

**SUPSI**

# Pre-normative characterization of multi-junction photovoltaic modules

**Mauro Pravettoni**

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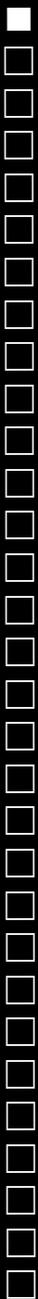
Workshop | Lifetime and Reliability Issues in PV | Thursday 10 Sep 2015

# SUPSI: supporting PV innovation



1982

TISO 10 kW:  
1° grid-connected PV system in EU



# SUPSI: supporting PV innovation

1992

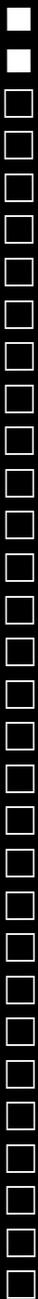


Outdoor testing

1982



TISO:  
1° grid-connected PV system in EU

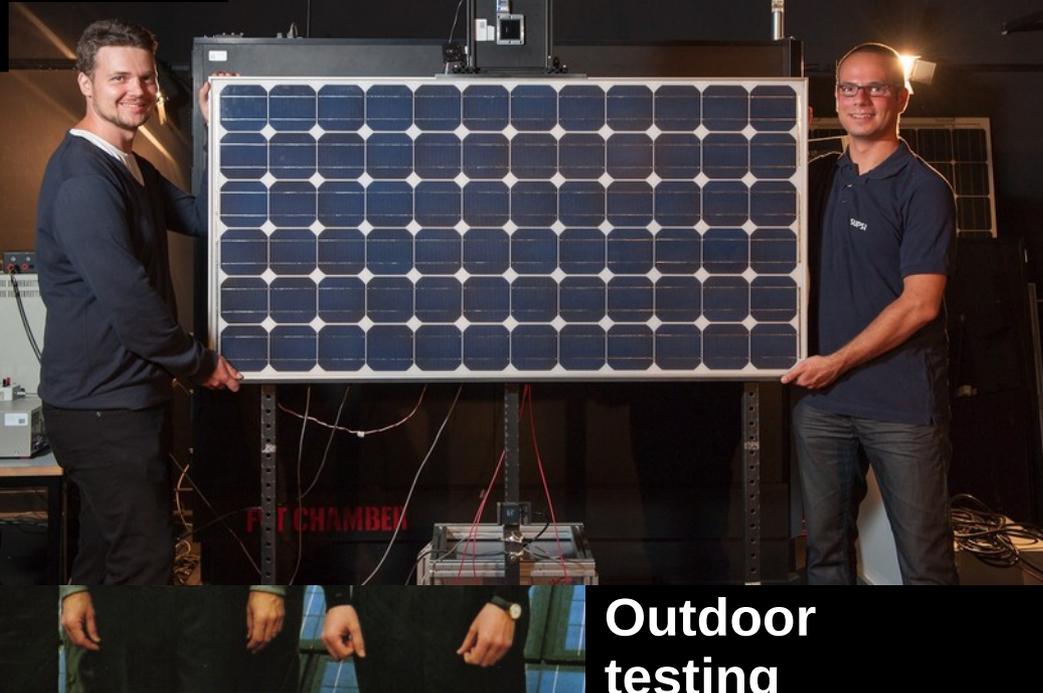


# SUPSI: supporting PV innovation

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2000



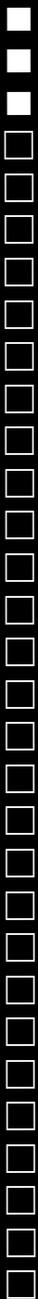
