

Photovoltaics II

Conversion of light to electricity

Previously

For later:

Local solar potential

Balance of system

Tracking methods

Concentrating systems

Solar lighting

Solar thermal

also:

Kardashev scale

Space based solar power

Dyson swarms

Local solar potential (covered in Solar Strategies)

Balance of system

Tracking methods

Concentrating systems

Solar lighting

Solar thermal

also:

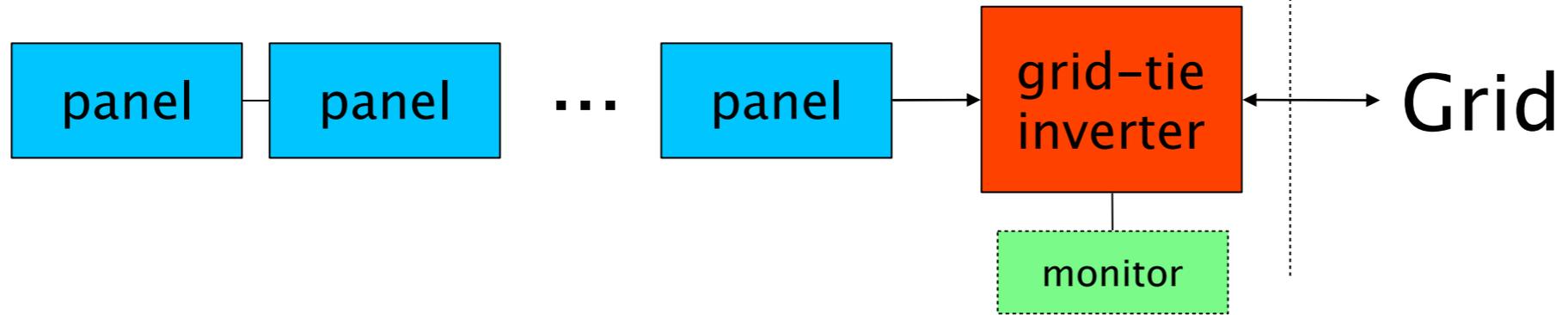
Kardashev scale

Space based solar power

Dyson swarms

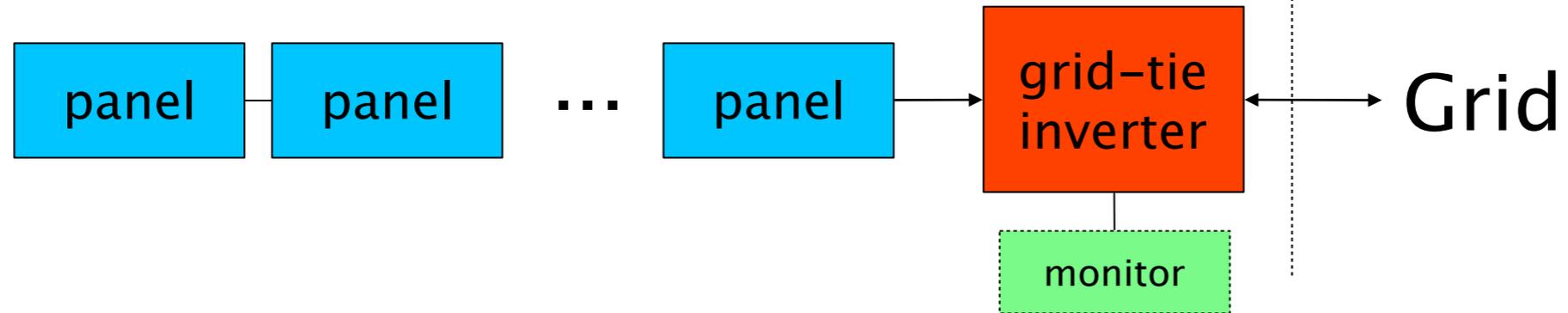
Balance of system:
grid tie

grid tie

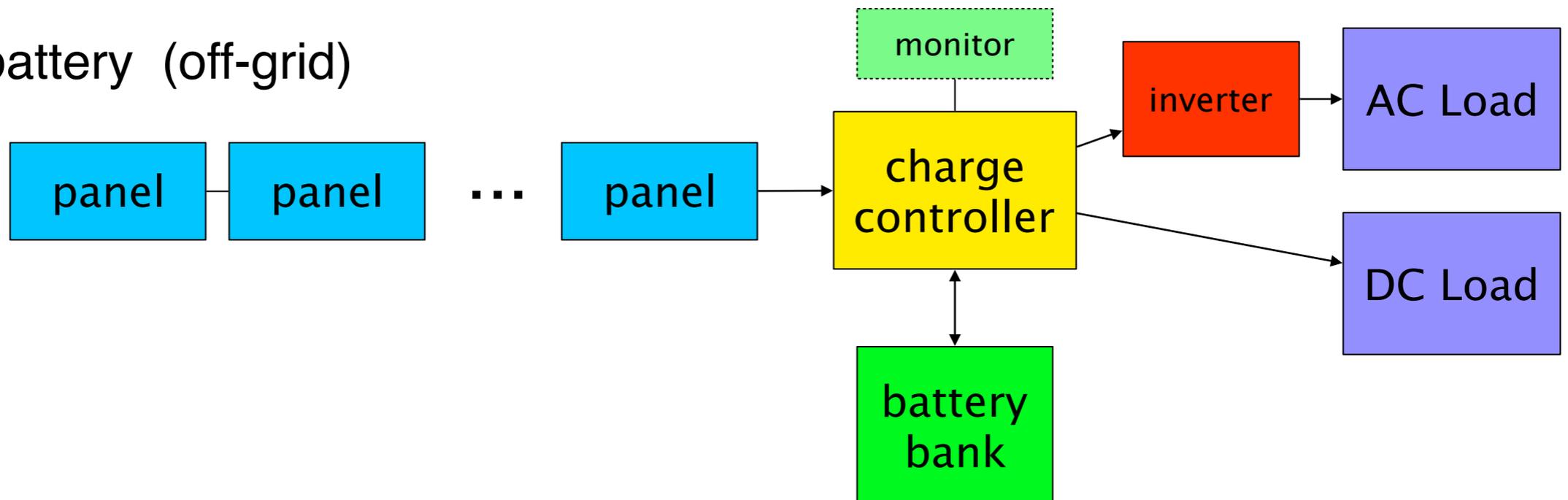


Balance of system:
grid tie vs. battery

grid tie



battery (off-grid)



Not shown but important: fuses, disconnect switches, etc.

Balance of system:
grid-tie inverter



Inverters at "Riverhouse"
Battery Park City



SUNNY BOY 5000-US / 6000-US / 7000-US / 8000-US

Versatile performer with UL certification

The Sunny Boy 5000-US, 6000-US, 7000-US and 8000-US inverters are UL certified and feature excellent efficiency. Graduated power classes provide flexibility in system design. Automatic grid voltage detection* and an integrated DC disconnect switch simplify installation, ensuring safety as well as saving time. These models feature galvanic isolation and can be used with all types of modules-crystalline as well as thin-film.

Extended operating temperature range to -40 °C available. Please specify when ordering.

* US Patent US7352540B1



WHERE TO BUY

Overview

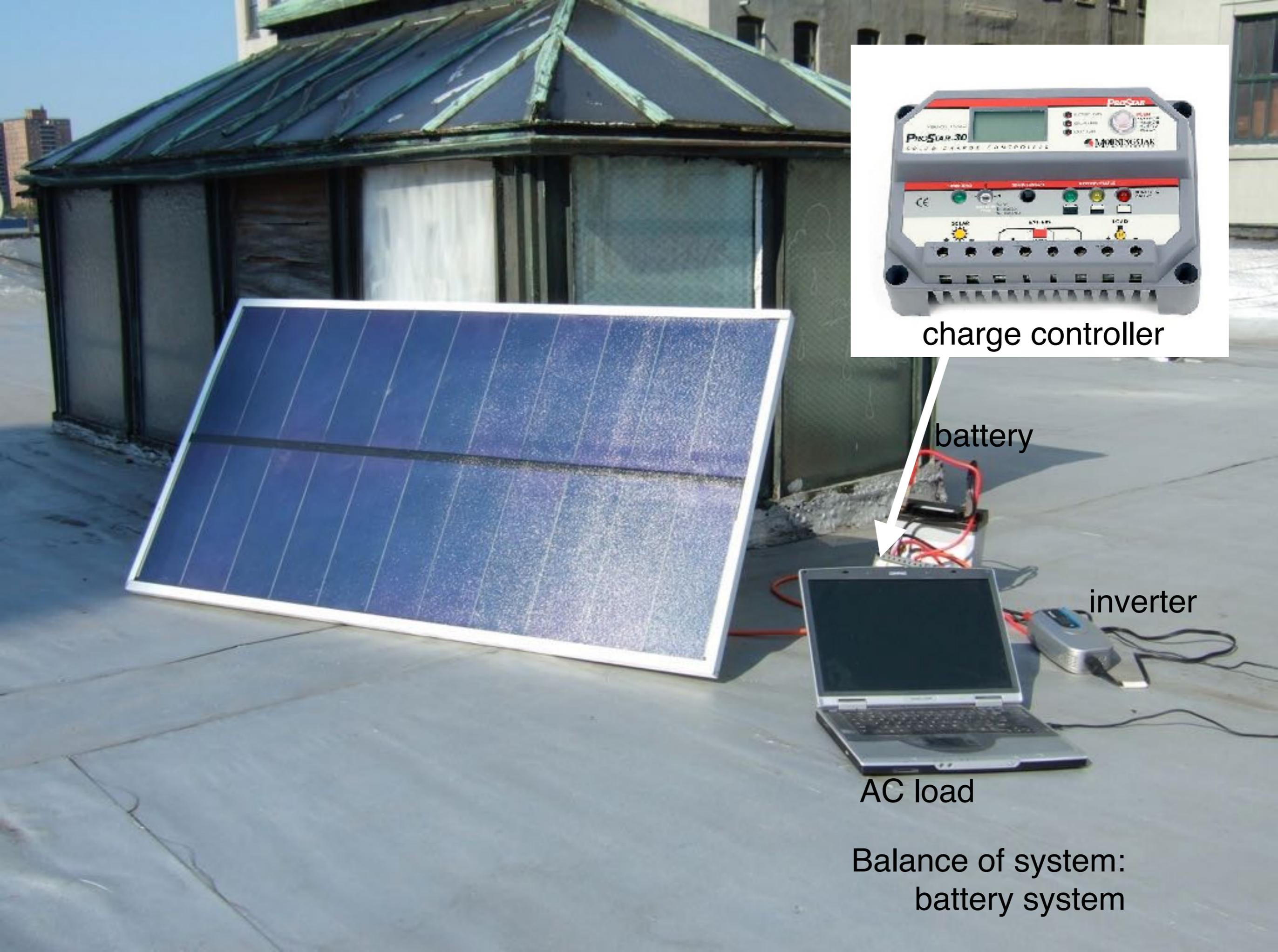
Technical data

Downloads

	Sunny Boy 5000-US	Sunny Boy 6000-US	Sunny Boy 7000-US	Sunny Boy 8000-US
Input (DC)				
	208 V AC 240 V AC 277 V AC	208 V AC 240 V AC 277 V AC	208 V AC 240 V AC 277 V AC	240 V AC 277 V AC
Max. recommended PV power (@ module STC)	6250 W	7500 W	8750 W	10000 W
Max. DC power (@ cos φ = 1)	5300 W	6350 W	7400 W	8600 W
Max. DC voltage	600 V	600 V	600 V	600 V
DC nominal voltage	310 V	310 V	310 V	345 V
MPP voltage range	250 V - 480 V	250 V - 480 V	250 V - 480 V	300 V - 480 V
Min. DC voltage / start voltage	250 V / 300 V	250 V / 300 V	250 V / 300 V	300 V / 365 V
Max. input current / per string (at DC disconnect)	21 A / 20 A 36 A @ combined terminal	25 A / 20 A 36 A @ combined terminal	30 A / 20 A 36 A @ combined terminal	30 A / 20 A 36 A @ combined terminal
Number of MPP trackers / fused strings per MPP tracker	1 / 4 (DC disconnect)	1 / 4 (DC disconnect)	1 / 4 (DC disconnect)	1 / 4 (DC disconnect)
Output (AC)				
AC nominal power	5000 W	5000 W	7000 W	7680 W 8100 W
Max. AC apparent power	5000 VA	5000 VA	7000 VA	7680 VA 8100 VA
Nominal AC voltage / adjustable	208 V / yes 240 V / yes 277 V / yes	208 V / yes 240 V / yes 277 V / yes	208 V / yes 240 V / yes 277 V / yes	240 V / yes 277 V / yes
AC voltage range	183 - 229 V 211 - 264 V 244 - 305 V	183 - 229 V 211 - 264 V 244 - 305 V	183 - 229 V 211 - 264 V 244 - 305 V	211 - 264 V 244 - 305 V

Balance of system:
grid-tie inverter

Inverters at "Riverhouse"
Battery Park City



charge controller

battery

inverter

AC load

Balance of system:
battery system

Product Selector

Please use filters on the right side to search for products.

Inverters



SureSine

SI-300-115V (60 Hz)
SI-300-115V-LL (60 Hz)
GI-300-220V (50 Hz)

MPPT Charge Controllers



TriStar MPPT 600W



TriStar MPPT

TS MPPT 46
TG-MPPT-60

Product Selector

Type of regulation

Solar Current

Load Current

Load Control

Meter Option Available?

Data Port Available?

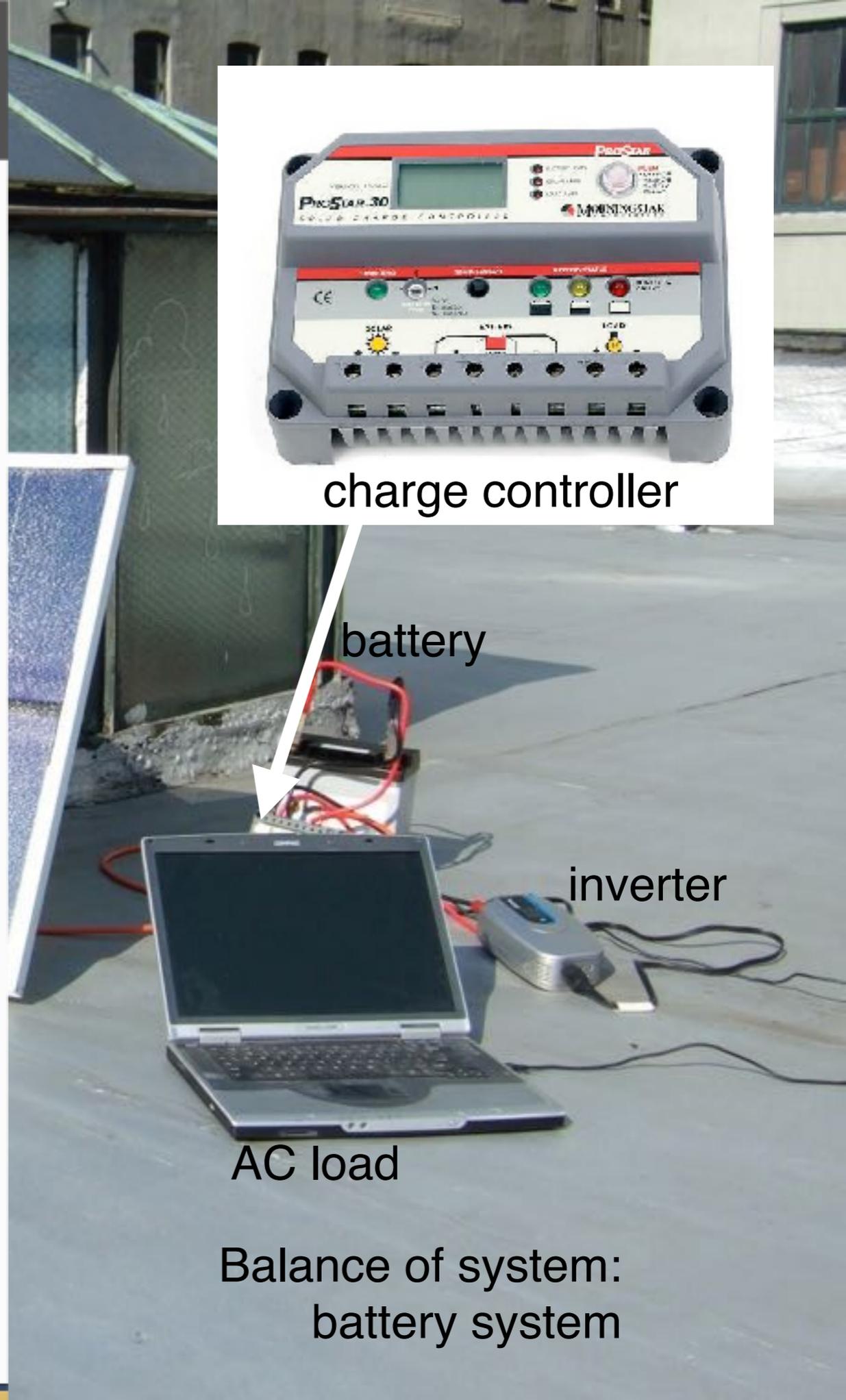
Battery System Voltage

12 24 36 48 8 8-64

Submit



charge controller



battery

inverter

AC load

Balance of system:
battery system

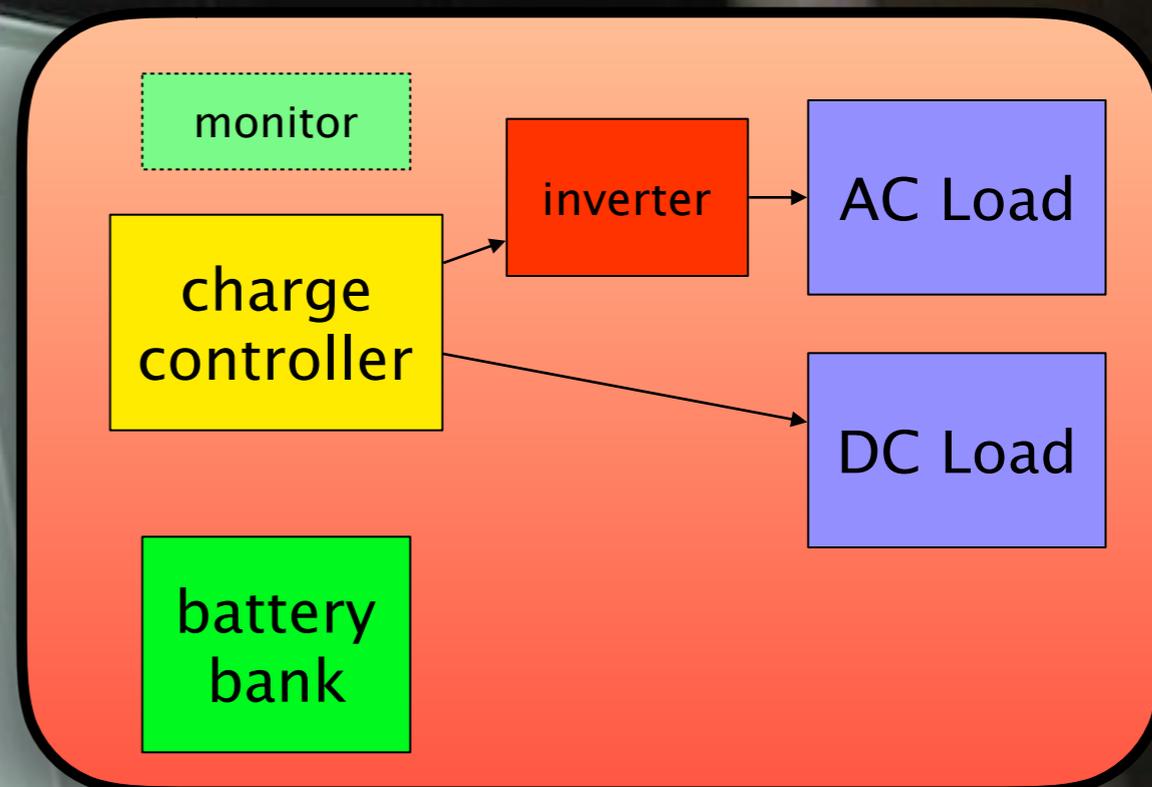
<http://www.morningstarcorp.com/product-selector/>



