
 - Cost efficient prototyping
 - Module characterization and analysis
 - Substrate qualification and suitable manufacturing process development



Module Technology at Fraunhofer ISE

Morpho Butterfly Inspired Coloured BIPV Modules

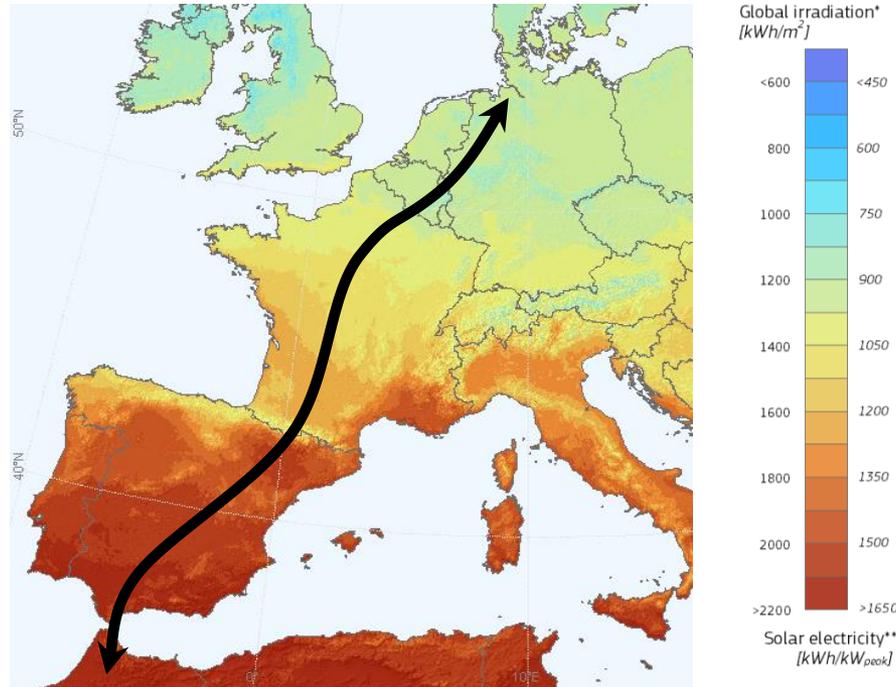
- Colour induced efficiency reduction only 7% relative
- Large variety of colours possible
- Only module glass is modified
- ➔ Standard solar cells and lamination processes can be used