Indoor testing

Outdoor testing

1982



TISO:  
1° grid-connected PV system in EU



# SUPSI: supporting PV innovation

1992



2000



2010



ISO 17025  
accreditation

Indoor  
testing

Outdoor  
testing

TISO:  
1° grid-connected PV system in EU

# SUPSI: supporting PV innovation

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2000



2010



2014

electrosuisse >>



CB Testing Laboratory

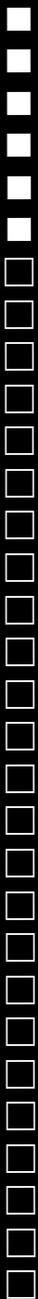
accreditation

Indoor testing

Outdoor testing

TISO:  
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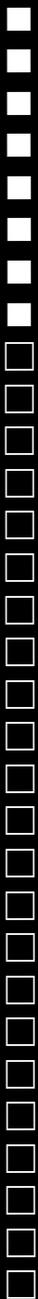
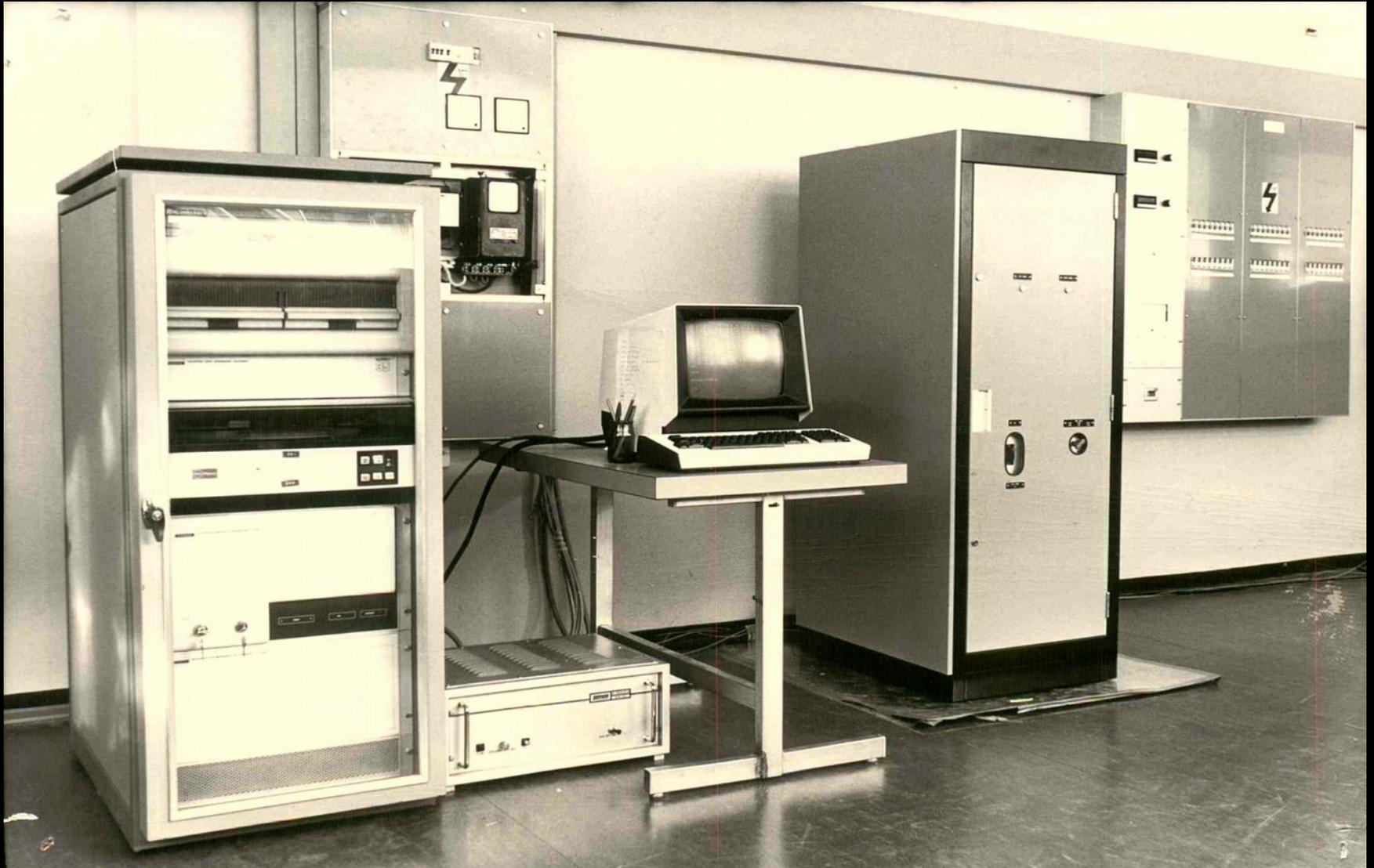
# TISO: 30+ years ago