SUNSAVER MPPT

3S-MPPT-15L

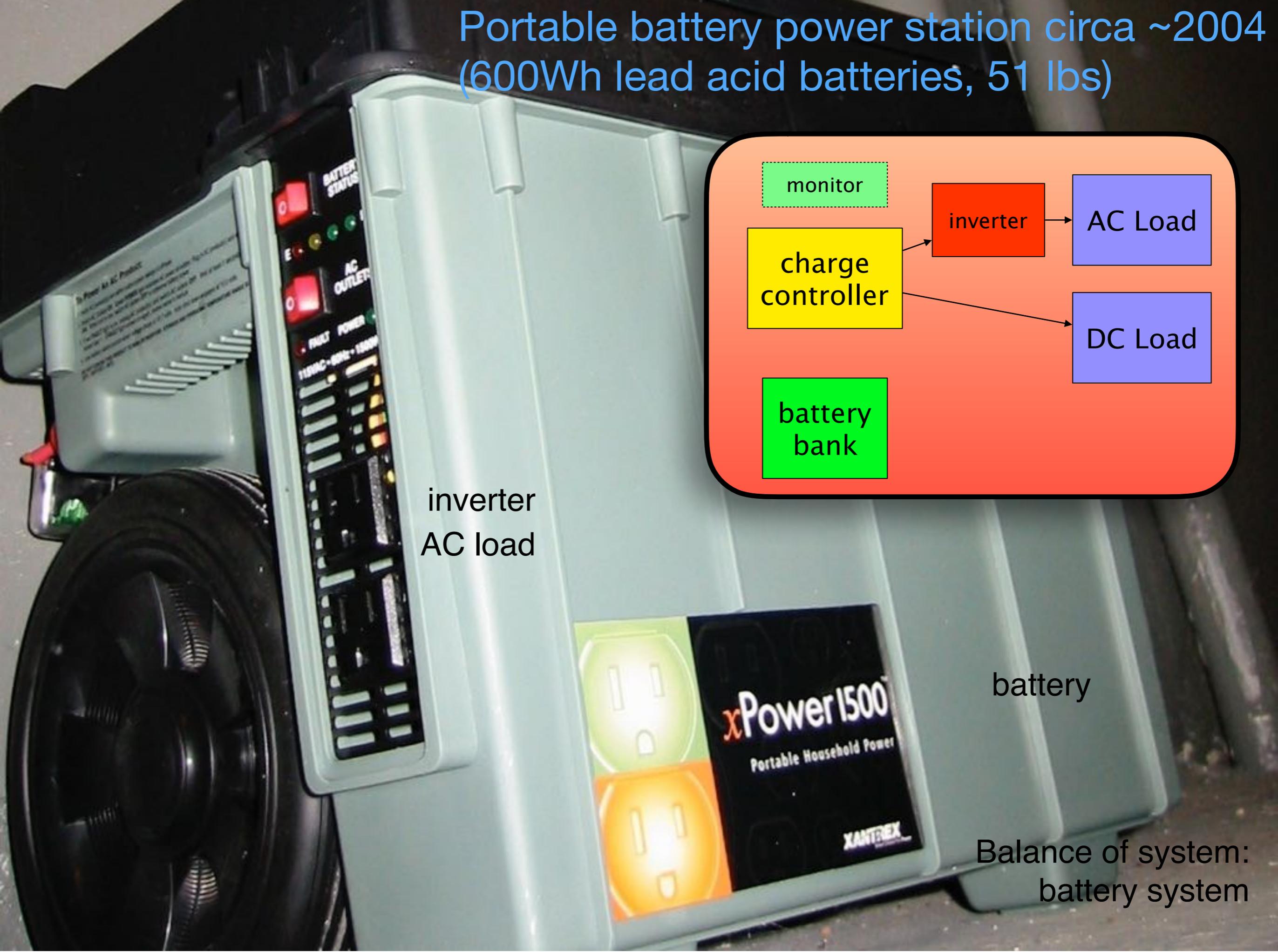
Portable battery power station circa ~2004 (600Wh lead acid batteries, 51 lbs)



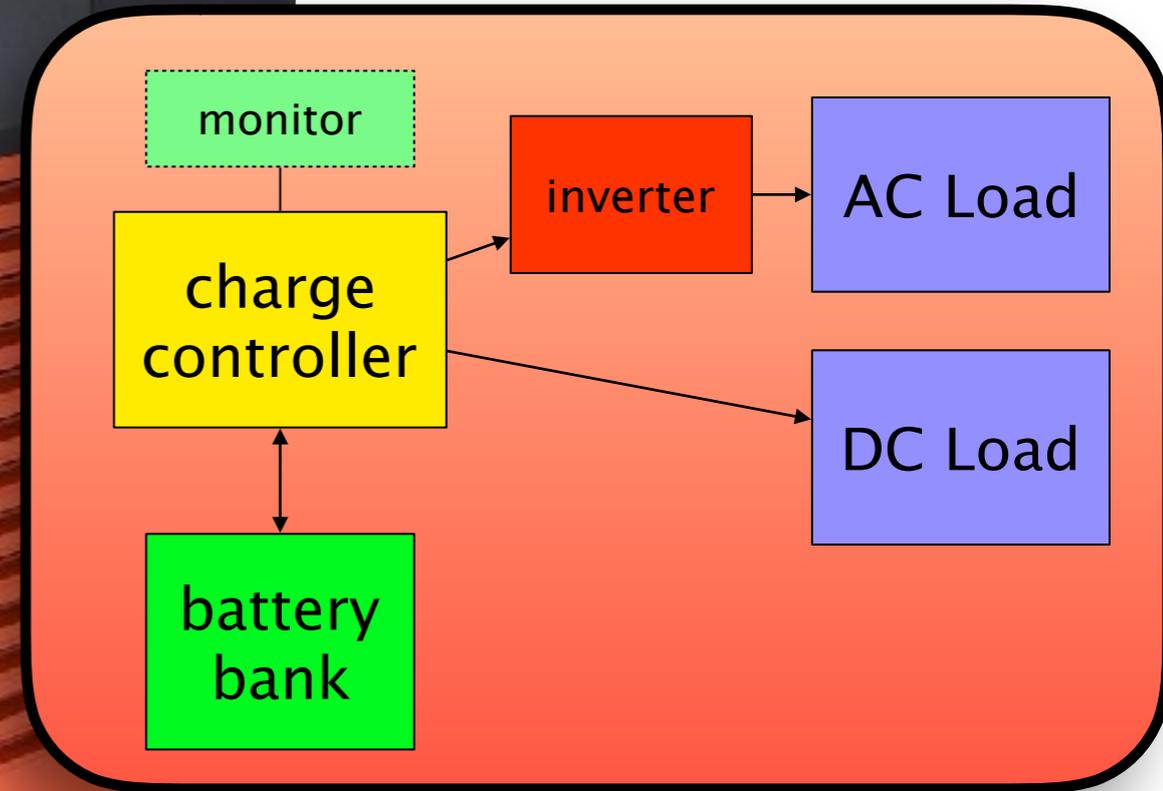
inverter
AC load

battery

Balance of system:
battery system



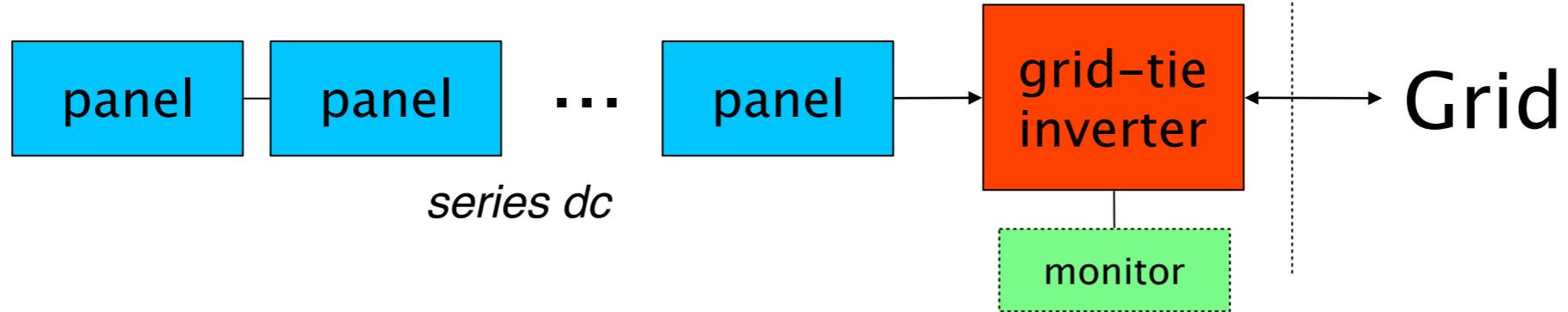
Portable battery power station circa ~2021
(1000Wh Lithium batteries, 22 lbs)



Balance of system:
battery system

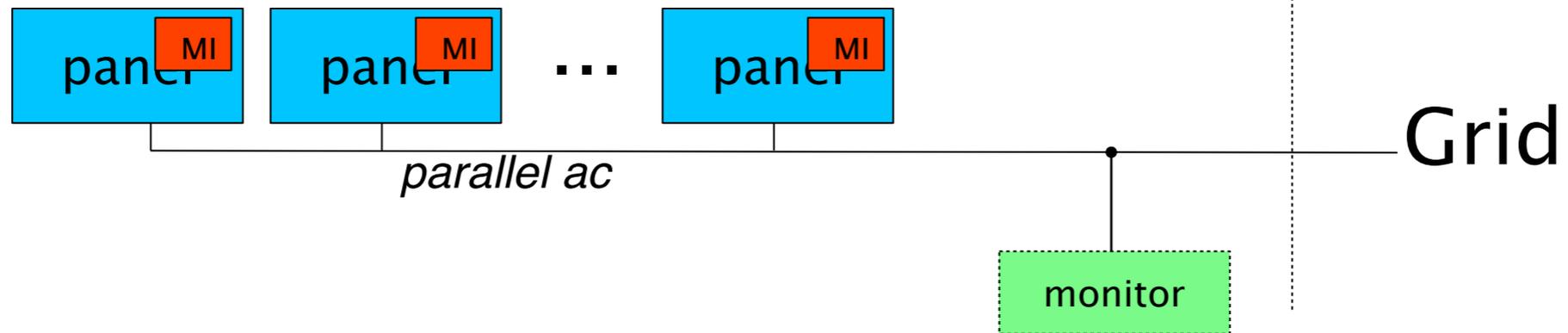
Balance of system:
grid tie (traditional) vs. micro inverters vs. DC optimizers

central inverter

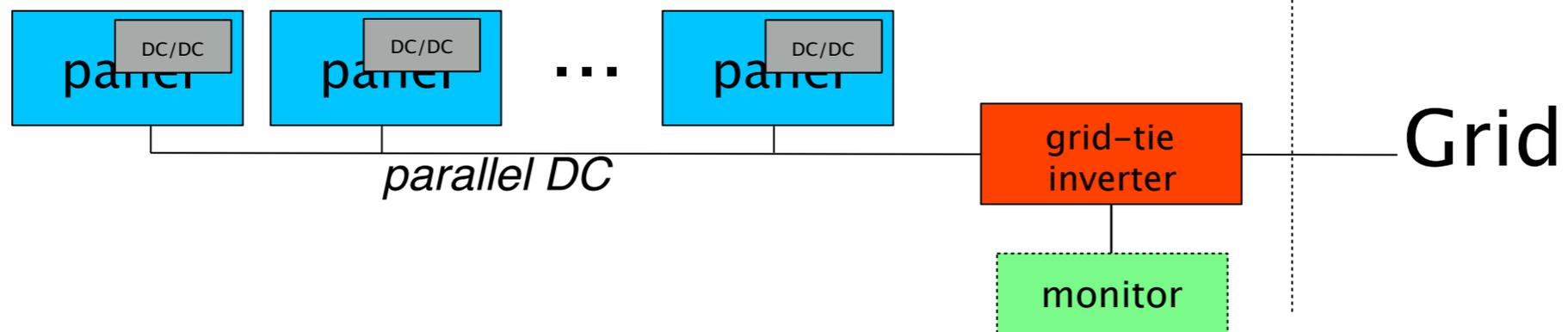


“Module level electronics”

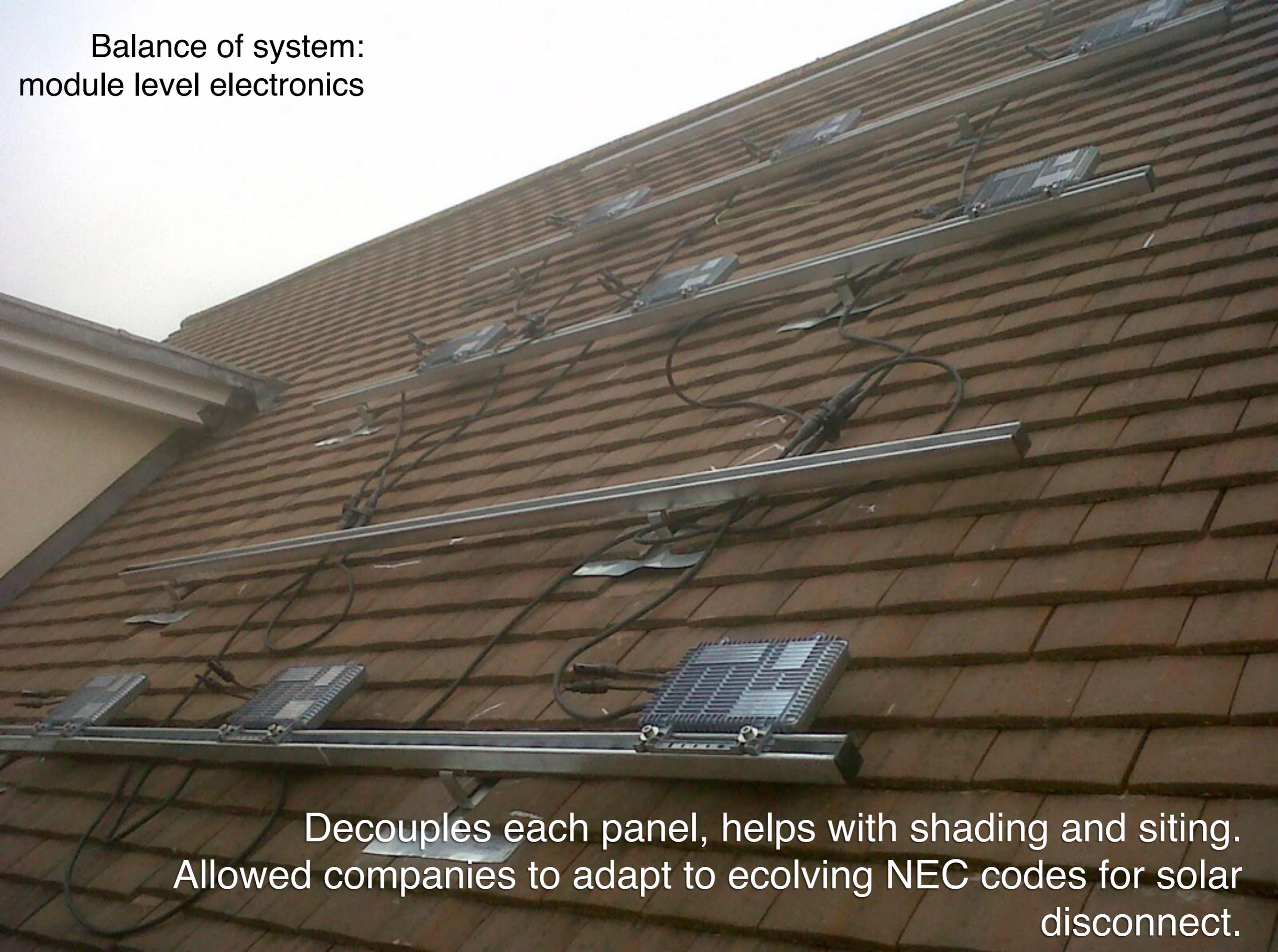
micro inverter



DC optimizer w/ central inverter



Balance of system:
module level electronics



Decouples each panel, helps with shading and siting.
Allowed companies to adapt to evolving NEC codes for solar
disconnect.

IMPORTANT: READ ALL MANUALS COMPLETELY PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF SYSTEM COMPONENTS AND WIRING FOR CRITICAL SAFETY INFORMATION, INSTALLATION SEQUENCES, COMPONENT SETTINGS AND OPERATION PROCEDURES.

THIS DIAGRAM depicts EQUIPMENT SEQUENCE AND TYPICAL WIRING PRACTICES.

ON-SITE LOCATION OF EQUIPMENT IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF UTILITY PROVIDER.

REFER TO MANUALS AND ACTUAL EQUIPMENT LABELS FOR WIRING TERMINATION LOCATIONS.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SALES TECHNICIAN FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS SYSTEM OR DIAGRAM.