Demonstrator modules: 1.09 x 1.12 m²

Motivation

Example: route of the prawns

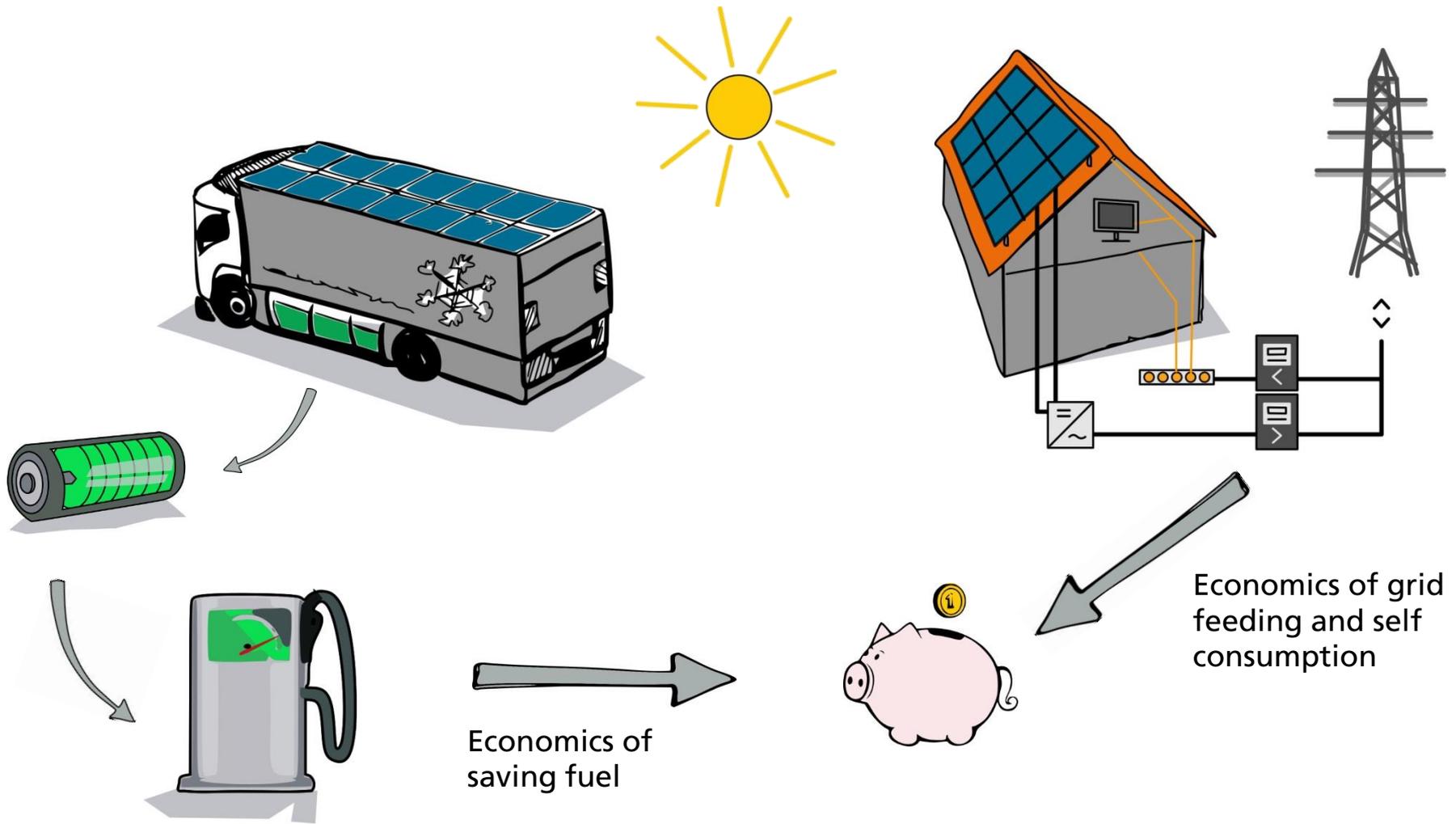


Transport of prawns between northern Germany and Morocco

→ 50% of route at > 1400 kWh/m²a

Motivation

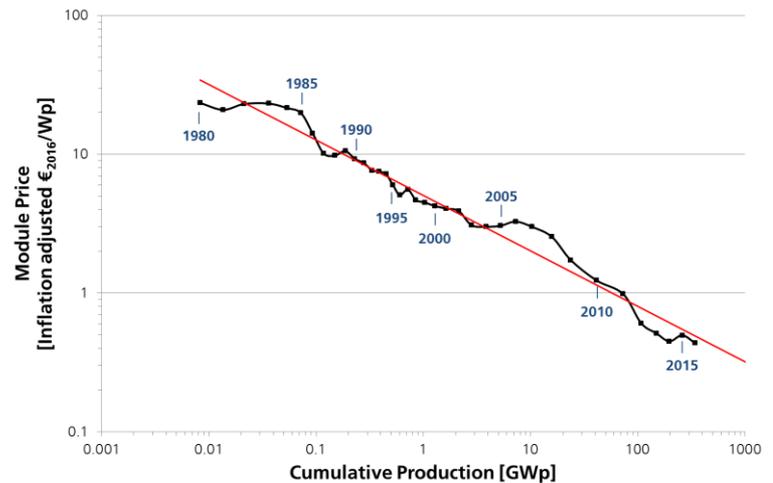
PV on refrigerating trucks



Motivation

Previous work

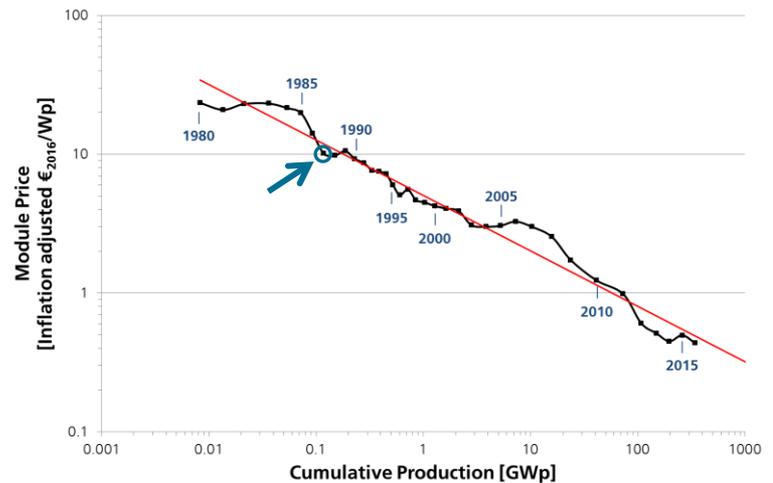
- PV on refrigerating trucks to save diesel



Motivation

Previous work

- PV on refrigerating trucks to save diesel
 - 1997: Sainsbury truck¹
 - Calculated economic break even for PV+battery in UK ~15 yrs