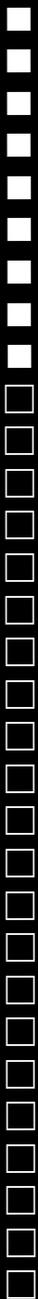
# TISO: 30+ years ago



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TISO: 30+ years ago

37 W<sub>peak</sub> c-Si modules by ARCO Solar

module efficiency: 10%

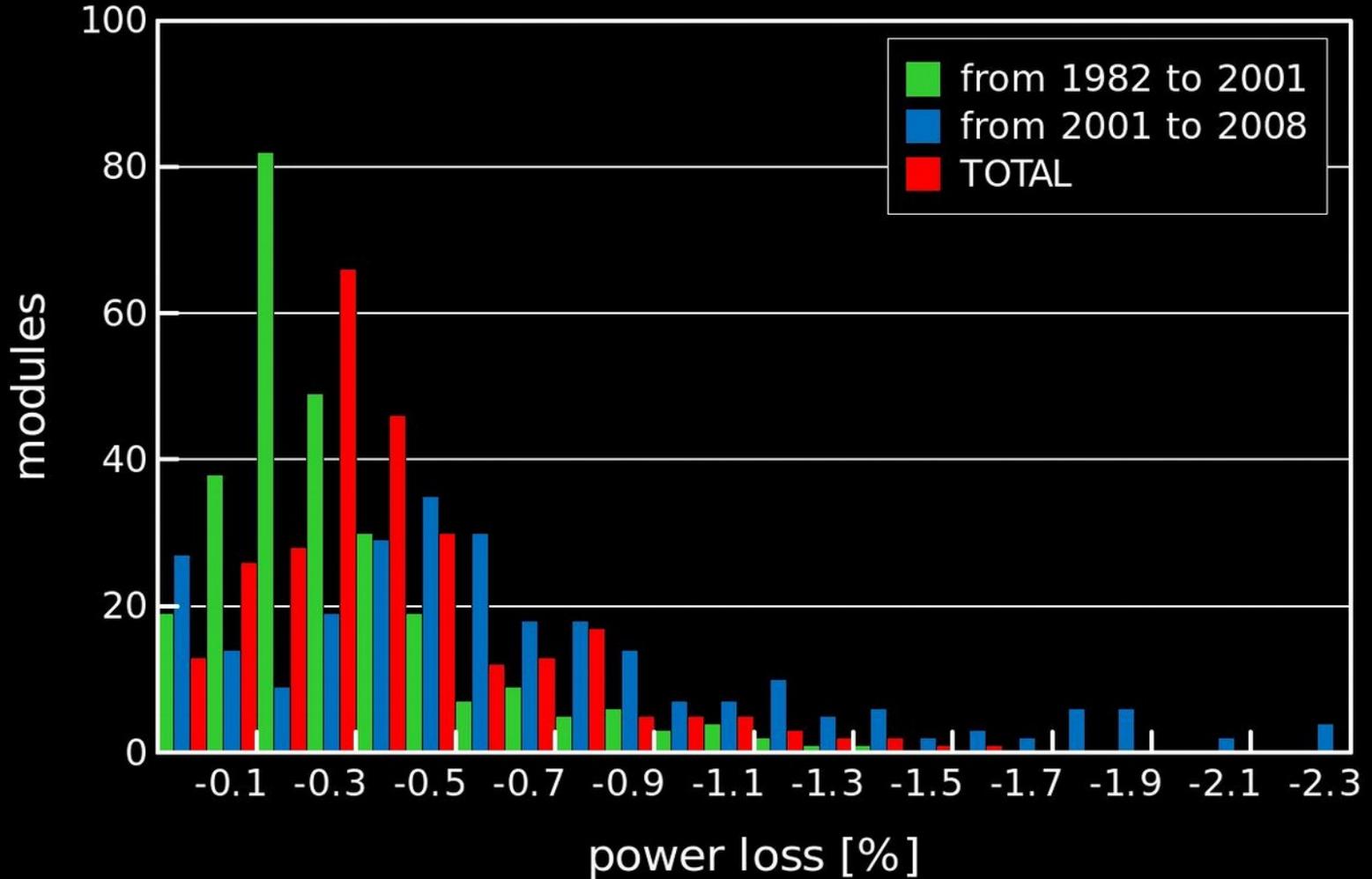
3 strings, 8×12 modules each

total: 288 modules

total power: 10.6 kW<sub>peak</sub>

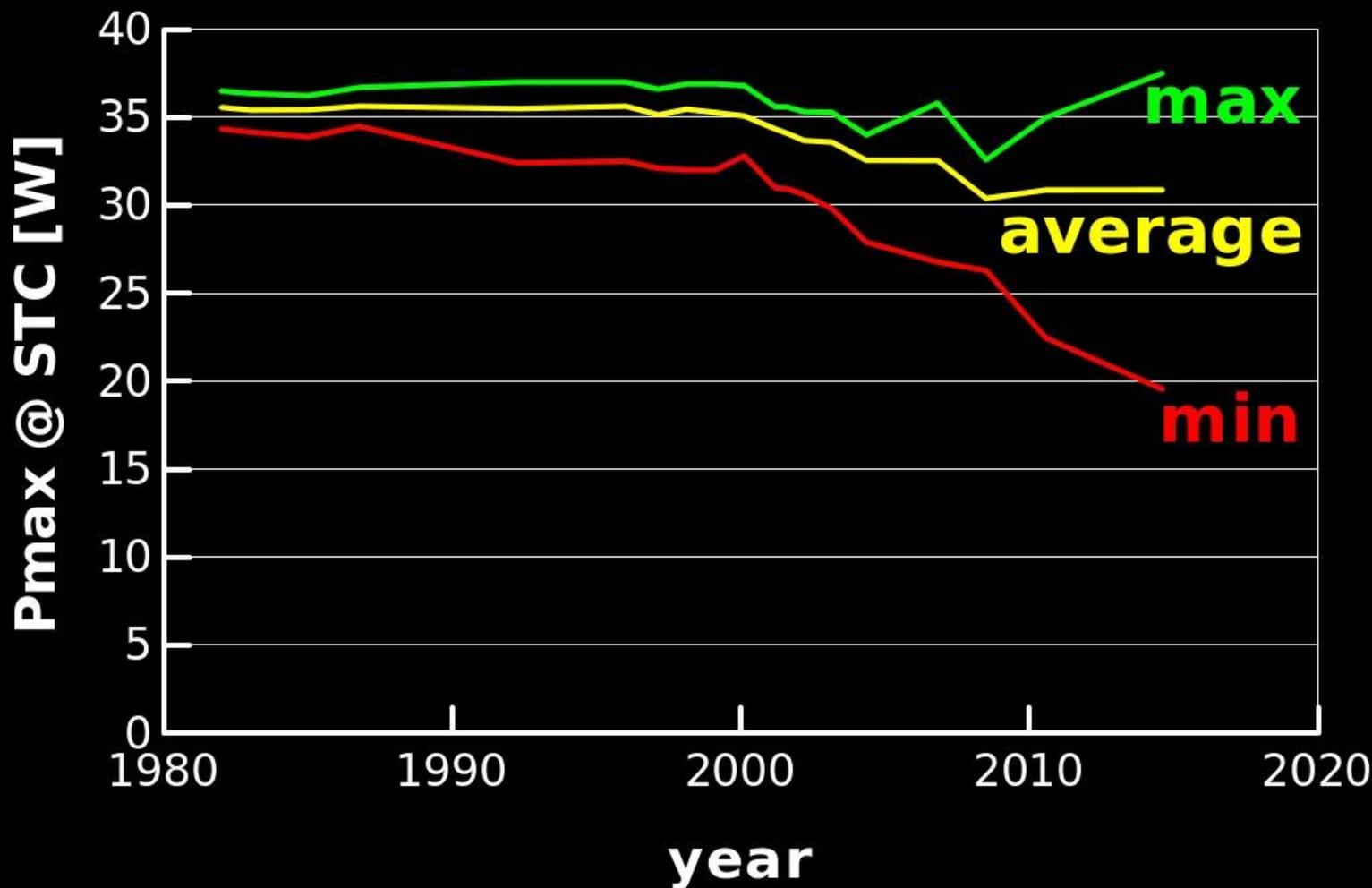