WHOLESALE SOLAR
1-800-473-1143

SOLAR EDGE
P400-5MC4AR-140C WATT
MCA/MCA INPUT/OUTPUT
POWER BOX DC OPTIMIZER

MUST BE PART OF A UL LISTED GROUNDING SYSTEM AT MODULES AND OPTIMIZERS

1 - #10 MV 2X0V CU
1 - #6 CU GROUND

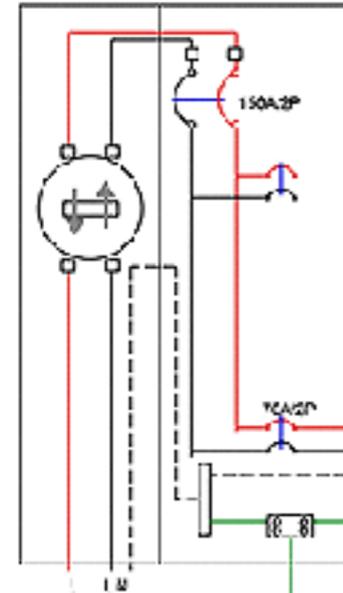
USER SUPPLIED
REVERSIBLE BOX TO TRANSITION TO
EMT WHEN REQUIRED

4 - #10 THWN-2
1 - #6 CU GROUND
IN 1/2" EMT CONDUIT MIN.

SAMPLE ONLY

FOR NEC LOCATE GRID-TIE AD BREAKER OPPOSITE OF MAIN SERVICE BREAKER IN LAST BREAKER POSITION.

BI-DIRECTIONAL UTILITY METER EXAMPLE OF 200A MAIN SERVICE



OPERATE THE 200A SERVICE BREAKER TO 150A TO MAINTAIN NEC 120% RISE/RUN CONDUCTOR RATING IN CONJUNCTION WITH 75A PV BACK-FEED BREAKER.

MANUAL DISCONNECT MAY BE REQUIRED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.

USER SUPPLIED
3 - #8 THWN-2 CU
1 - #6 CU GROUND
IN 3/4" EMT CONDUIT MIN.

USER SUPPLIED
DELICATA 100V
SUB PANEL
(NO LOADS)

USER SUPPLIED
3 - #8 THWN-2 CU
1 - #6 CU GROUND
IN 3/4" EMT CONDUIT MIN.

SOLAR EDGE SB8000-US
UTILITY INTERTIE INVERTERS
33C-500VDC @ 25A VAC
TRANSFORMERLESS
BUILT-IN GFIPL
DC DISCONNECT &
ARC FAULT PROTECTION

REVERSIBLE
SPICES MAY BE
REQUIRED.

4 - #10 THWN-2 CU
1 - #6 THWN-2 CU GROUND

WHOLESALE SOLAR

12R150

① SOLAR PV MODULES
SOLARWORLD
S3320 MONO PRO XL
PMAK 320 WATTS
VMP 36.7 VDC
VOC 45.9 VDC
IMPP 3.74 ADC
ISC 9.21 ADC

② POWERBOXES/STRING
INVERTERS
PMAK 2,200 WATTS
VMP 150.00 VDC
VOC 150.00 VDC
IMPP 9.14 ADC

③ INVERTER
SOLAR EDGE
SB8000-US
DC INPUT
PMAK 6,200 WATTS
VMP 300.00 VDC
VOC 300.00 VDC
IMPP 18.05 ADC

AC MAX CUI PVI
@ 240 VAC
6,000 WATTS AC
25.00 AMPS AC

ALL WIRING MUST COMPLY WITH NEC CODES AND LOCAL AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.

DIAGRAM NOTATIONS REFLECT BREAKER SIZES, AND MINIMUM WIRE AND CONDUIT SIZES FOR SIZE OF SYSTEM AS SHOWN AND ACCORDING TO 2014 NEC REGULATIONS FOR SAFETY.

PREPARED BY: CHAD
CHECKED BY: JOSEH
02.02.2016 REV 1

Balance of system:
micro inverter



Balance of system:
micro inverter

40 MW goal

PSE&G Installed Solar Projects	Location	Size MW-dc	Service Date
Pole-attached solar units	Statewide	26.92	as of February 1, 2012
PSE&G Trenton Solar Farm	Trenton, NJ	1.26	September, 2010
Barringer High School	Newark, NJ	0.65	October, 2010
Central High School	Newark, NJ	0.50	October, 2010
Park Avenue Elementary School	Newark, NJ	0.51	October, 2010
PSE&G Silver Lake Solar Farm	Edison, NJ	2.02	November, 2010
Camden St. Schools	Newark, NJ	0.91	December, 2010
PSE&G Edison Training & Development	Edison, NJ	0.71	December, 2010
CenterPoint Properties	Bayonne, NJ	1.75	December, 2010
PSE&G Linden Solar Farm	Linden, NJ	3.20	December, 2010
PSE&G Central Division Headquarters	Somerset, NJ	0.92	December, 2010
PSE&G Yardville Solar Farm	Hamilton TWP, NJ	4.30	February, 2011
Matrix Realty Building A	Perth Amboy, NJ	1.69	February, 2011
Matrix Realty Building B	Perth Amboy, NJ	1.17	February, 2011
Matrix Realty	South Brunswick, NJ	2.98	June, 2011
Rider University	Lawrenceville, NJ	0.74	October, 2011
Mills Creek	Burlington TWP, NJ	3.82	November, 2011
Kearny Landfill Solar	Kearny, NJ	3.00	December, 2011
Thorofare Solar Farm	West Depford, NJ	0.72	December, 2011
Summit Associates	Edison, NJ	2.22	December, 2011
TOTAL PSE&G		59.99 MW-dc	
GRAND TOTAL Installed		86.60 MW-dc	



Balance of system:
micro inverter

40 MW goal, currently 39.75

PSE&G Installed Solar Projects	Location	Size MW-dc	Service Date
Pole-attached solar units	Statewide	26.92	as of February 1, 2012
PSE&G Trenton Solar Farm	Trenton, NJ	1.26	September, 2010
Barringer High School	Newark, NJ	0.65	October, 2010
Central High School	Newark, NJ	0.50	October, 2010
Park Avenue Elementary School	Newark, NJ	0.51	
PSE&G Silver Lake Solar Farm	Edison, NJ	2.02	
Camden St. Schools	Newark, NJ	0.91	
PSE&G Edison Training & Development	Edison, NJ	0.71	
CenterPoint Properties	Bayonne, NJ	1.75	
PSE&G Linden Solar Farm	Linden, NJ	3.20	
PSE&G Central Division Headquarters	Somerset, NJ	0.92	
PSE&G Yardville Solar Farm	Hamilton TWP, NJ	4.30	
Matrix Realty Building A	Perth Amboy, NJ	1.69	
Matrix Realty Building B	Perth Amboy, NJ	1.17	
Matrix Realty	South Brunswick, NJ	2.98	
Rider University	Lawrenceville, NJ	0.74	
Mills Creek	Burlington TWP, NJ	3.82	
Kearny Landfill Solar	Kearny, NJ	3.00	
Thorofare Solar Farm	West Depford, NJ	0.72	
Summit Associates	Edison, NJ	2.22	
TOTAL PSE&G		59.99 MW-dc	
GRAND TOTAL Installed		86.60 MW-dc	

PSE&G Installed Solar Projects	Location	Size MW-dc	Service Date
Pole-attached solar units	Statewide	36.50	as of March 2013
Trenton Solar Farm	Trenton, NJ	1.26	September, 2010
Barringer High School	Newark, NJ	0.65	October, 2010
Central High School	Newark, NJ	0.50	October, 2010

PSE&G Installed Solar Projects	Location	Size MW-dc	Service Date
Pole-attached solar units	Statewide	39.75	as of January 2014
Trenton Solar Farm	Trenton, NJ	1.26	September, 2010
Barringer High School	Newark, NJ	0.65	October, 2010
PSE&G Linden Solar Farm	Linden, NJ	3.20	December, 2010
PSE&G Central Division Headquarters	Somerset, NJ	0.92	December, 2010
PSE&G Yardville Solar Farm	Hamilton TWP, NJ	4.30	February, 2011
Matrix Realty Building A	Perth Amboy, NJ	1.69	February, 2011
Matrix Realty Building B	Perth Amboy, NJ	1.17	February, 2011
Matrix Realty	South Brunswick, NJ	2.98	June, 2011
Rider University	Lawrenceville, NJ	0.74	October, 2011
Mills Creek	Burlington TWP, NJ	3.82	November, 2011
Kearny Landfill Solar	Kearny, NJ	3.00	December, 2011
Thorofare Solar Farm	West Depford, NJ	0.72	December, 2011
Summit Associates	Edison, NJ	2.22	December, 2011
Black Rock/Matrix Realty	South Brunswick	2.97	March, 2012
PSE&G Metro Division Headquarters	Clifton, NJ	0.73	July 1, 2012
Community Food Bank of NJ	Hillside, NJ	1.07	August 2012
Hackensack Solar Farm	Hackensack, NJ	1.06	Winter 2012
TOTAL PSE&G		75.40 MW-dc	

Balance of system:
micro inverter

NJ total installed PV capacity surpassed 1GW
in February 2013

<http://www.nj.gov/bpu/pdf/announcements/2013/20130319.pdf>

Text As of 2021: ~4GW

<http://www.njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/project-activity-reports/project-activity-reports>

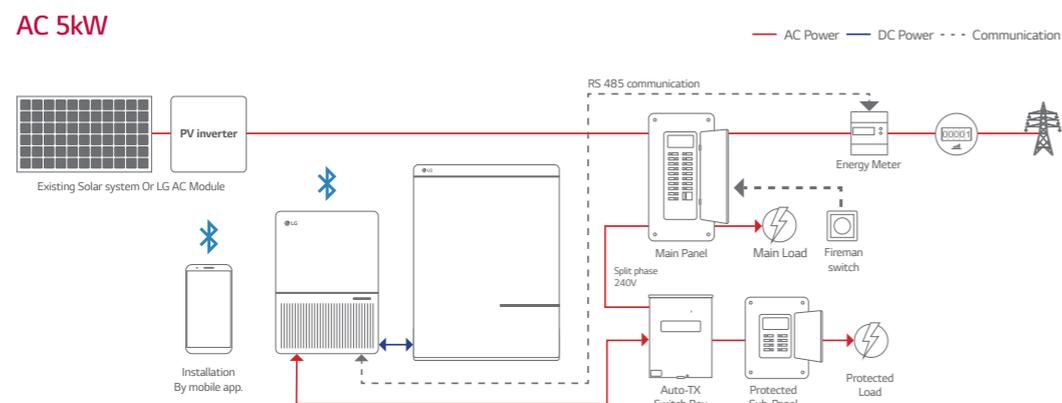
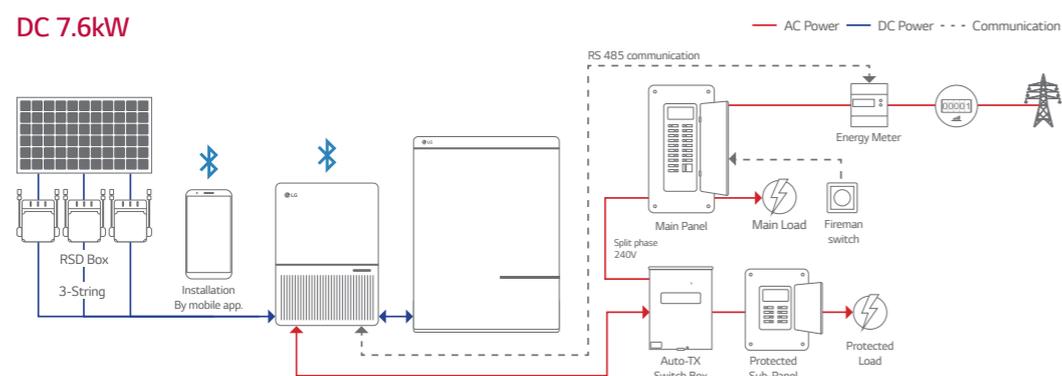


Specification

The LG ESS is provided as an integrated energy storage system, complete with PCS, ATS and Energy Meter. In the case of a DC-coupled system, RSD will also be included. For either the AC or DC-coupled system, a second battery pack is optional.



The LG ESS is offered as both an AC-coupled solution and a DC-coupled solution. The 7.6kW DC-coupled product offers unparalleled solar + storage performance, allowing homeowners to seamlessly store excess solar energy to power their home both day and night. The 5kW AC-coupled product can be easily added to an existing solar system, offering a reliable and cost-effective way to manage Time of Use (TOU) rates and provide backup power.



The LG ESS

The Evolution of Home Energy Storage



The LG Electronics ESS is a state-of-the-art home energy management system designed for homeowners ready to take control of their home energy usage. The LG ESS is offered in both an AC-coupled and DC-coupled configuration. The 7.6kW DC-coupled solution with an integrated high efficiency PV inverter is well suited for new solar PV + storage installations. The 5kW AC-coupled solution is ideal for customers looking to install an ESS in a home with an existing solar system. The 7.6kW DC-coupled product offers unparalleled solar + storage performance, allowing homeowners to seamlessly store excess solar energy to power their home both day and night. The 5kW AC-coupled product can be easily added to an existing solar system, offering a reliable and cost-effective way to manage Time of Use (TOU) rates and provide backup power. Product features include quick and easy installation, a compact and elegant design, and an integrated smart energy management system (EMS). The EMS enables customers to control their electric bill through self-consumption of solar and TOU rate smart scheduling, and includes an off-grid mode to protect the customer's home in the event of a power outage.



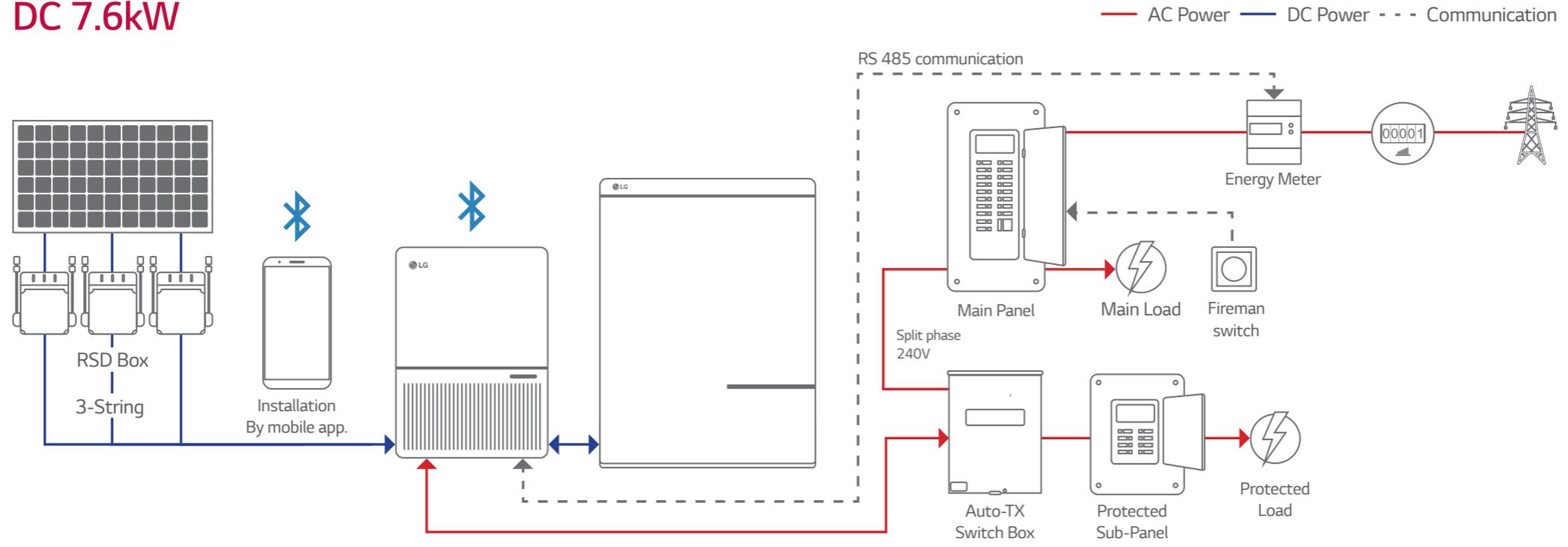
Features at a glance

- Easy Two-Person Installation**
 All required components included for complete install ; Painless commissioning via Auto Self-Check
- High Efficiency PCS**
 Achieving 97.5% CEC Efficiency ; Multi-String & MPPTs for multi-angled roof
- Extremely Reliable Battery and Scalable**
 Up to 19.6kWh for longer back-up time ; Compatible with LG Chem RESU 10H
- Smart Energy Management and Remote System Monitoring**
 Emergency Back-up ; 24-7 energy monitoring
- One-stop service & 10-Year Warranty**
 ESS can be paired with LG PV modules for a single provider for all warranty issues

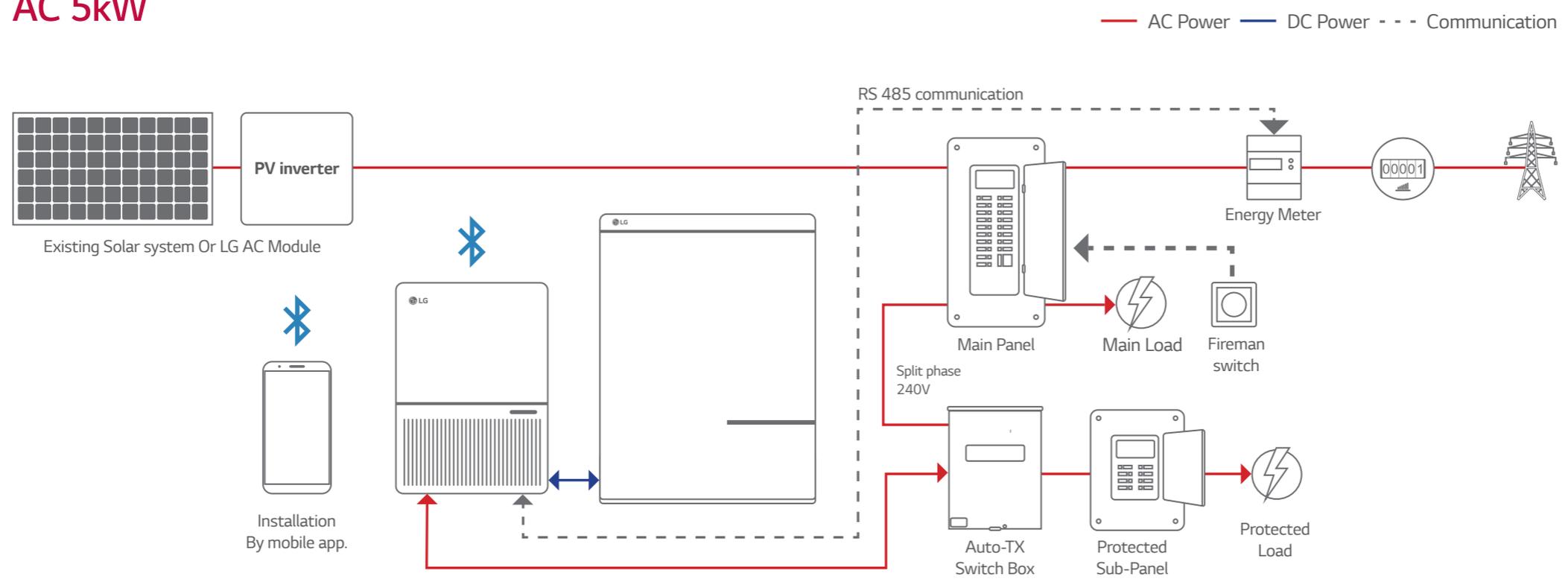
Contact
 Jan Dominguez | ESS Sales Engineer
 LG Electronics USA Inc.
 910 Sylvan Avenue, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
 O : (201)408.9065 | M : (310)626.3427 | jan.dominguez@lge.com



DC 7.6kW



AC 5kW



Large home battery:
~\$500-1000 per kWh



LG CHEM RESU10H-SEG 400VDC 9.8 KWH
PRIMARY LITHIUM-ION BATTERY

by LG CHEM
[Be the first to review this item](#)

Price: **\$7,600.00** & FREE Shipping

Get \$70 off instantly: Pay \$7,530.00 upon approval for the Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Card.