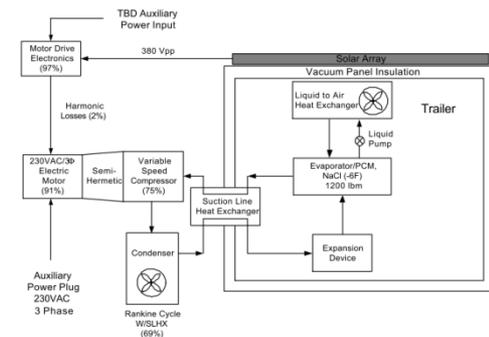
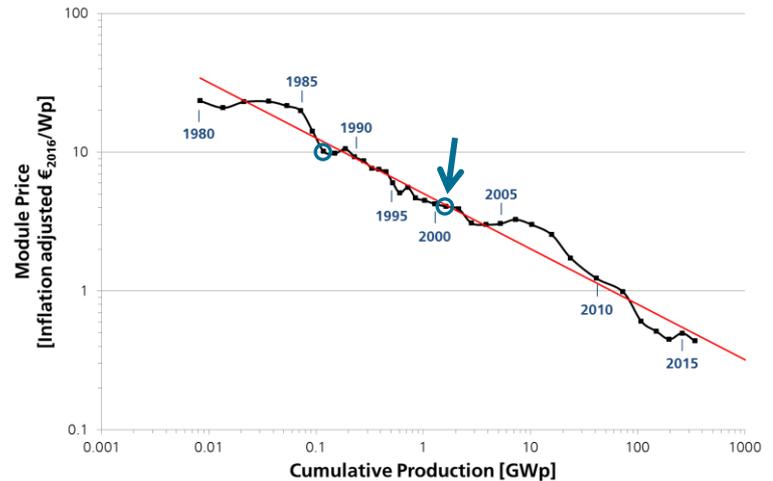


[1] A. S. Bahaj et al., Proc. 29th IEEE PVSC 2002, pp. 1561–1564.

Motivation

Previous work

- PV on refrigerating trucks to save diesel
 - 1997: Sainsbury truck¹
 - 2001: Sandia study²
- Economic break even in US
~20 yrs @ 5\$/W_p module prize



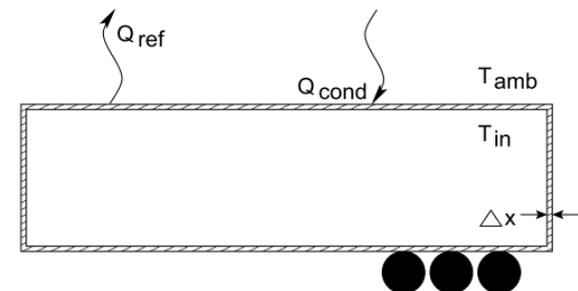
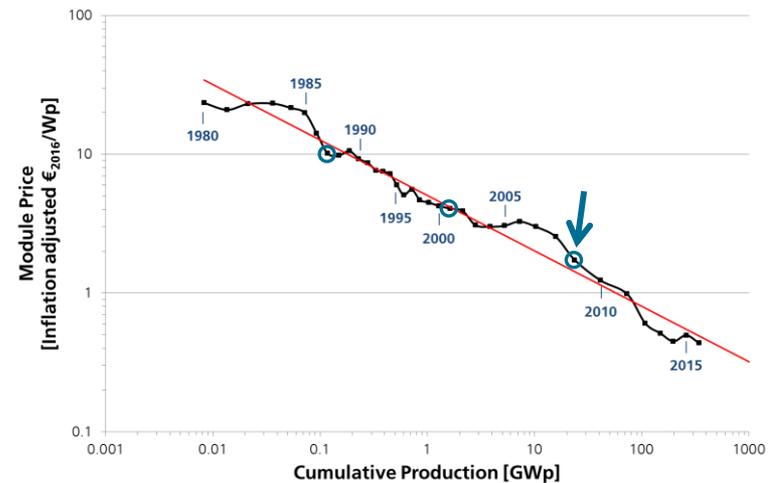
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[2] D. Bergeron, Sandia Report, Albuquerque, NM, 2001.