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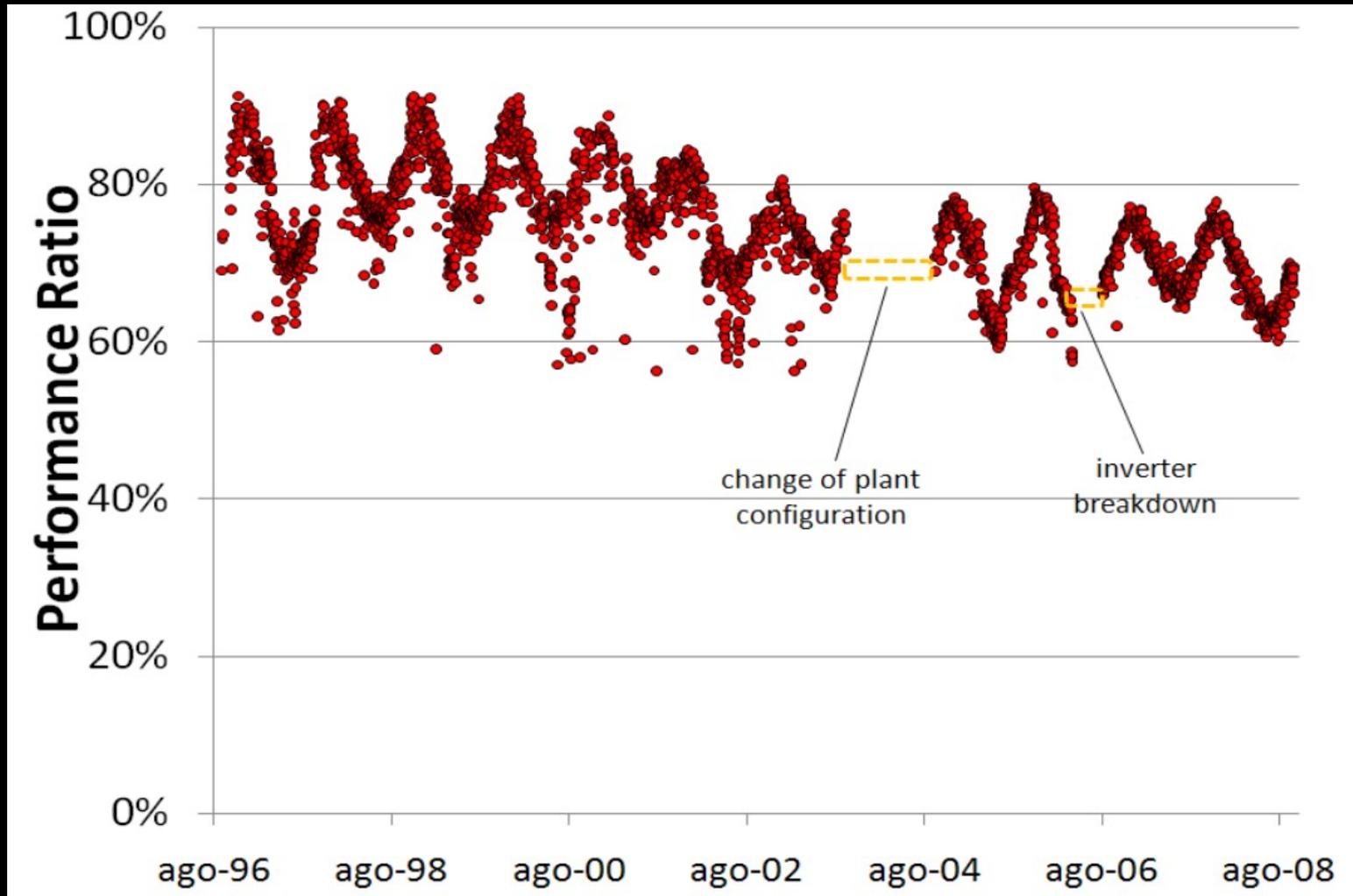
Friesen, Chianese, Realini, Friesen, Burà, Virtuani, Strepparava, Meoli, *Proc. 27<sup>th</sup> EUPVSEC (2012)*