Note: Not eligible for Amazon Prime.

- Battery Type: Lithium-Ion
- Voltage: 400 V
- 5 Hour Capacity: 10.0
- Warranty: 10-years

\$7,600.00

& FREE Shipping

Get it Wed, Mar 20 - Wed, Mar 27

Only 1 left in stock - order soon.

\$7,600.00 + Free Shipping

Add to Cart

Buy Now

Ships from and sold by **THE 1976 WHOLESALE COMPANY GROUP.**

Deliver to Jeff - Montclair 07042

Add to List

Share

Other Sellers on Amazon

\$7,800.00

Add to Cart

Residential

Residential Time Periods and Delivery Rates*

	Peak	Off-Peak
Hours	8 a.m. to Midnight	Midnight to 8 a.m.
TIME-OF-USE DELIVERY RATES		
June 1 to Sept 30	21.80 cents/kWh	1.54 cents/kWh
All other months	8.07 cents/kWh	1.54 cents/kWh
STANDARD DELIVERY RATES		
June 1 to Sept 30	First 250 kWh: 10.221 cents/kWh	Over 250 kWh: 11.749 cents/kWh
All other months	10.221 cents/kWh	10.221 cents/kWh

Stores about
<\$2 worth of
peak
electricity,
~10 hours

Related to solar, especially batteries:

- “DR” - Demand Response
- Demand Charges (typically commercial customers)
- Time of Use electricity rates
- Tiered Electricity Rates
- Levelized Cost of Electricity

For later:

Local solar potential (covered in Solar Strategies)

Balance of system

Tracking methods

Concentrating systems

Solar lighting

Solar thermal

also:

Kardashev scale

Space based solar power

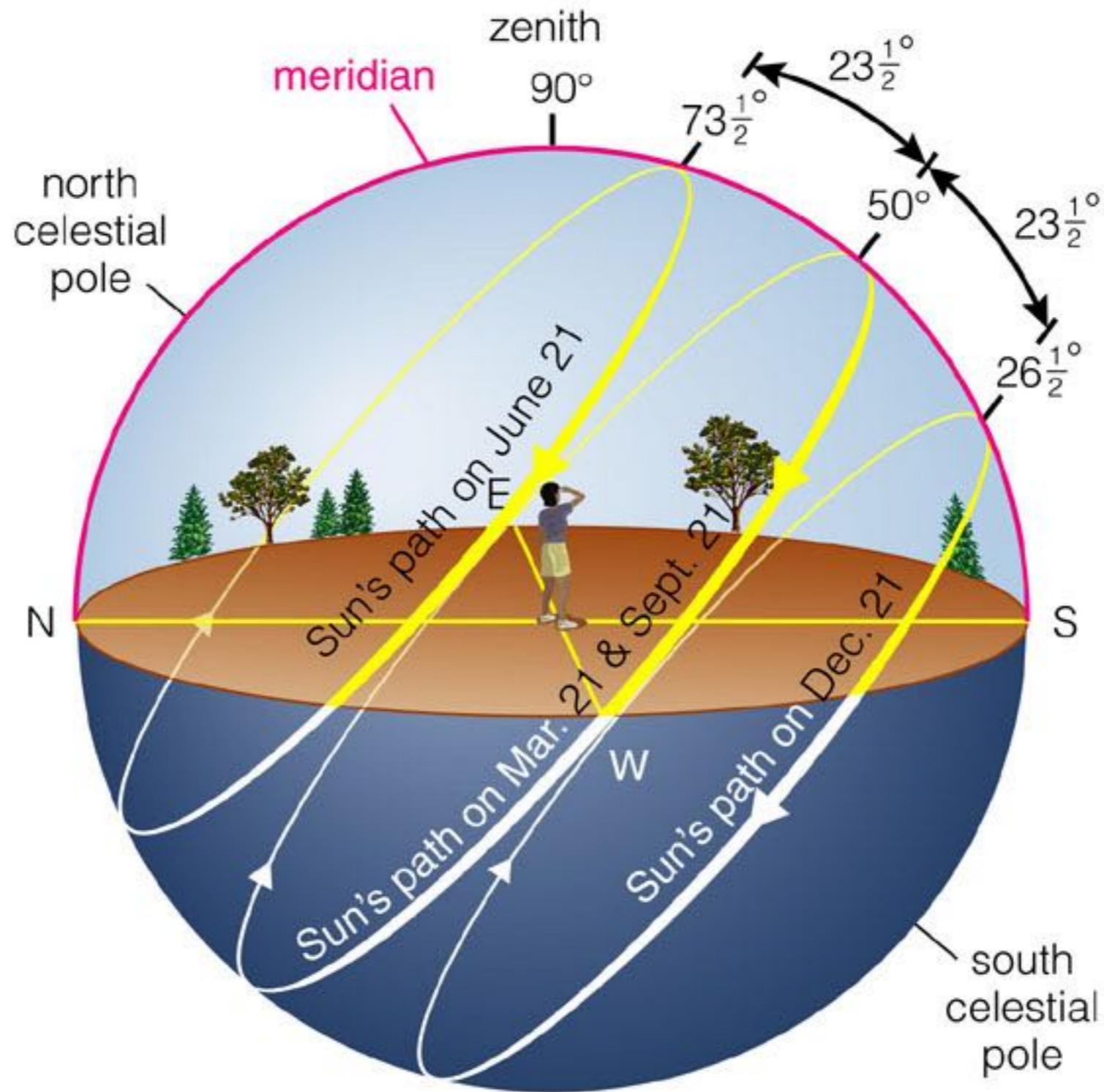
Dyson swarms



SOUTH PACIFIC
FOR 37° 43' N. LAT.

POLAR PATHFINDER
THE ENERGY EVALUATOR





Tracking



single axis
(elevation)

Tracking



~10kW

single axis
(azimuth)



Tracking

dual axis

~10kW

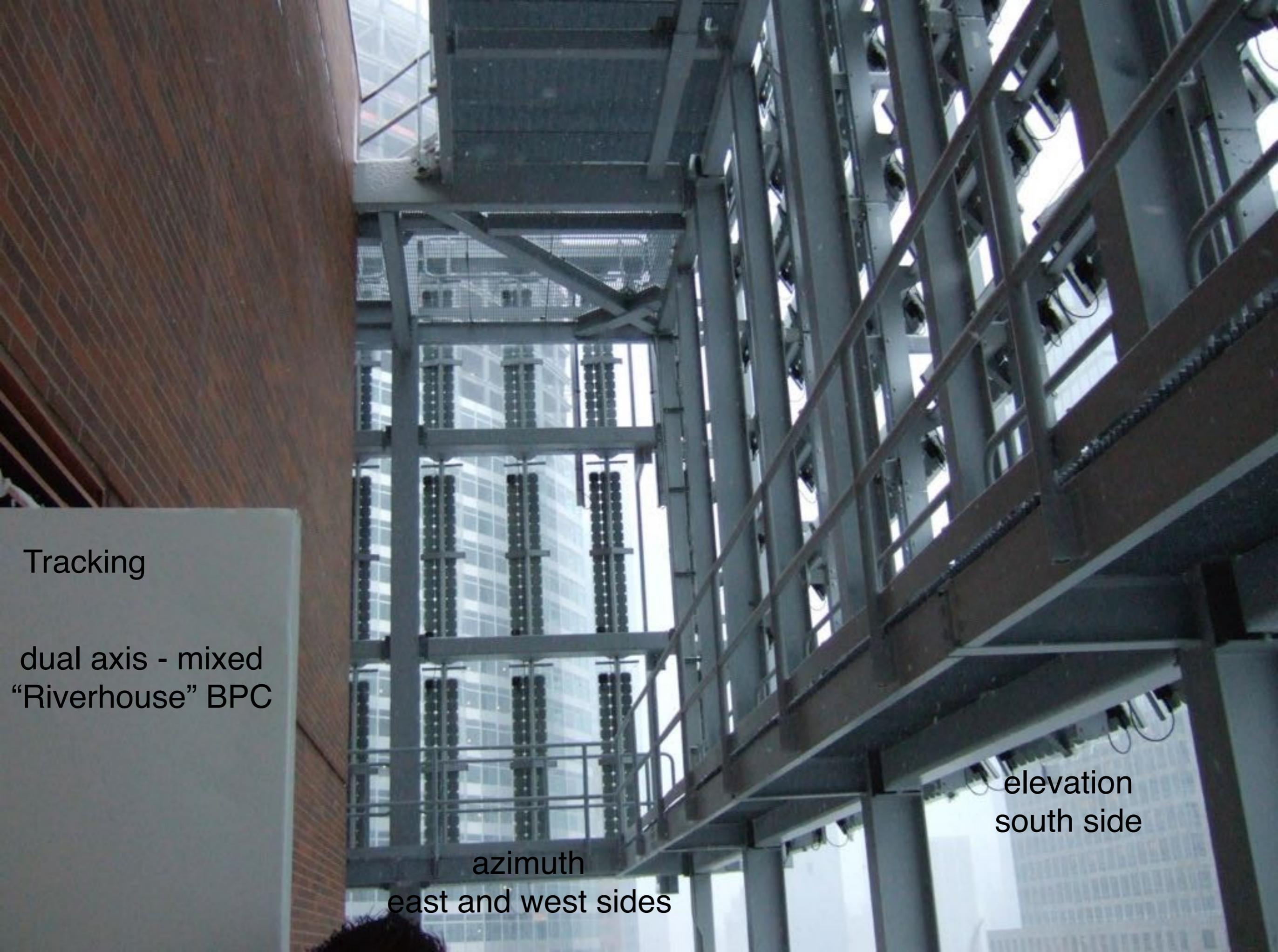
Tracking

dual axis

elevation axis

azimuth axis





Tracking

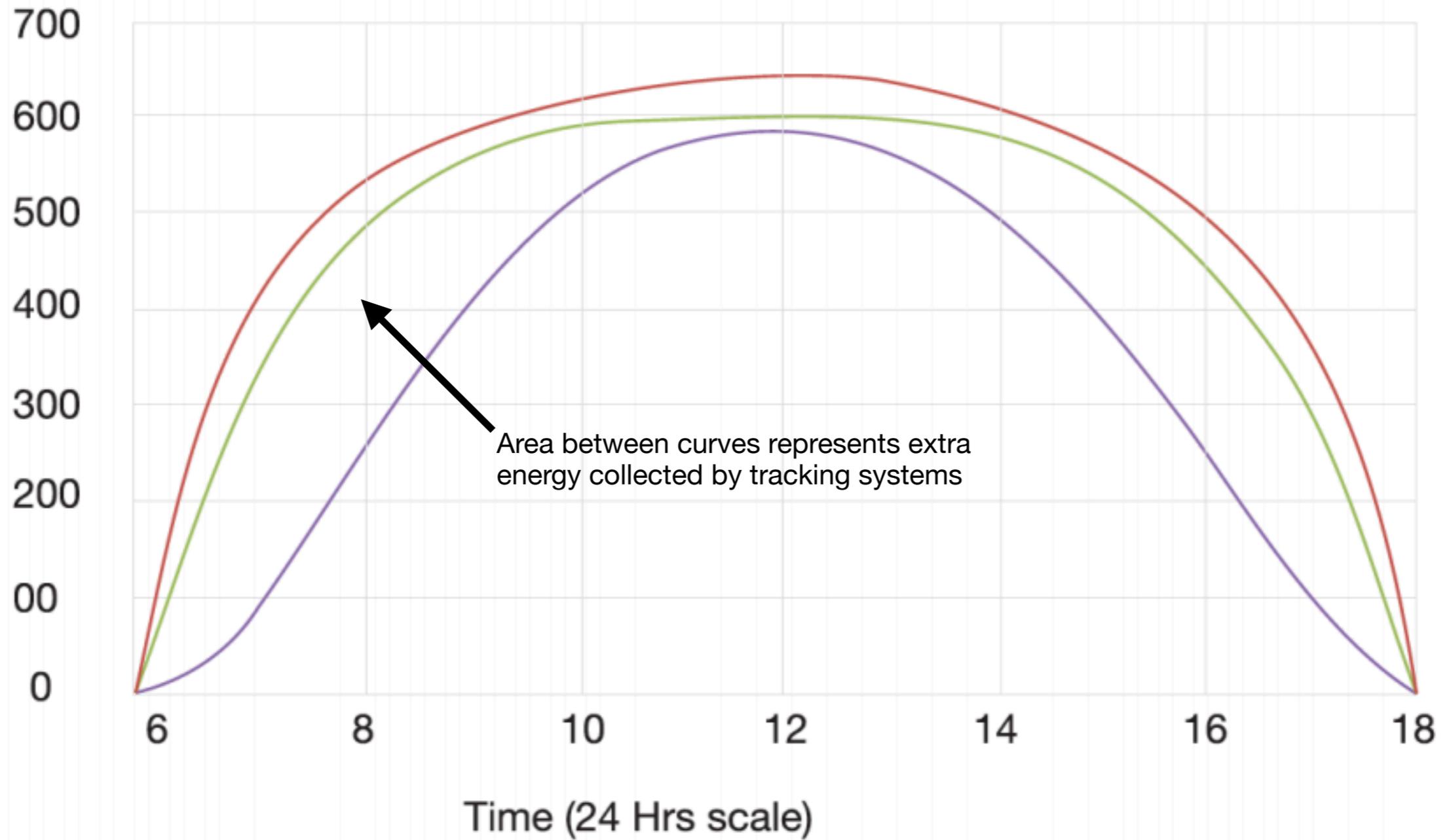
dual axis - mixed
"Riverhouse" BPC

azimuth
east and west sides

elevation
south side

Power Distribution Chart

- Fixed Tilt
- Single axis tracker
- Dual axis tracker

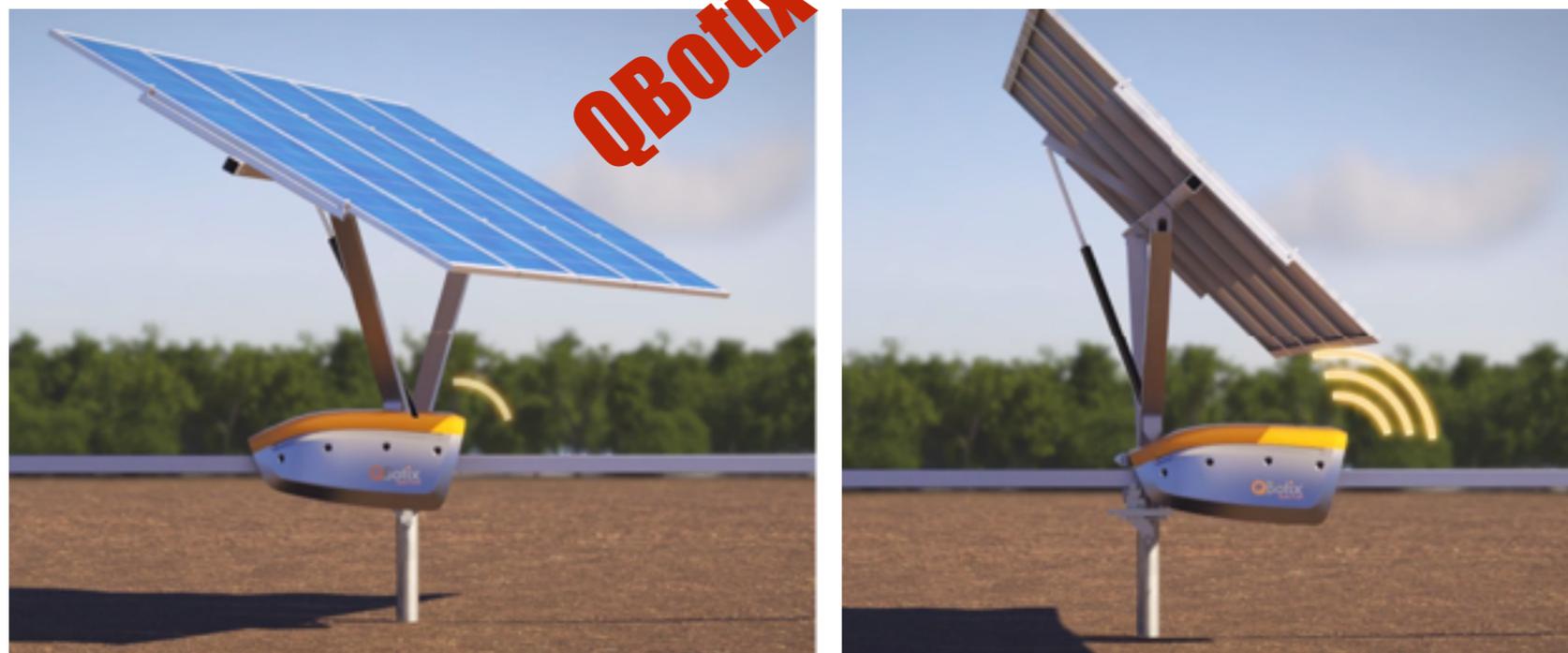


Challenge:

Tracking systems 1) require **space between arrays** and 2) introduce **mechanical parts** that require energy and maintenance.