Motivation

Previous work

- PV on refrigerating trucks to save diesel
 - 1997: Sainsbury truck¹
 - 2001: Sandia study²
 - 2009: ANU Study³
- not economically feasible for Australia at Diesel prize level



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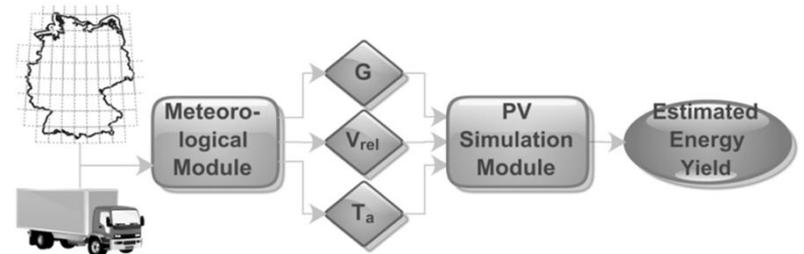
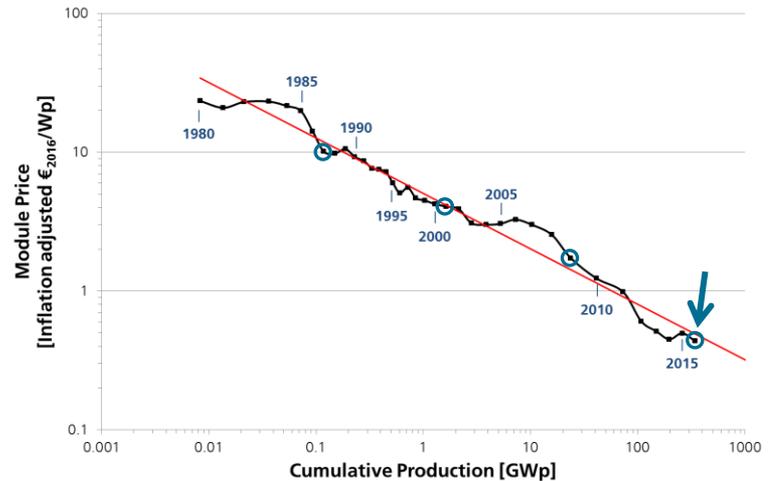
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[3] B. Elliston et al., "Feasibility of Solar-Assisted Refrigerated Transport in Australia", 2009.

Motivation

Previous work

- PV on refrigerating trucks to save diesel
 - 1997: Sainsbury truck¹
 - 2001: Sandia study²
 - 2009: ANU Study³
 - 2016: Next Energy study⁴
 - → simulation study yields diesel savings of 2000 L/a for cSi and 850 L/a for thin film PV



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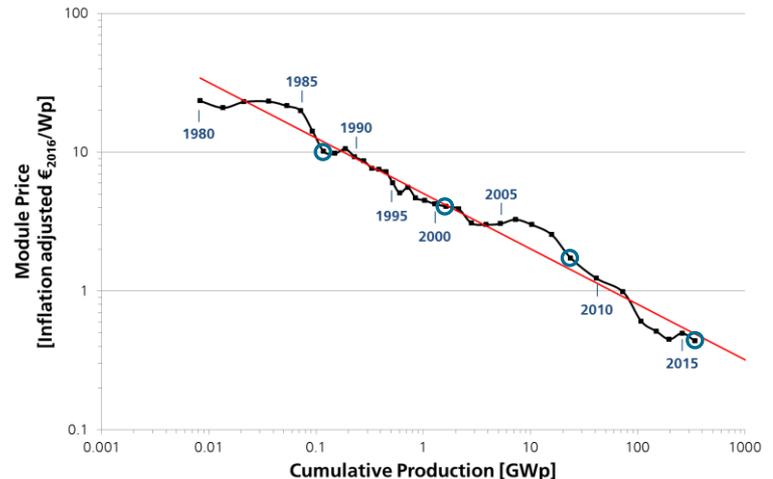
[3] B. Elliston et al., “Feasibility of Solar-Assisted Refrigerated Transport in Australia”, 2009.