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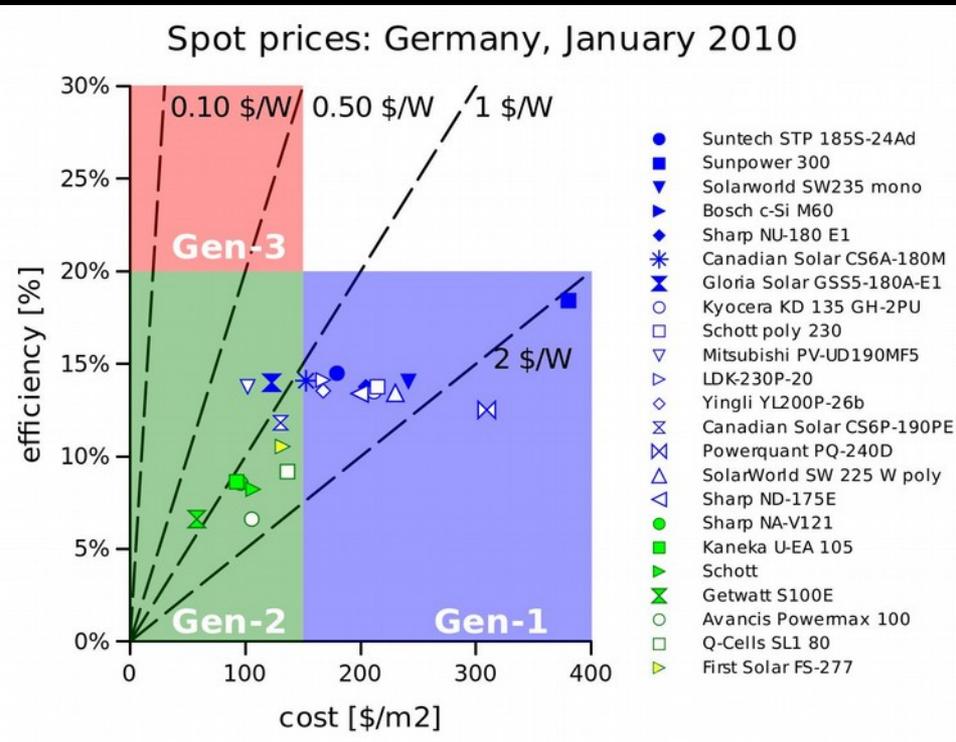
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# TISO: 30+ years ago



Fanni, Realini, Burà, Chianese, *European Energy Conf.*, Barcelona (2010)