Cost of tracking system **must compete with cost of simply adding more fixed panels.**

Ways to simplify mechanics or minimize number of actuators are interesting.



Local solar potential

Balance of system

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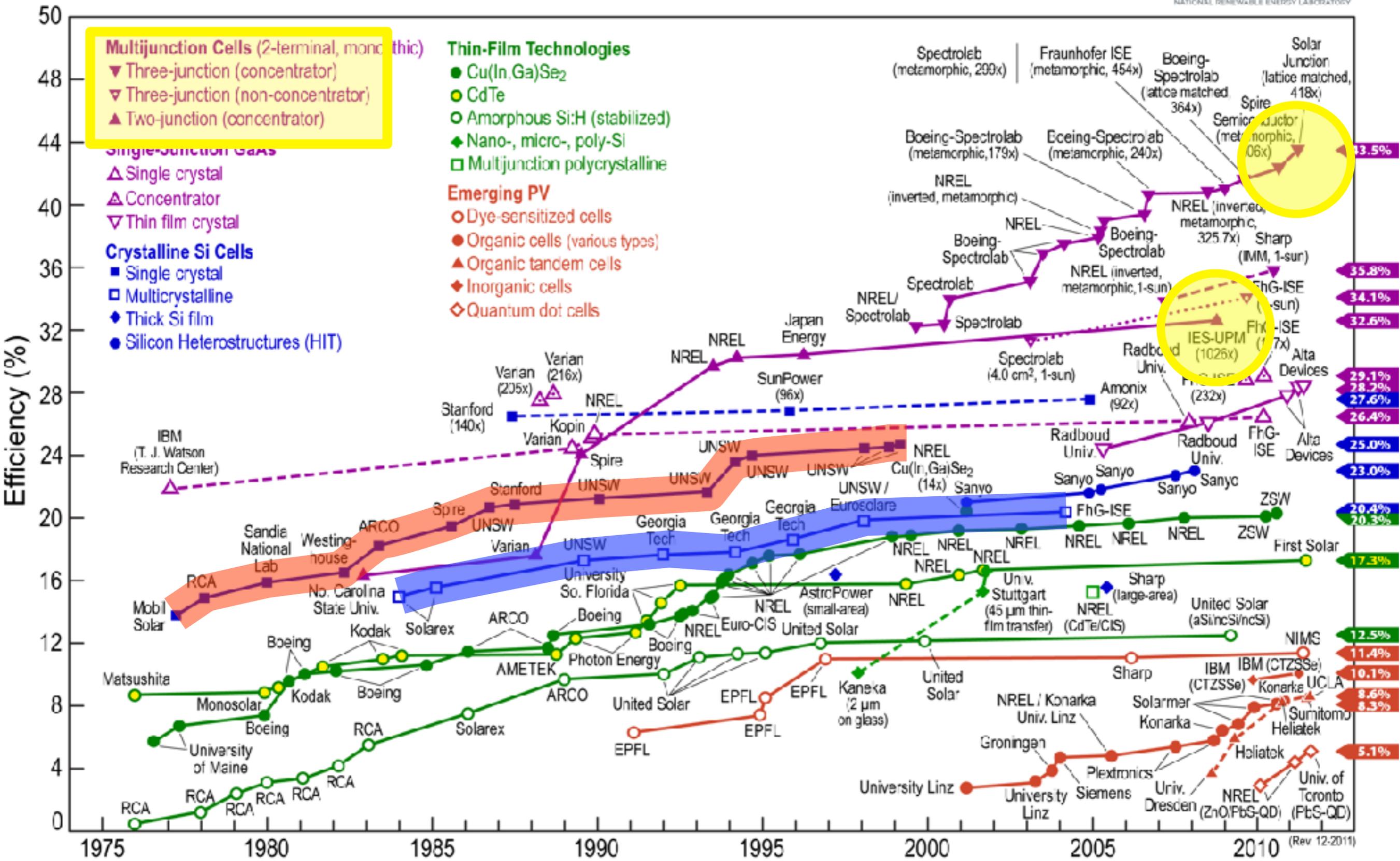
also:

Kardashev scale

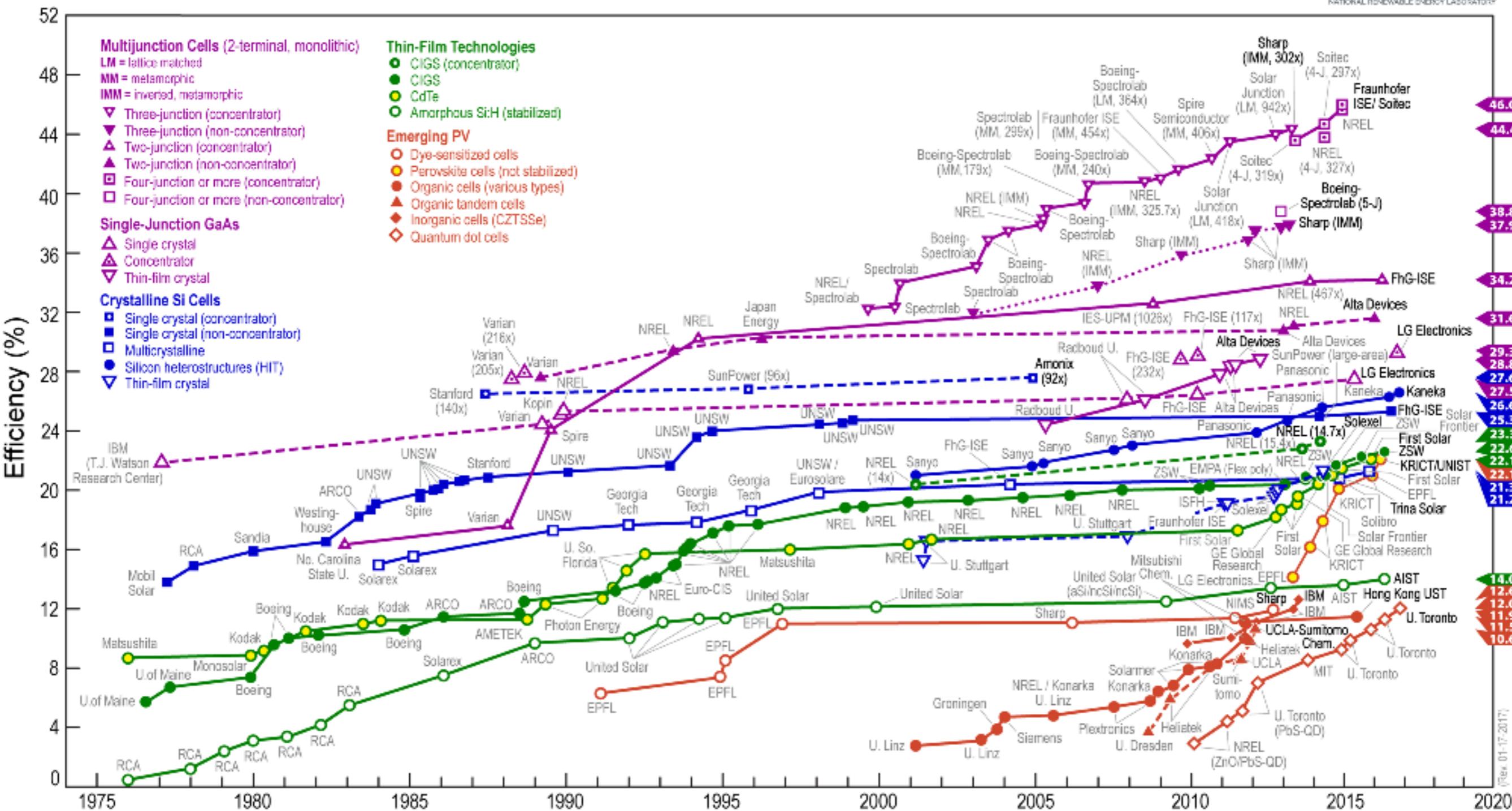
Space based solar power

Dyson swarms

Best Research-Cell Efficiencies



Best Research-Cell Efficiencies



2017

Source: DOE NREL

**Energy Innovations
RIP 2015**

Concentrating
mirrors

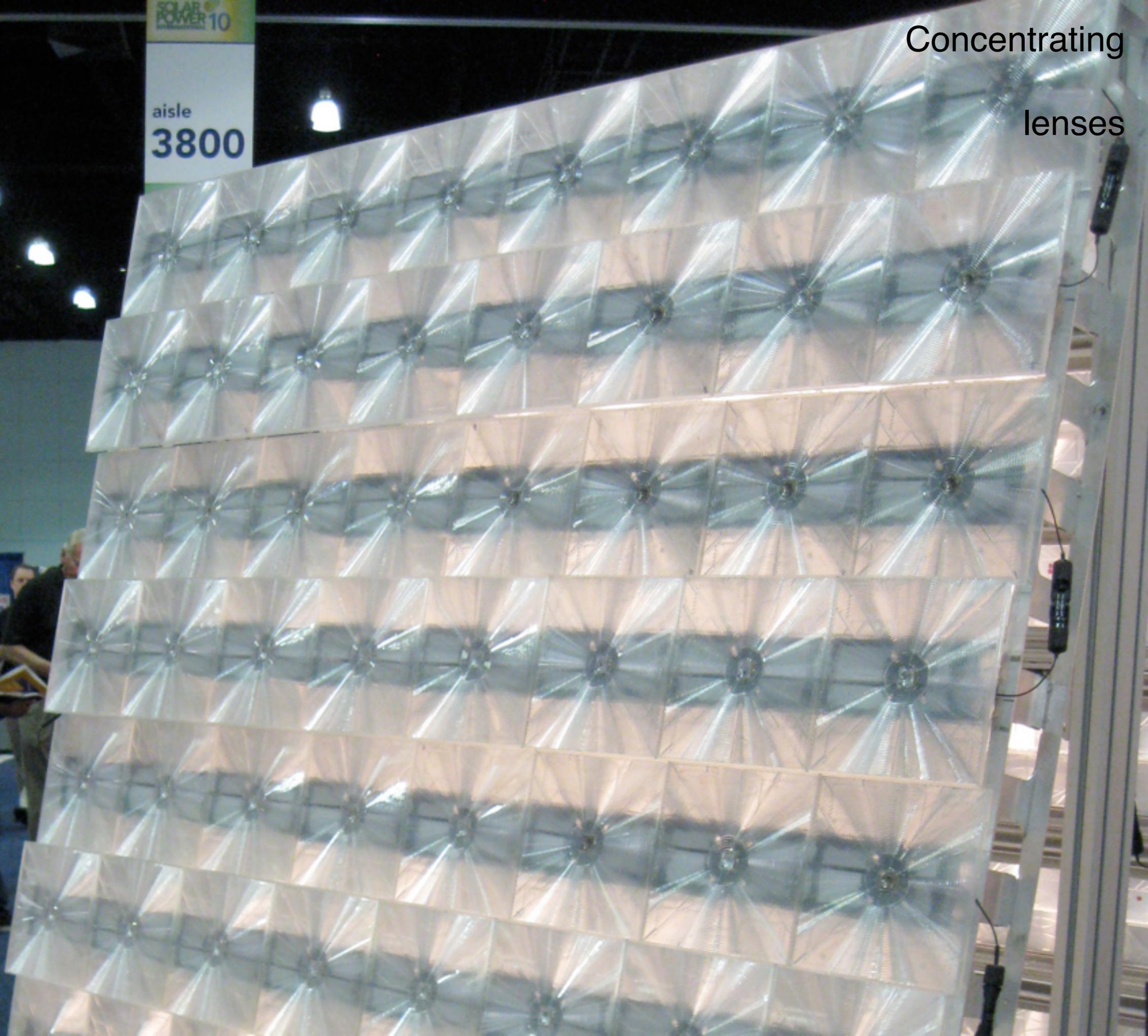


Concentrating
cheap mirrors



SOLAR
POWER 10
aisle
3800

Concentrating
lenses



Concentrating

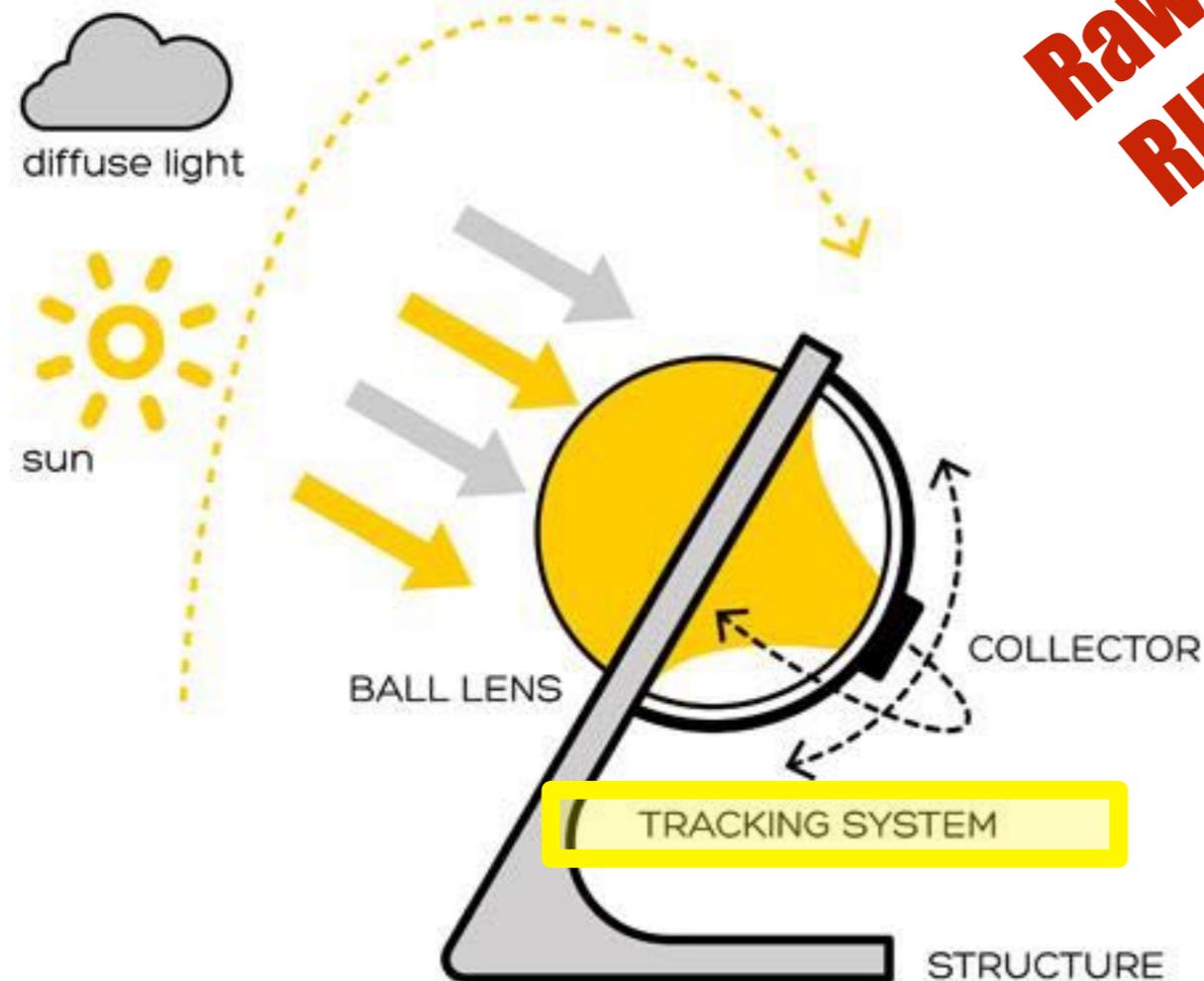
spherical
lenses

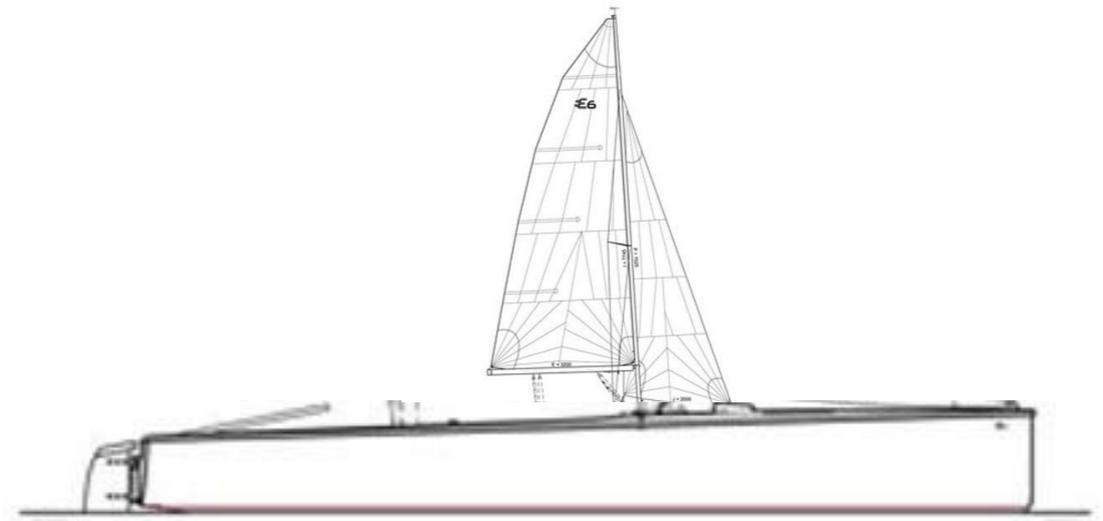


Challenge:

Concentrating systems also require tracking systems, so same issues (**space between arrays** and **mechanical parts**) apply. Concentrated sunlight can reach very high temperatures and could focus on surrounding structures if tracking system fails.