[4] M. Kühnel et al., PROG PV (7), 2017, pp. 525–532

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- PV on refrigerating trucks to save diesel
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→ Outdated or modelled data
→ up-to-date verification by measuring operational yield needed

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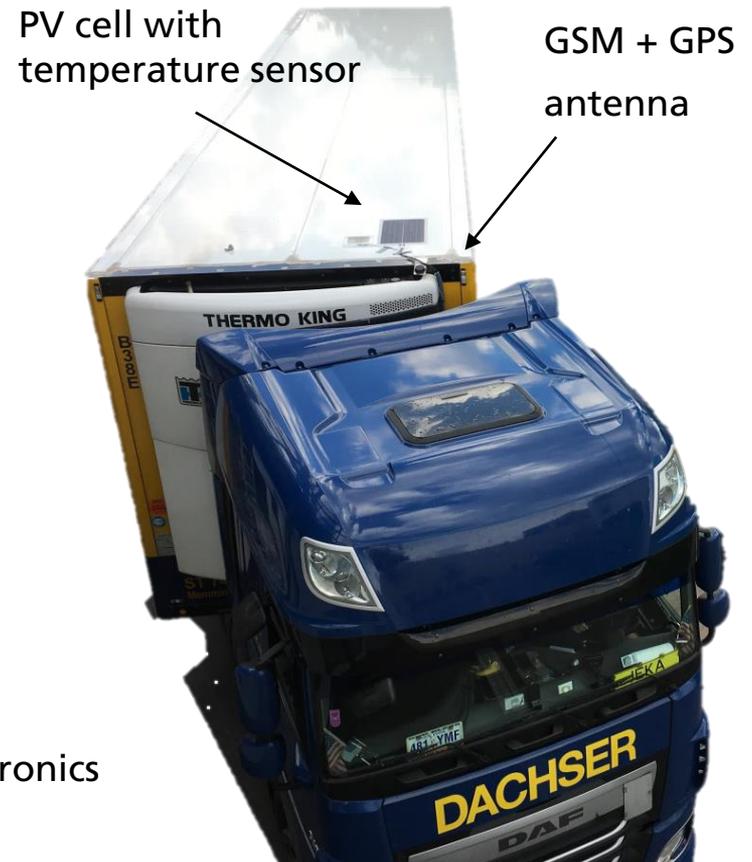
Measurement campaign

PV yield assessment

- Record irradiance profiles for real transportation routes
- Verified yield models required for system design and economical evaluation



Housing of measurement electronics



PV cell with temperature sensor

GSM + GPS antenna

Measurement campaign

Data measured

■ Measured data

- GPS coordinates
- Solar cell I_{sc}
- Cell temperature T



■ Calculation of

- Status moving/stationary
- Day/night
- Irradiation G
- Yield E for full roof coverage

$$G = \frac{I_{sc}}{I_{sc,STC}} \cdot G_{STC} \cdot (1 - (T_{cell} - 25^{\circ}C) \cdot \beta)$$

$$P_{mod} = G \cdot \eta_{mod} \cdot (1 - (T_{cell} - 25^{\circ}C) \cdot \alpha)$$