# Towards new generation?

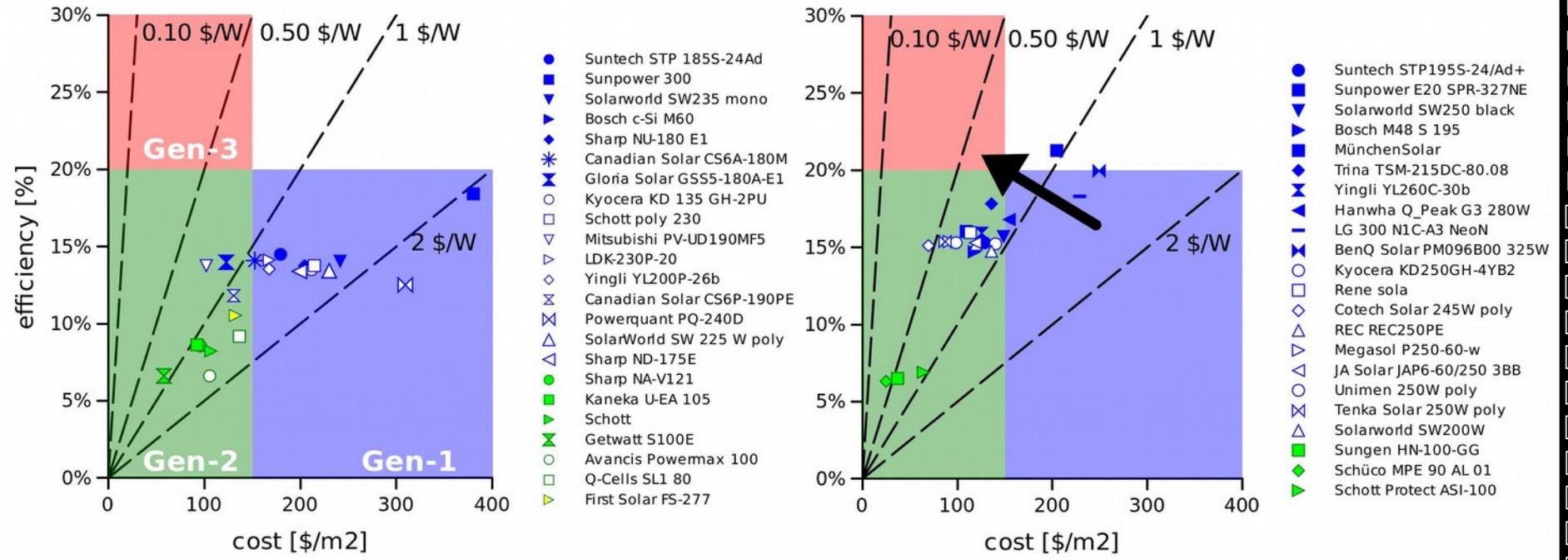


Pravettoni, Manni, Strepparava, *Coatings*, to be published

# Towards new generation?

Spot prices: Germany, January 2010

Spot prices: Germany, August 2014