**Rawlemon
RIP 2017?**



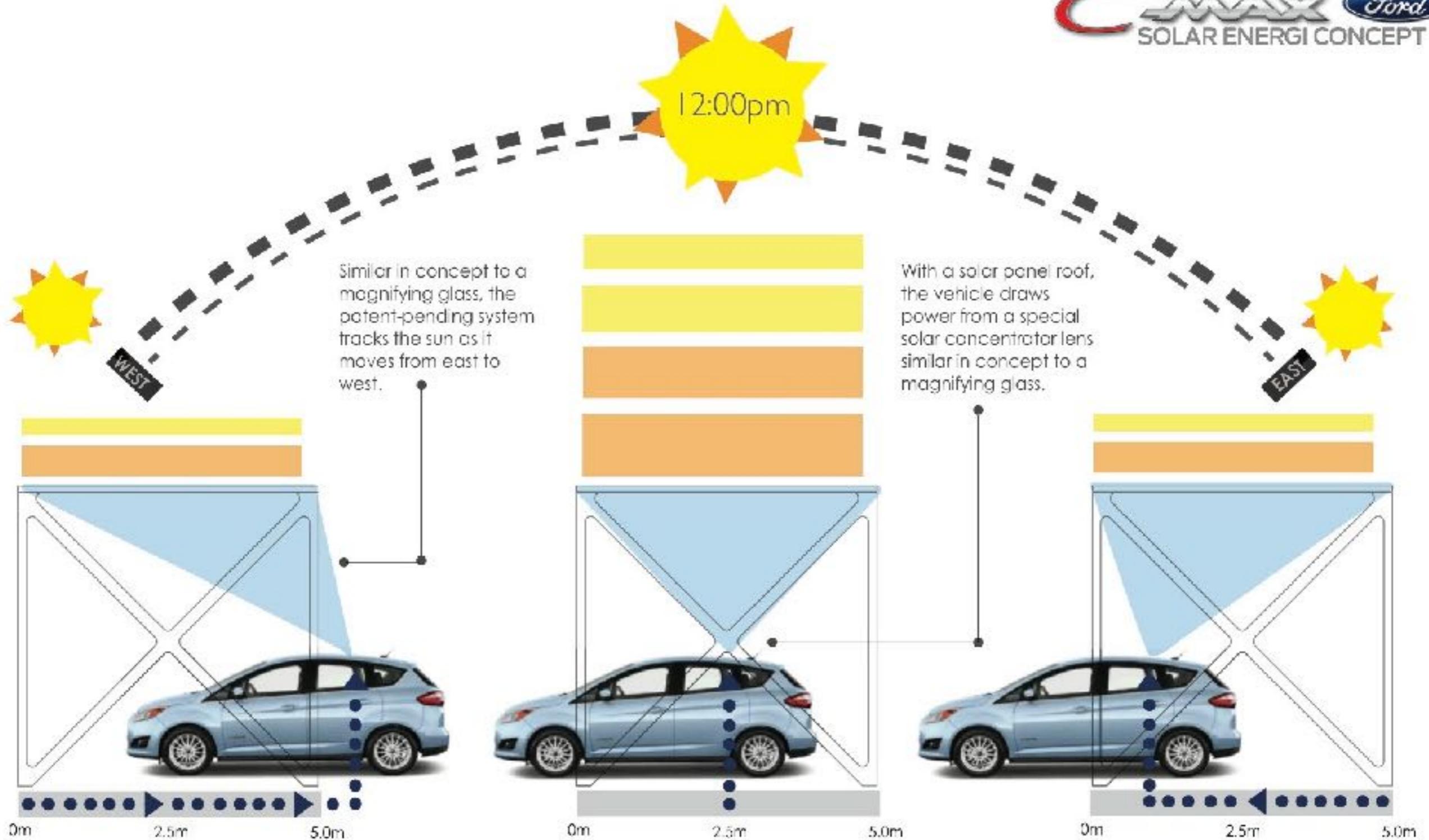




Ford CMAX Solar Energi “Concept”

How it Works

The C-MAX Solar Energi optimizes the intake of solar power through a Fresnel lens concentrator by autonomously moving in the direct path of the sun's rays.



Concentrating
(sort of...)

Solyndra

Solyndra RIP 2011



☀ **Diffused Sunlight**
Enhanced collection from all angles

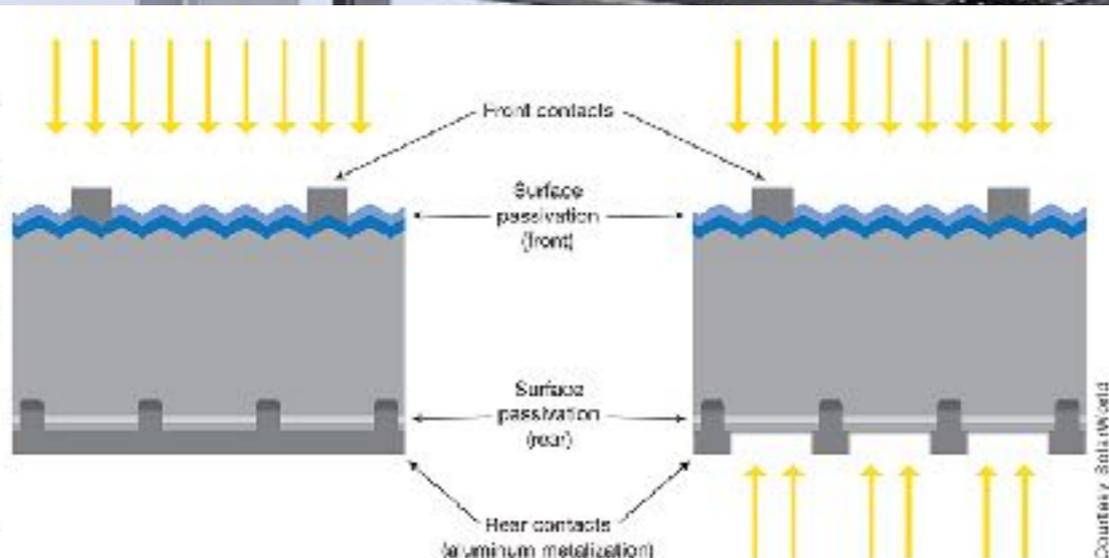
☀ **Direct Sunlight**
Same cross-section at all angles

☀ **Reflected Light**
From the roof surface

2021 Bifacial panels are very real



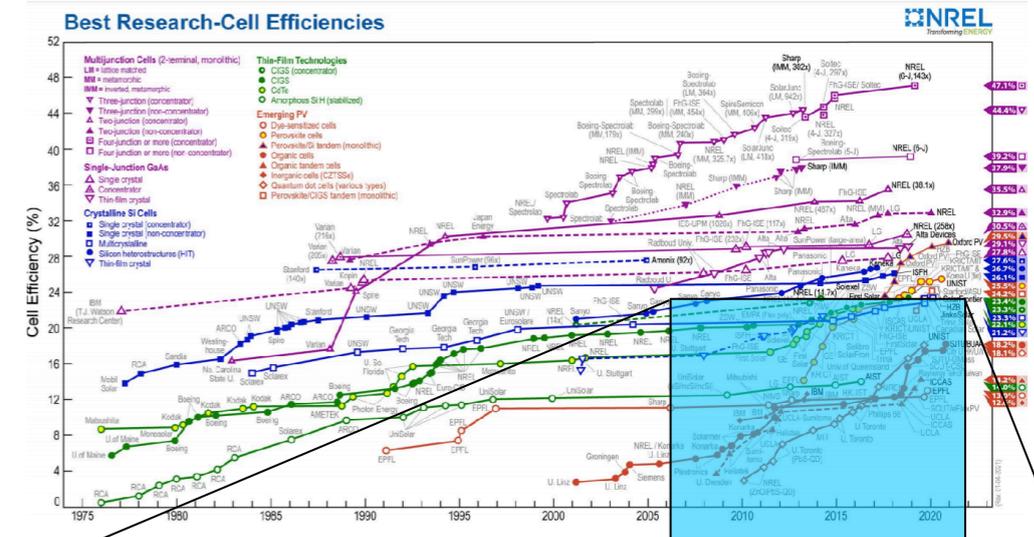
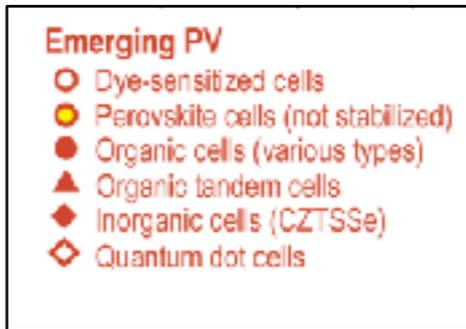
Figure 1 Unlike conventional p-type silicon PV cells, SolarWorld's PERC cells have rear passivation layers of amorphous silicon. These rear passivation layers not only improve light-trapping properties — by reflecting light at the cell boundary back into the cell — but also make the PERC cells inherently capable of bifaciality. Moving from a fully metallized rear electrode (on left) to one that is selectively metallized (on right) allows light to reach the back side of the bifacial cell.



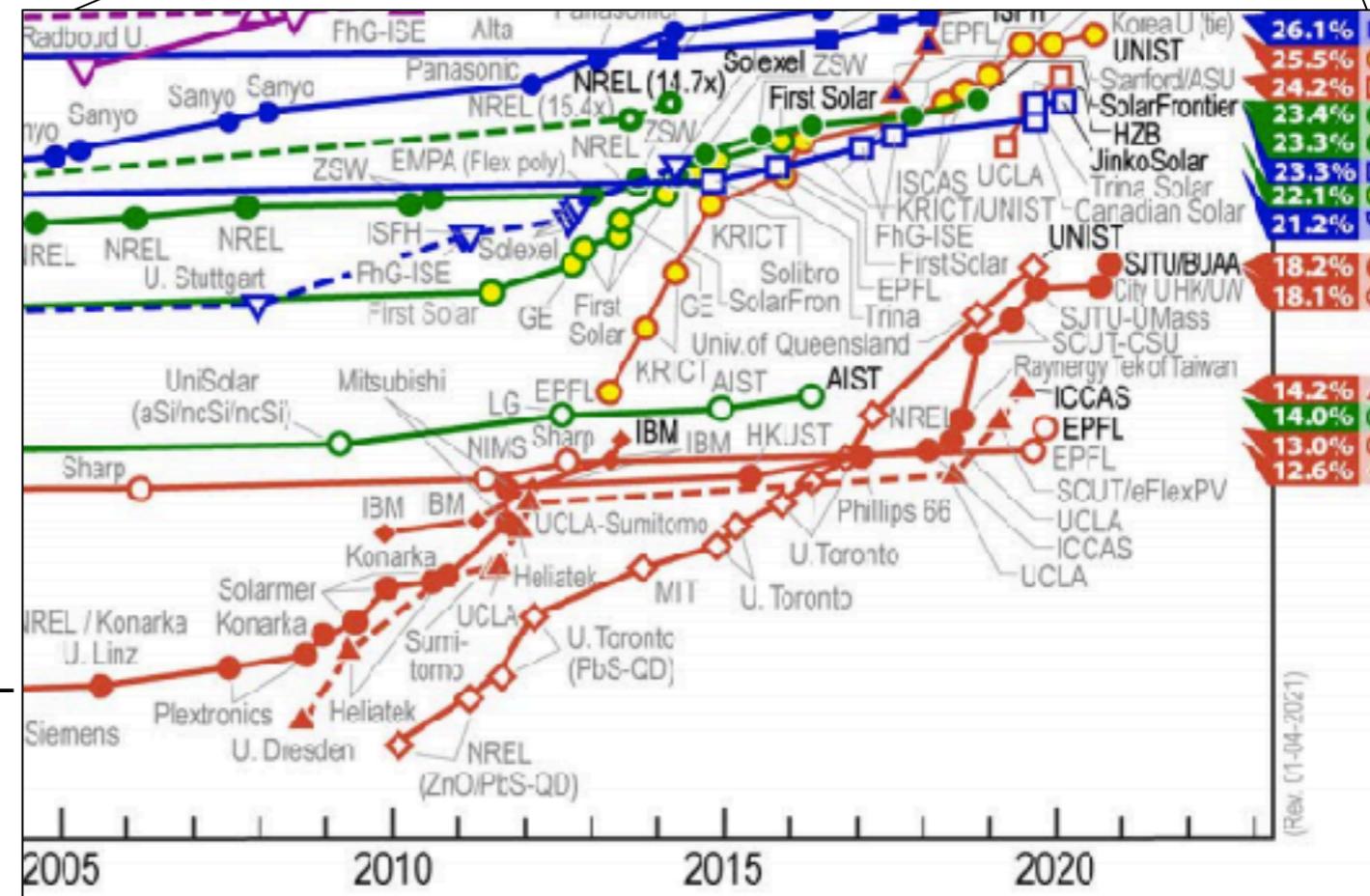
SolarPro Magazine

Yingli bifacial panels

“Quantum dots (QD) are very small semiconductor particles, only several nanometres in size, so small that their optical and electronic properties differ from those of larger particles... The tunable absorption spectrum and high extinction coefficients of quantum dots make them attractive for light harvesting technologies such as photovoltaics” – Wikipedia



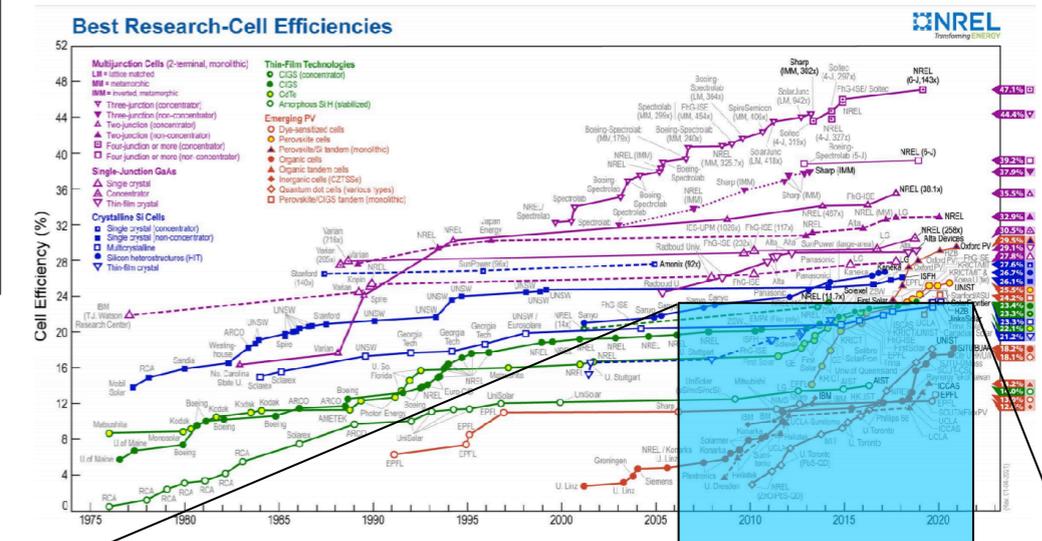
“A perovskite solar cell is a type of solar cell which includes a perovskite structured compound... Perovskite materials such as methylammonium lead halides are **cheap to produce and simple to manufacture**....Solar cell efficiencies of devices using these materials have increased from 3.8% in 2009 to 22.1% in early 2016, making this the **fastest-advancing** solar technology to date... One big challenge for PSCs is the aspect of short-term and long-term **stability**.” — Wikipedia



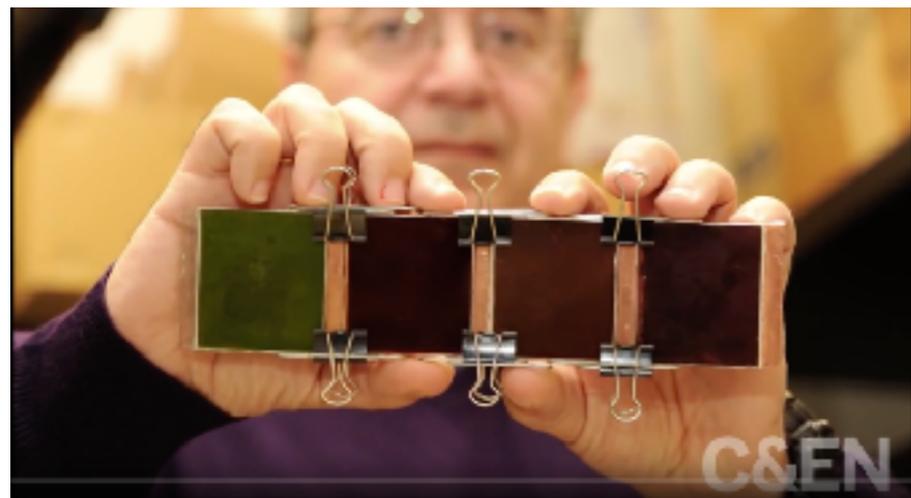
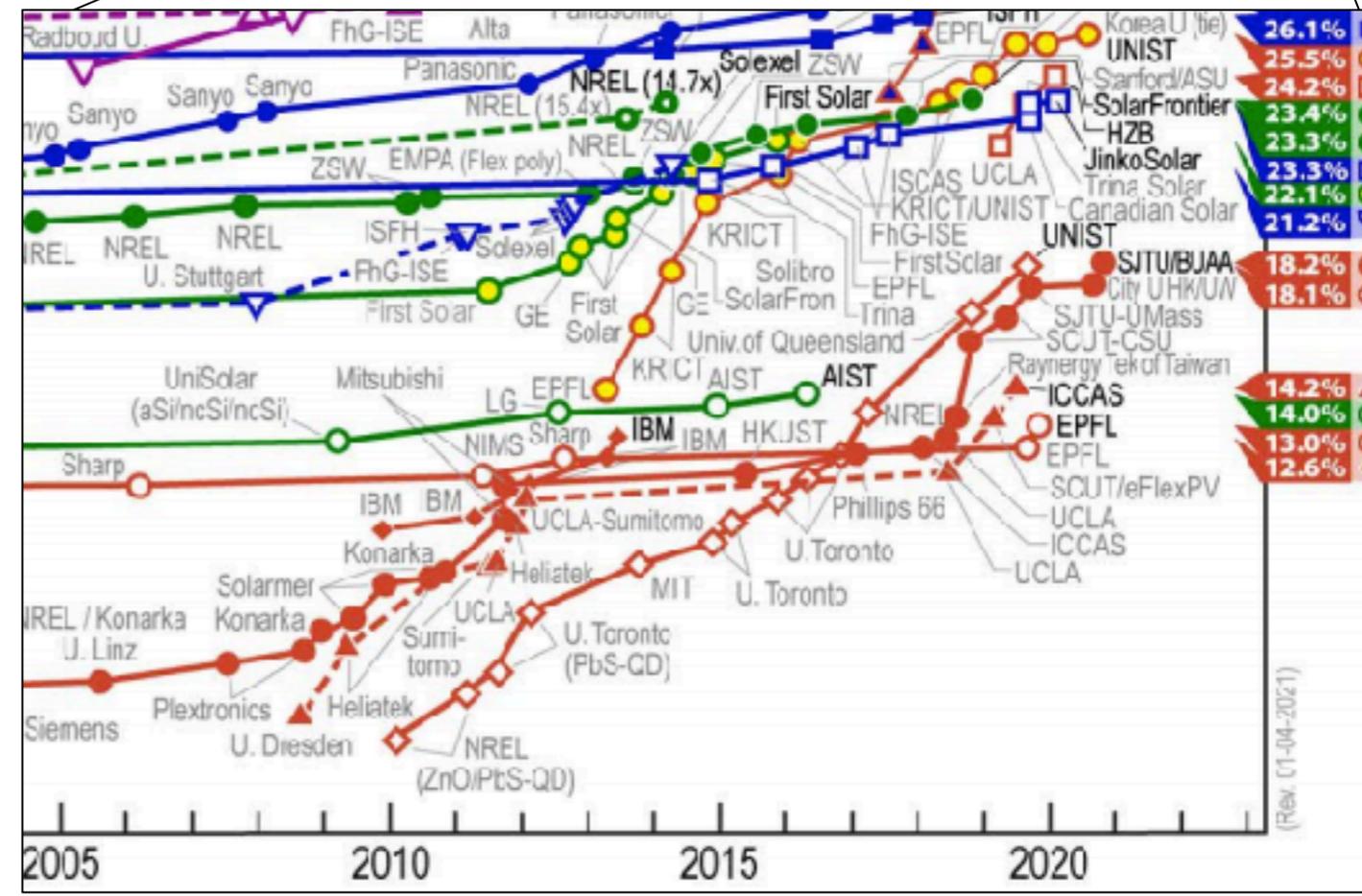
“The **DSSC** has a number of attractive features; it is **simple** to make using conventional roll-printing techniques, is semi-flexible and semi-transparent which offers a variety of uses not applicable to glass-based systems, and most of the materials used are **low-cost**... it has proven difficult to eliminate a number of expensive materials...and the liquid electrolyte presents a serious challenge... its price/performance ratio should be good enough to allow them to... [achieve] grid parity. Commercial applications... were held up due to chemical stability problems.” — Wikipedia