$$E = \sum_1^n P_{mod} \cdot \Delta t$$

Measurement campaign

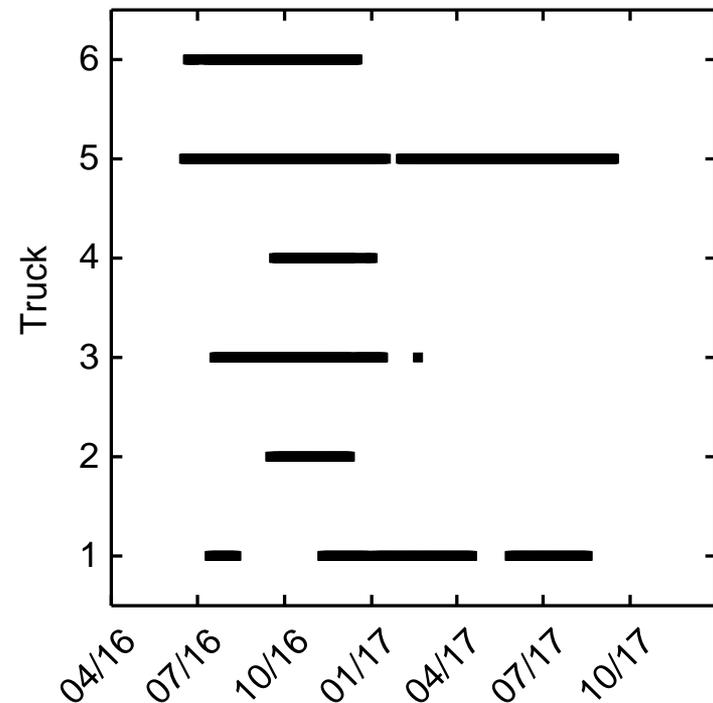
Trucks and routes



Measurement campaign

Results for 40t trailer

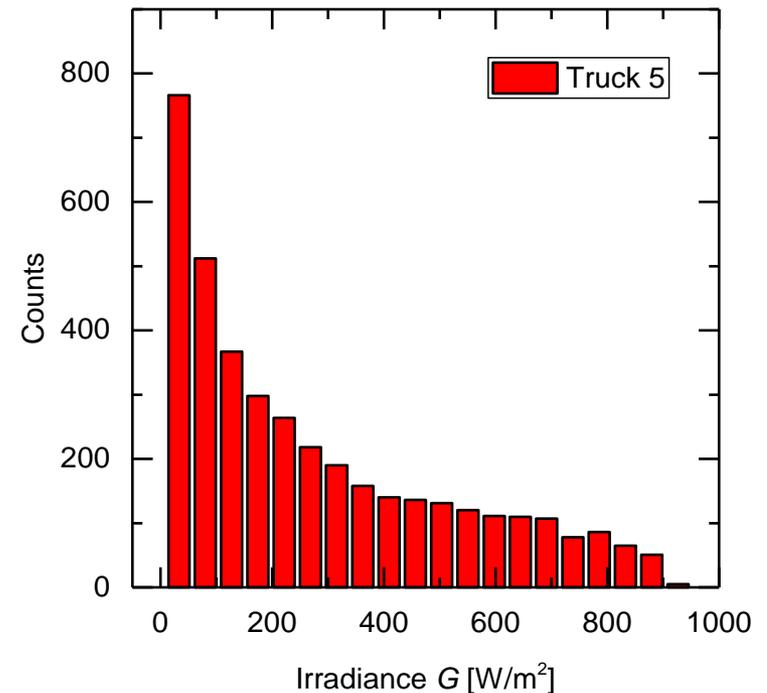
- Start of campaign June 2016
 - > 1 year
 - 3 months
 - Failures of electronics due to water ingress
 - Temporary failure of temperature sensor
- Incorrect data filtered for postprocessing