Source: DOE NREL

- Emerging PV**
- Dye-sensitized cells
 - Perovskite cells (not stabilized)
 - Organic cells (various types)
 - ▲ Organic tandem cells
 - ◆ Inorganic cells (CZTSSe)
 - ◇ Quantum dot cells



“A **perovskite solar cell** is a type of solar cell which includes a perovskite structured compound... Perovskite materials such as methylammonium lead halides are **cheap to produce and simple to manufacture**....Solar cell efficiencies of devices using these materials have increased from 3.8% in 2009 to 22.1% in early 2016, making this the **fastest-advancing** solar technology to date... One big challenge for PSCs is the aspect of short-term and long-term **stability**.” — Wikipedia



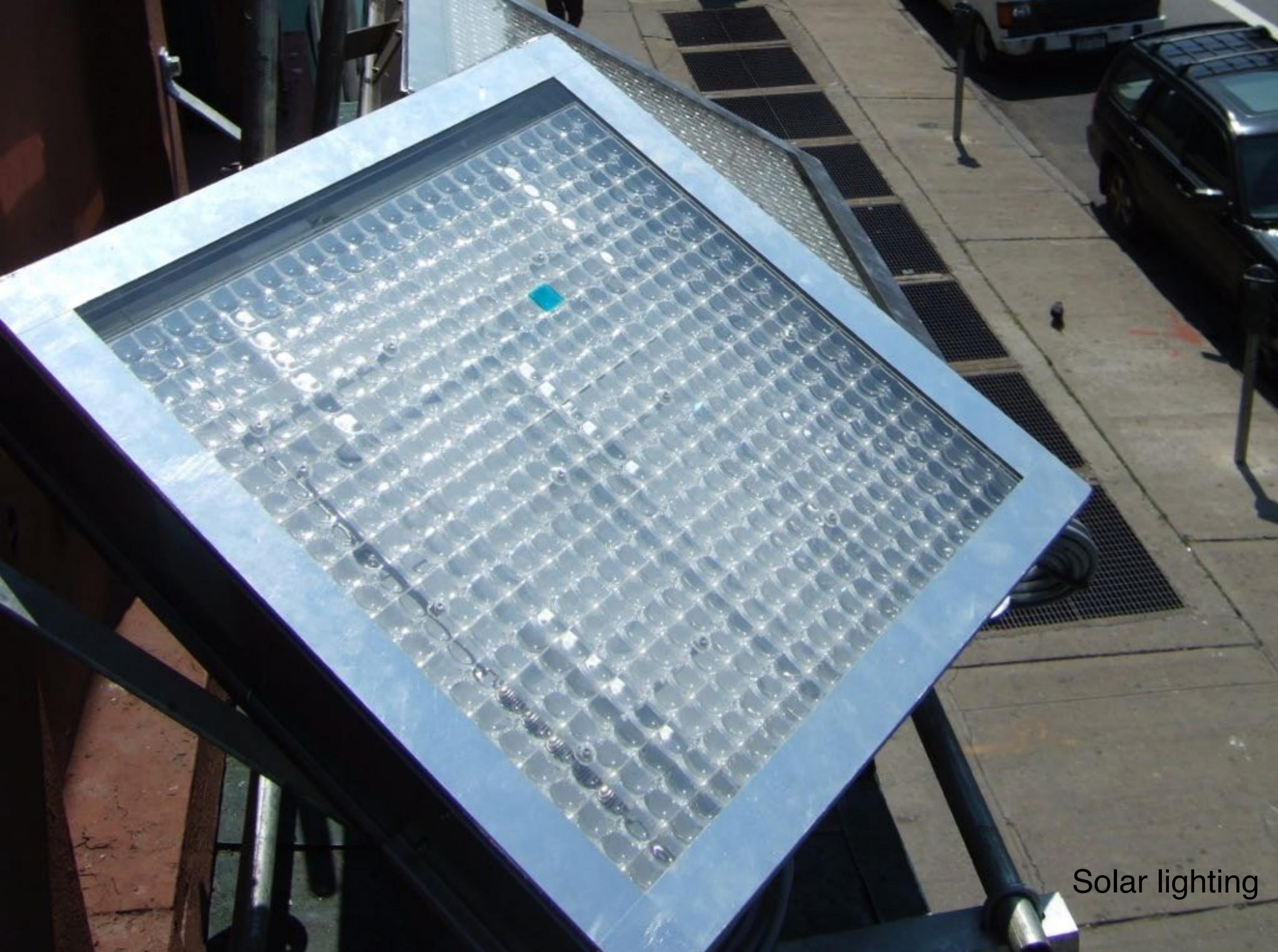
Source: DOE NREL

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQ2bz6jlbz0>



Local solar potential
Balance of system
Tracking methods
Concentrating systems
Solar lighting
Solar thermal

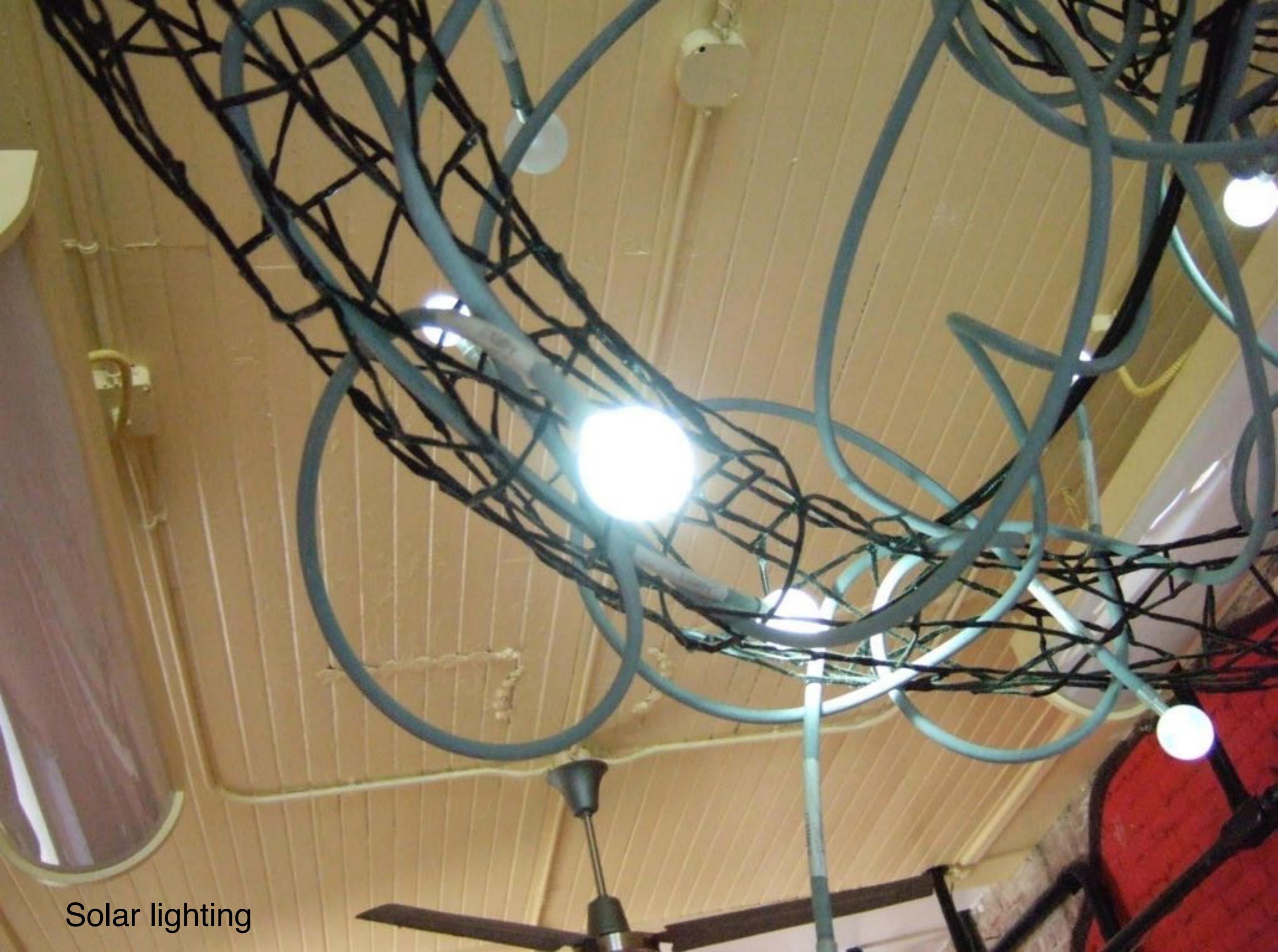
also:
Kardashev scale
Space based solar power
Dyson swarms



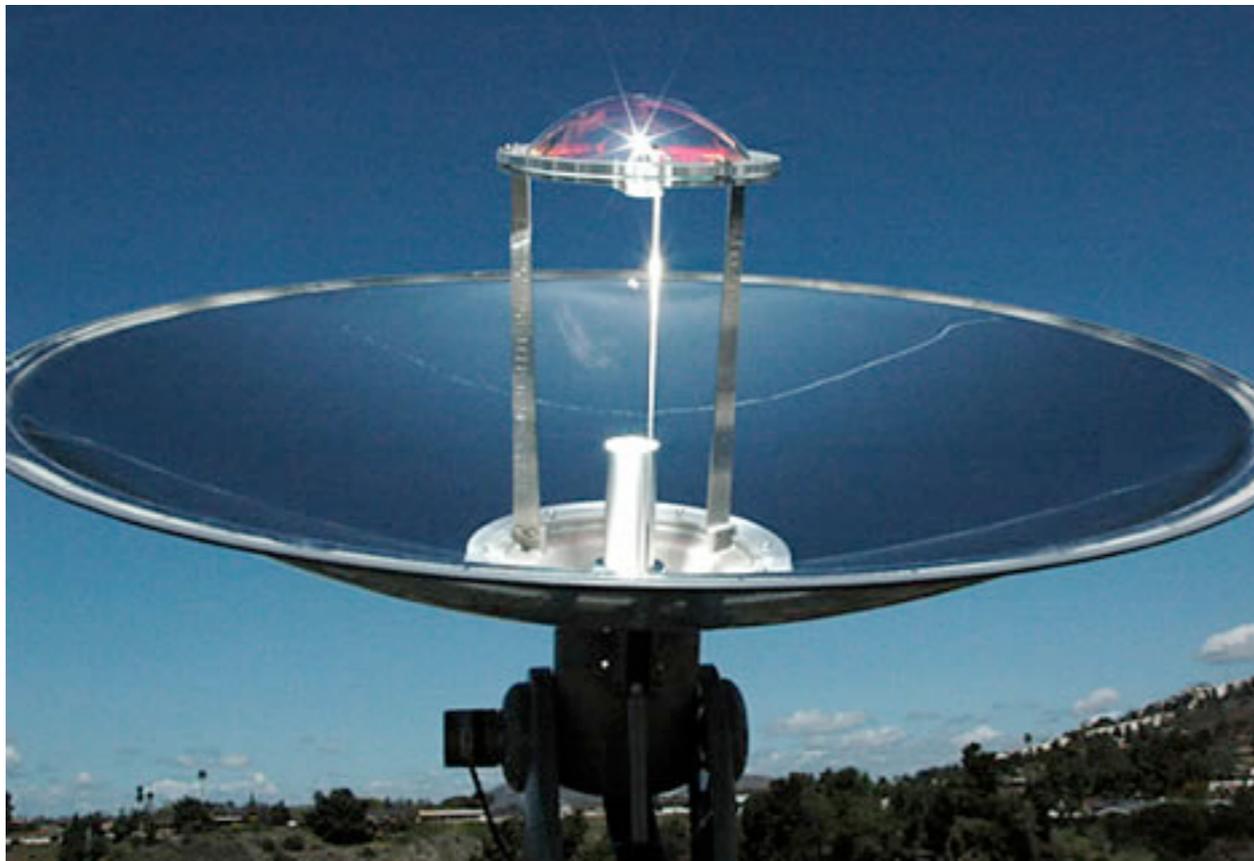
Solar lighting



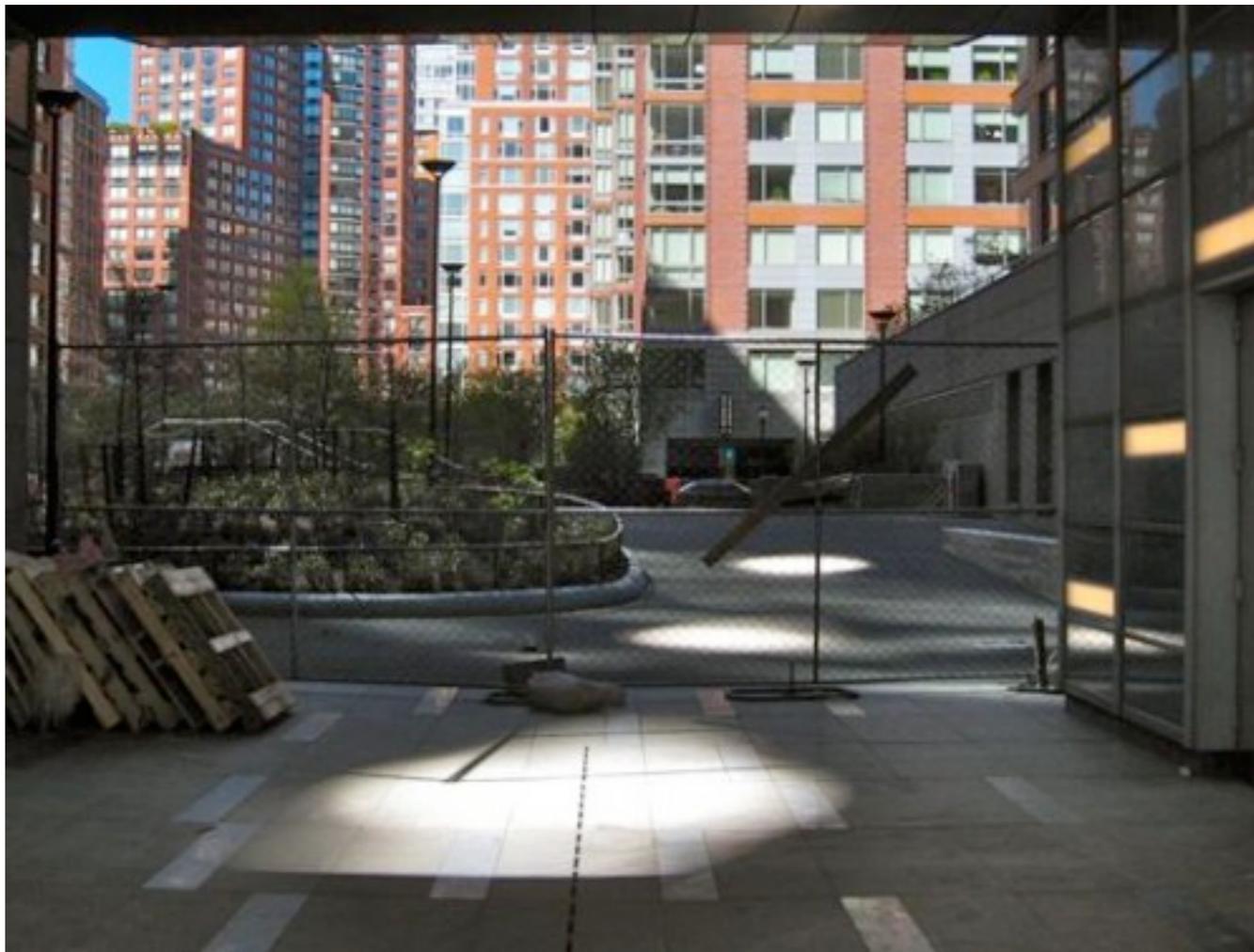
Solar lighting



Solar lighting



Solar lighting

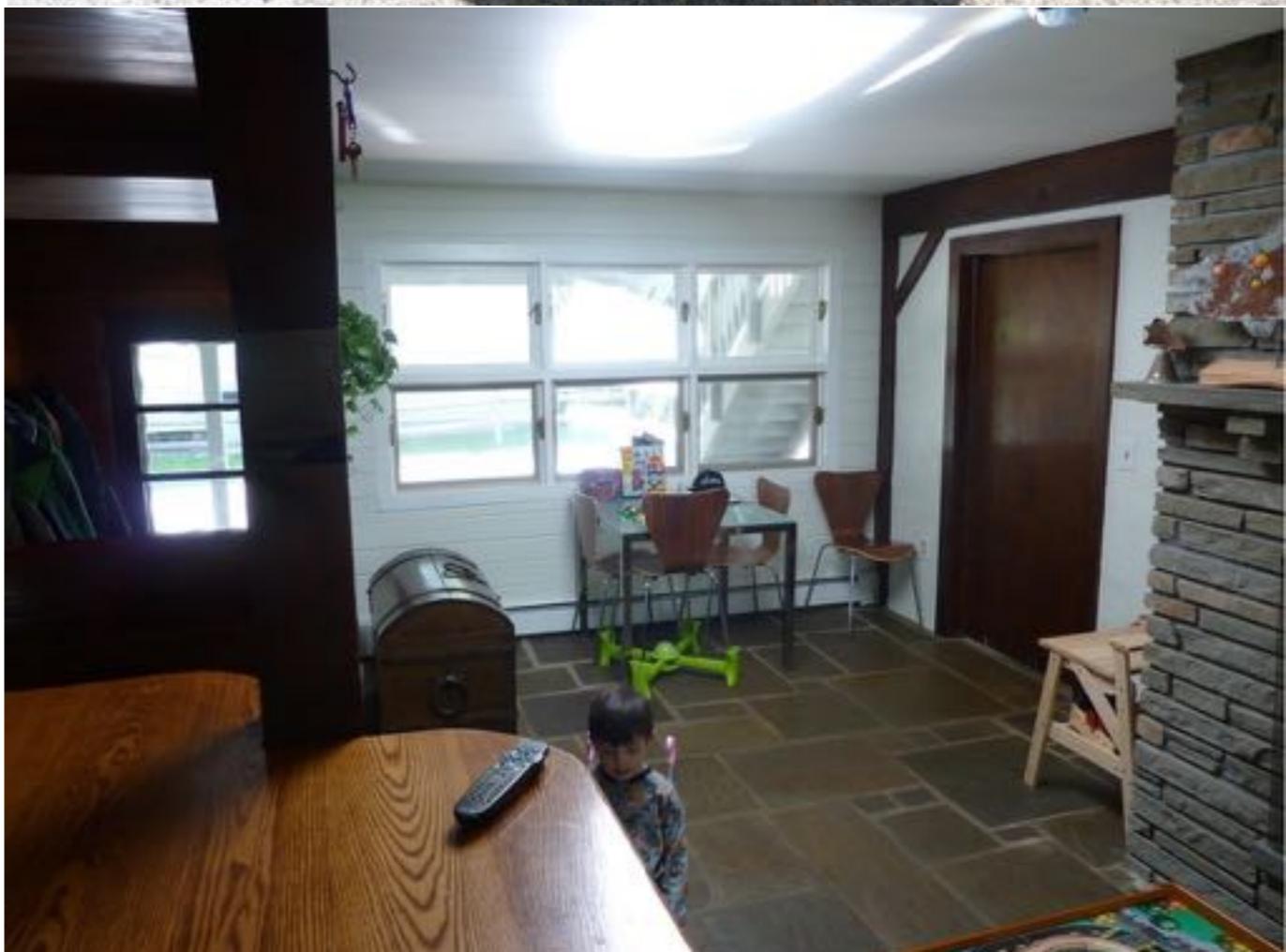


Solar lighting: Teardrop park heliostats
Carpenter Norris Consulting Inc.