Measurement campaign

Irradiance levels and temperature effects

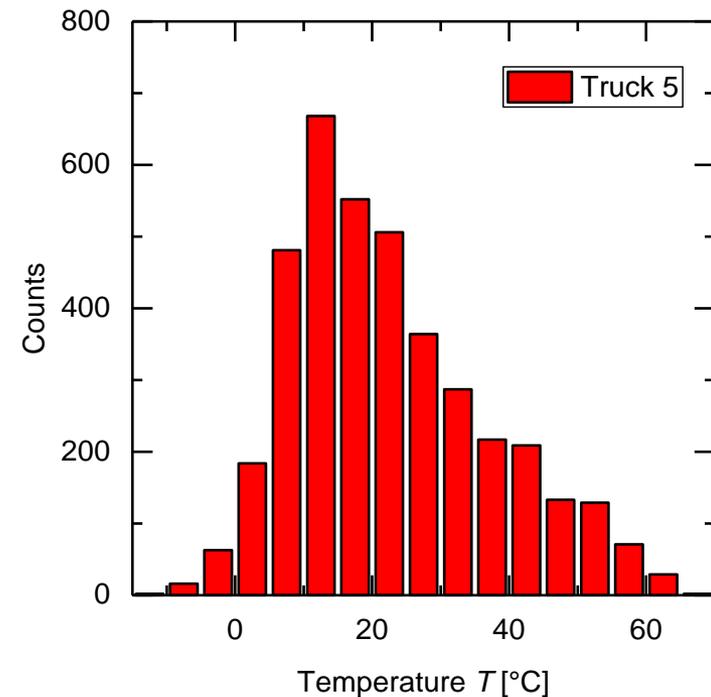
- Horizontal mounting leads to lower yield
- 50% of measured data < 200 W/m²
- Maximum irradiance 930 W/m²
- Angular effects included and sensor not cleaned



Measurement campaign

Irradiance levels and temperature effects

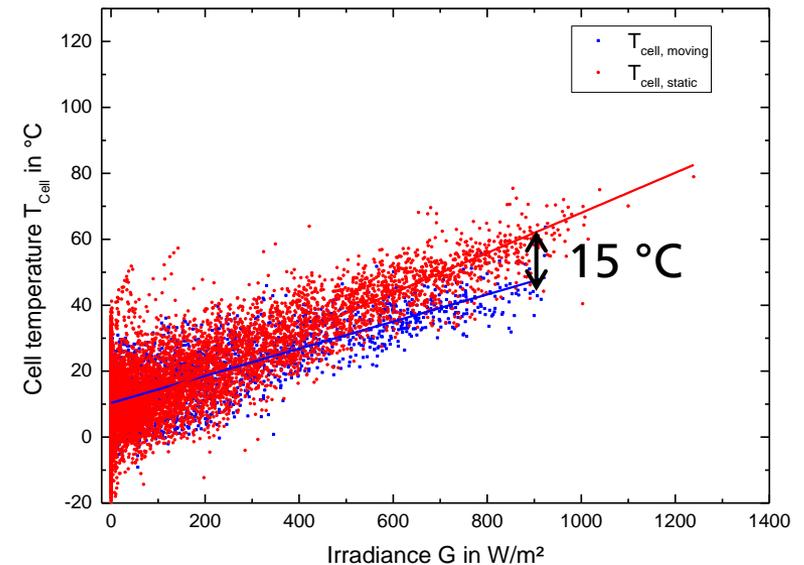
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- Cell temperature range between -14°C and 66°C
- Average temperature 22°C



Measurement campaign

Irradiance levels and temperature effects

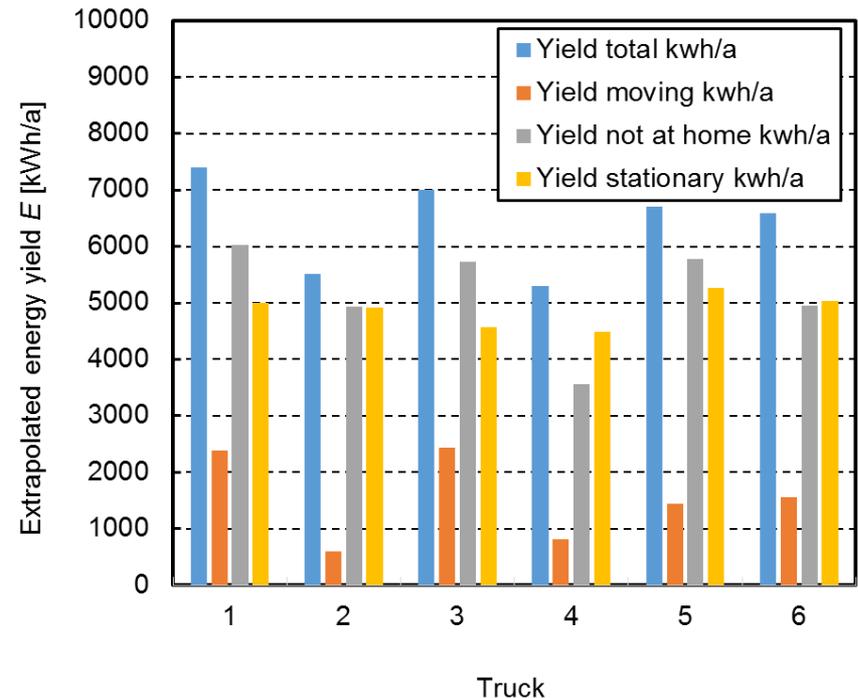
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- Average temperature 22°C
- Head wind cools cell temperature by ~15°C @ G > 800 W/m²