Low Line
"On hold" 2021?





Local solar potential
Balance of system
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also:

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Solar thermal





Solar thermal

Solar thermal



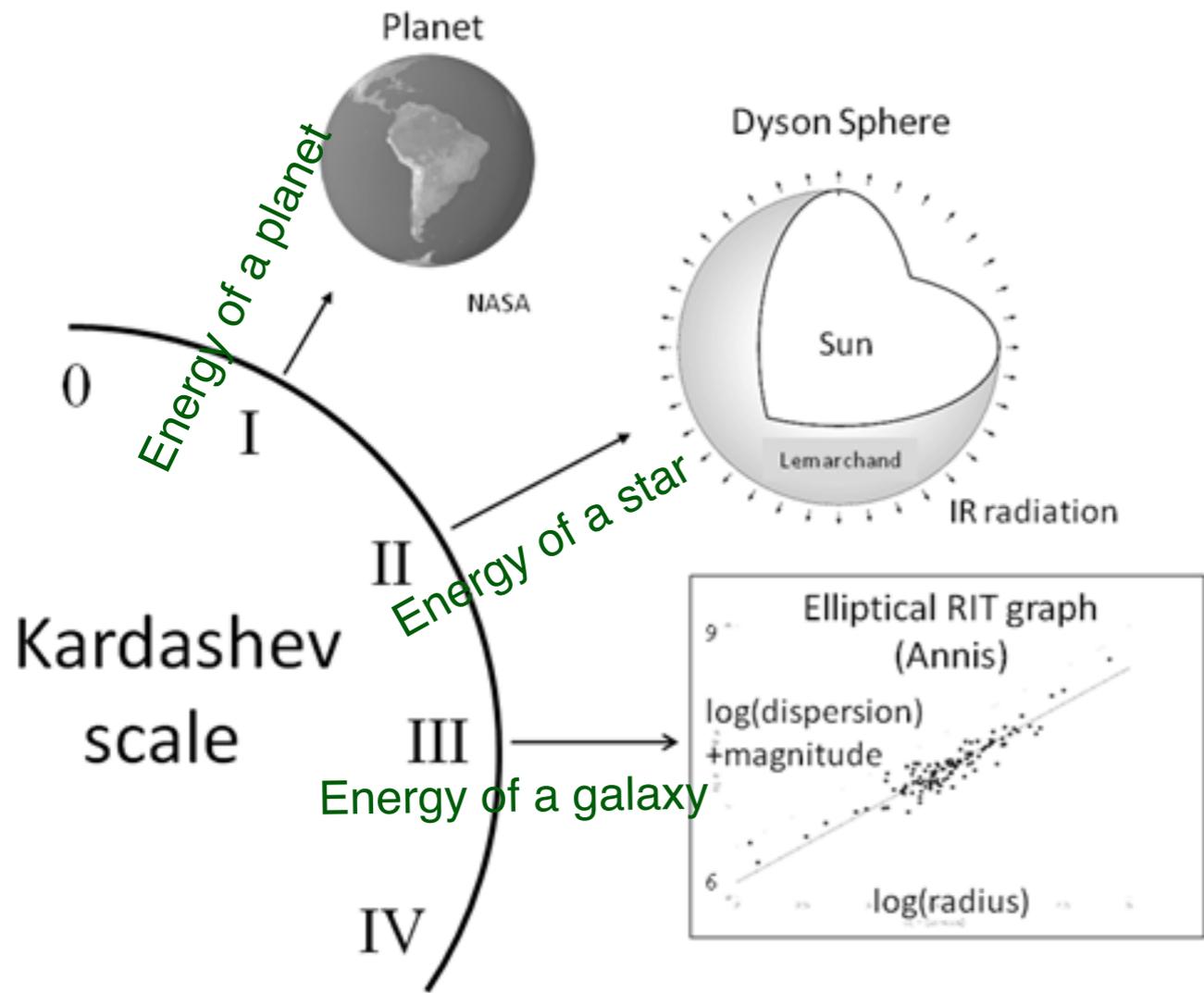
Solar thermal



Balance of system
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also:

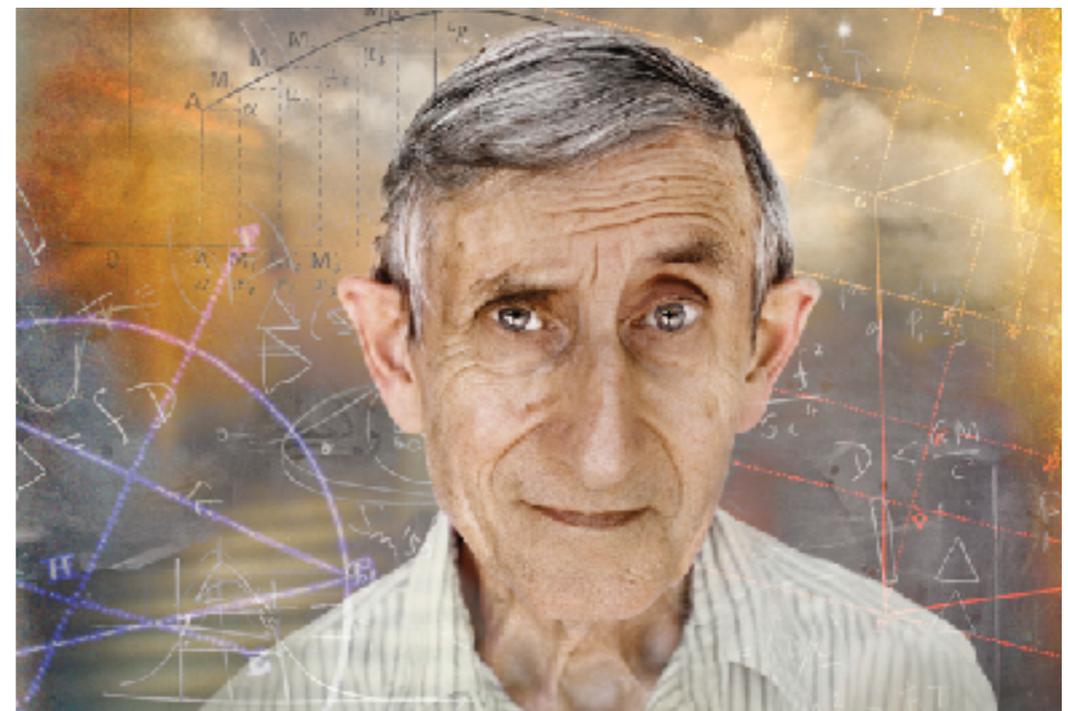
Kardashev scale
Space based solar power
Dyson swarms



Nikolai Kardashev

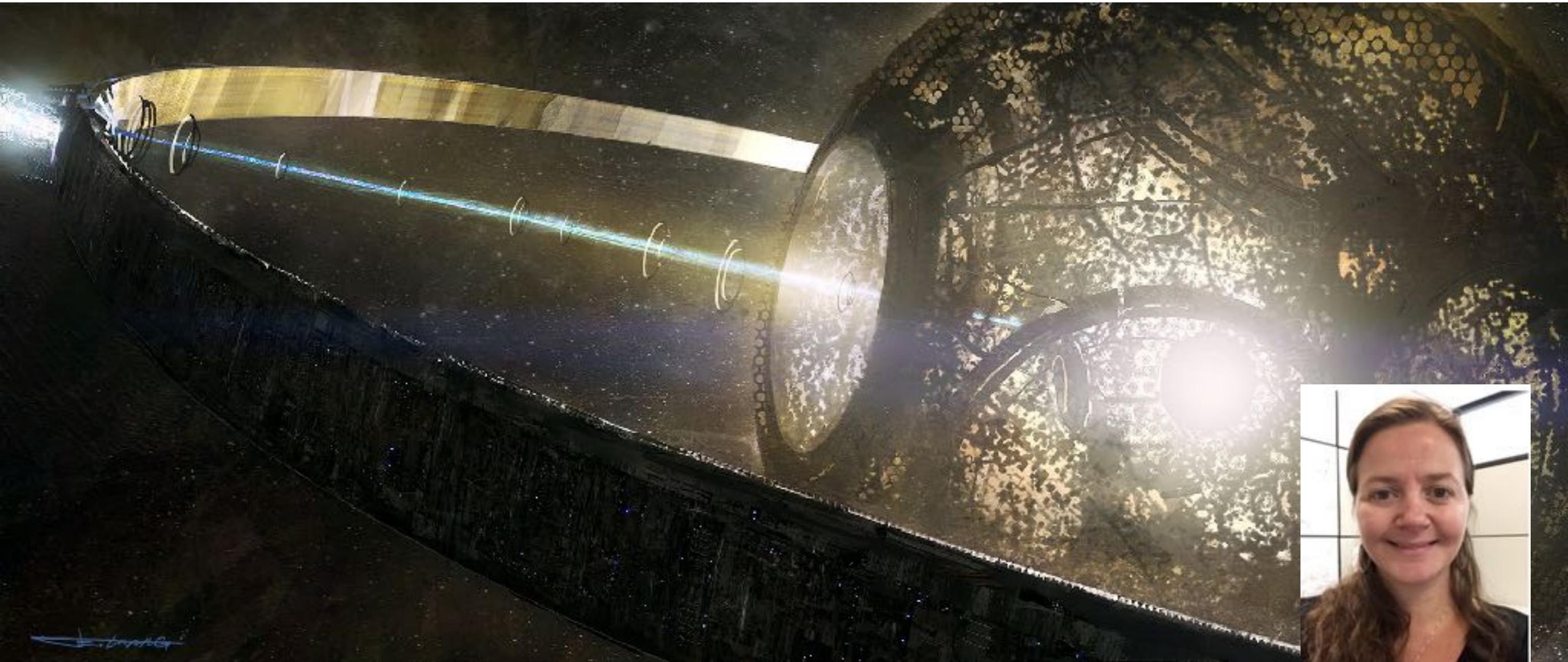


Kardashev scale, Dyson swarms (or rings or spheres)

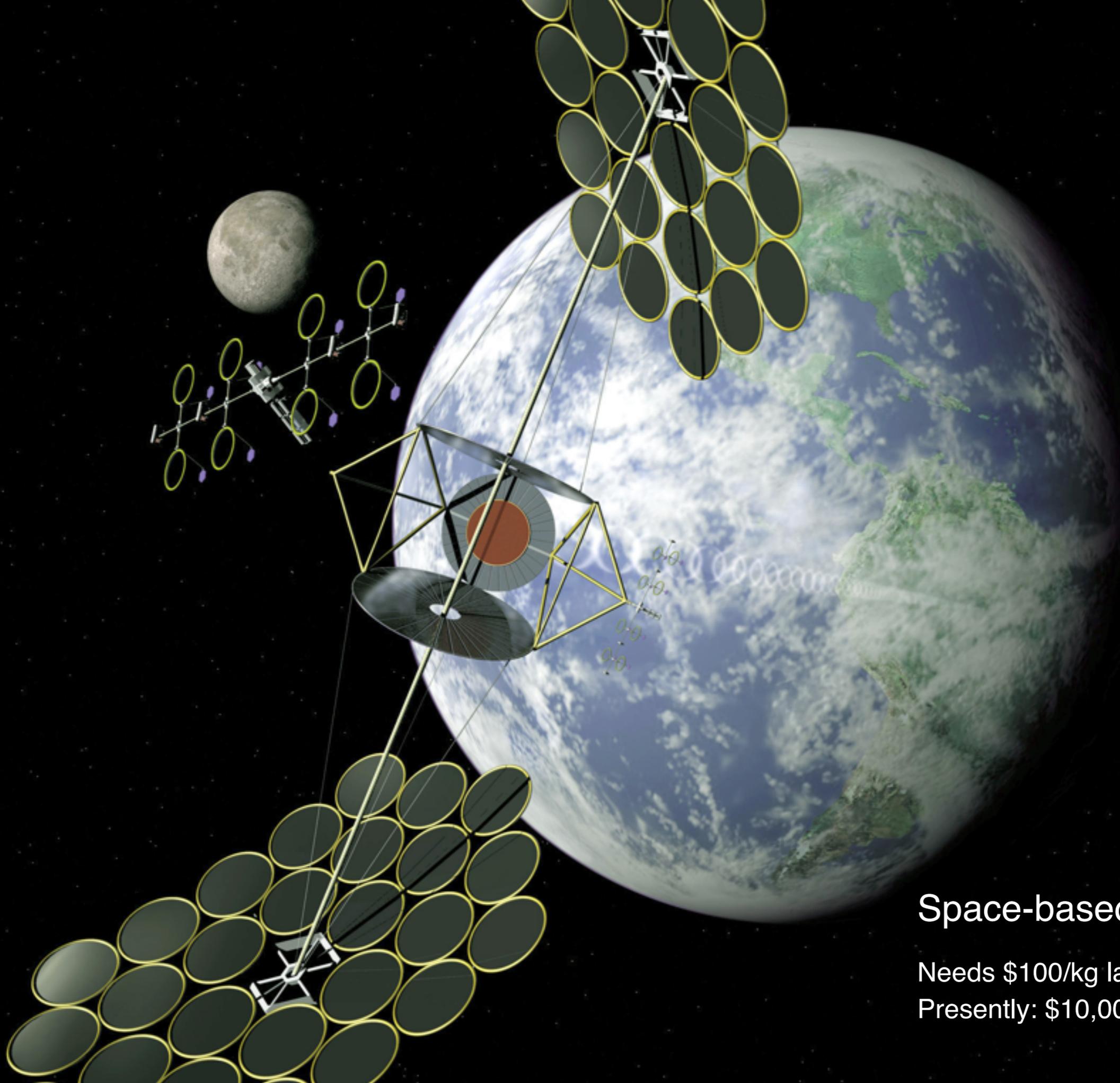


Freeman Dyson

“Tabby’s Star” KIC 8462852



Probably *not* a Dyson Sphere... :(



Space-based solar power

Needs \$100/kg launch costs

Presently: \$10,000/kg

CAPABILITIES & SERVICES

SpaceX offers open and fixed pricing for its launch services. Modest discounts are available for contractually committed, multi-launch purchases. Prices shown below are paid in full standard launch prices for 2013. SpaceX can also offer [crew transportation services to commercial customers](#) seeking to transport astronauts to alternate LEO destinations. Please contact sales@spacex.com for details.

[FALCON 9](#) →

[FALCON HEAVY](#) →

[PRIVATE CREW PROGRAM](#) →

PRICE

PAID IN FULL STANDARD LAUNCH PRICES (2013)

FALCON 9

\$56.5M

Space-based solar power

Needs \$100/kg launch costs

\$2200/kg
2018 estimate

FALCON HEAVY

\$77.1M

Up to 6.4 ton to ST0

\$135M

Greater than 6.4 ton to GTO

PERFORMANCE

LOW EARTH ORBIT (LEO)

INCLINATION PERFORMANCE

28.5° 13,150 kg
28,991 lb

INCLINATION PERFORMANCE

28.5° 53,000 kg
116,845 lb

GEOSYNCHRONOUS TRANSFER ORBIT (GTO)

27° 4,850 kg
10,692 lb

27° 21,200 kg
46,738 lb





From “Do the Math”

I sense that people have a tendency to think space is easy... Once in space, failures cannot be serviced. The usual mitigation strategy is redundancy, adding weight and cost. A space-based solar power system might sound very cool and futuristic, and it may seem at first blush an obvious answer to intermittency, but this comes at a big cost. Among the possibly unanticipated challenges:

- **The gain over the a good location on the ground is only a factor of 3 (2.4× in summer, 4.2× in winter at 35° latitude).**
- It's almost as hard to get energy back to the ground as it is to get the equipment into space in the first place.
- The microwave link faces problems with transmission through the atmosphere, and also flirts with roasting ducks on the wing.
- Diffraction of the downlink beam, together with energy density limits, means that very large areas of the ground still need to be dedicated to energy collection.

- See more at: <http://physics.ucsd.edu/do-the-math/2012/03/space-based-solar-power/#sthash.k4Wv6o77.dpuf>