Measurement campaign

Annual yield

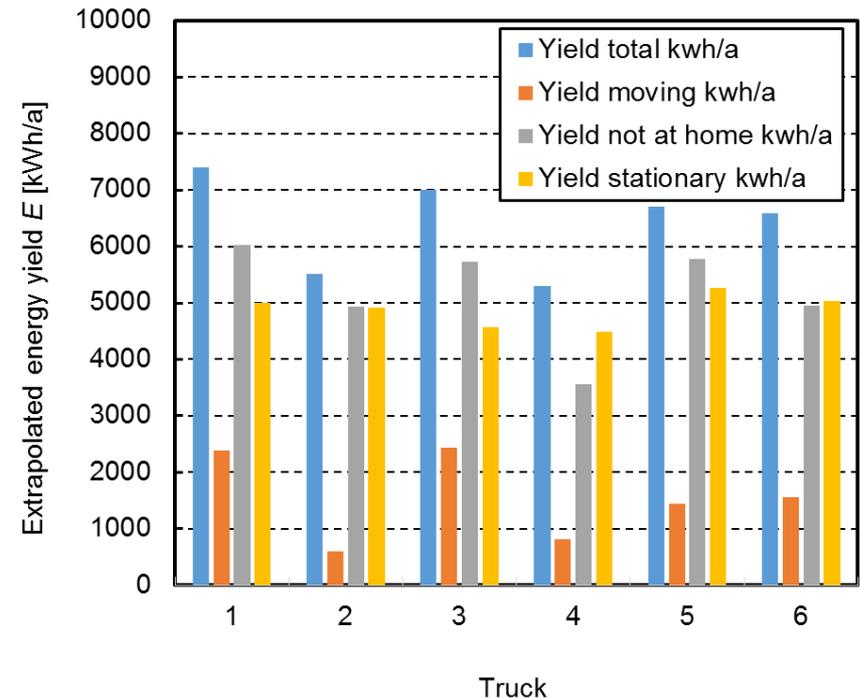
- Extrapolation of measured data
 - to 1 year for all trucks
 - based on monthly yield data of nearby location
- Grouping data into status
 - Total yield
 - Yield moving
 - Yield stationary
 - Yield not at home



Measurement campaign

Annual yield

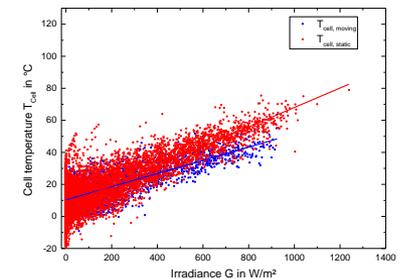
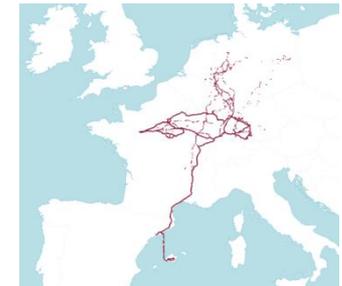
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→ Yield between 7395 and 5297 kWh/a, in average 6421 kWh/a

Conclusion

- Measurement campaign on 6 trucks in Europe and US
 - Cell temperature range between -14°C and 66°C
 - Head wind cooling $\sim 15^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - Annual yield
 - between 5297 and 7395 kWh/a in total
 - 11 – 35 % (\emptyset 23 %) during movement
 - Diesel reduction
 - Yield equivalent to 1513 L and 2113 L
 - Next Energy study for Germany (2000 L) reasonable
- Electricity usage and transport scenario highly decisive for PV on trucks



Thank you for your attention!



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