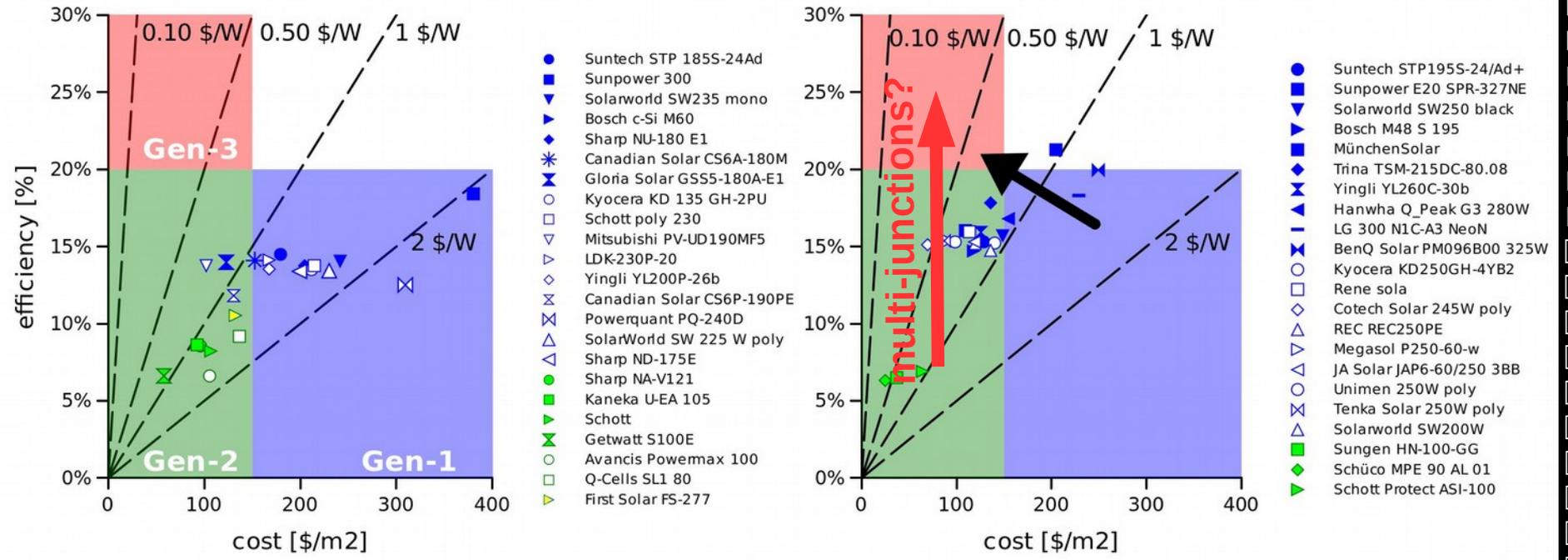


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# Towards new generation?

Spot prices: Germany, January 2010

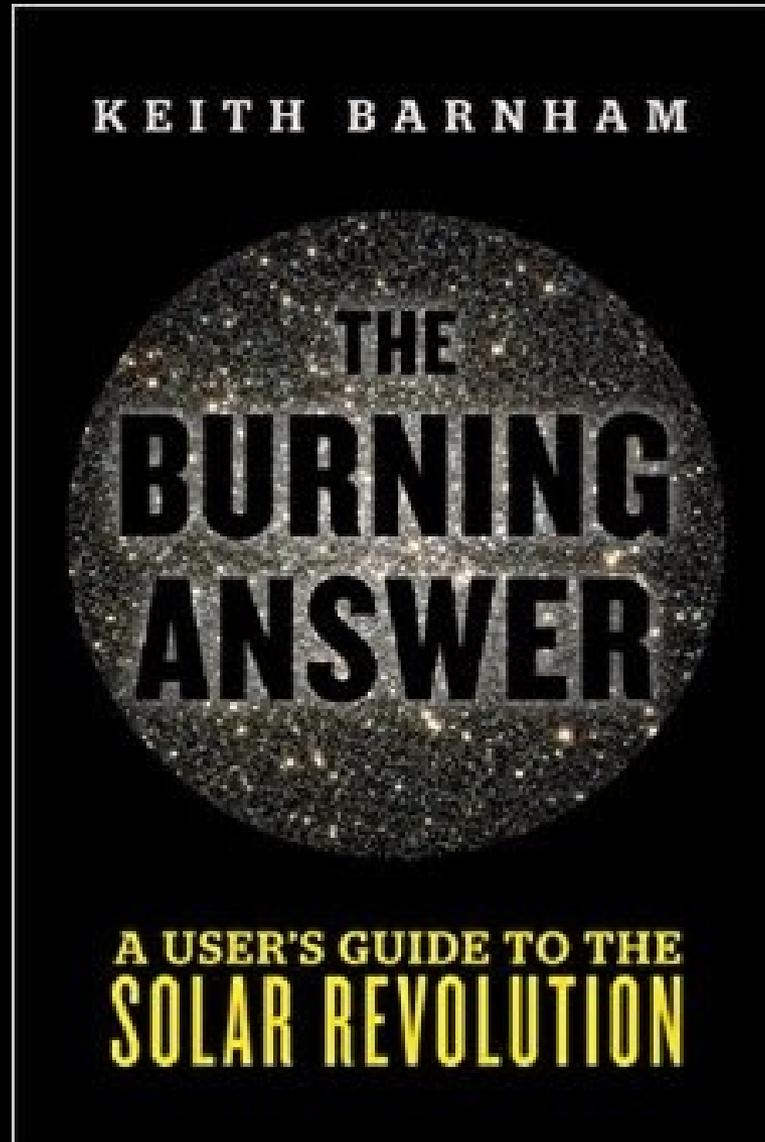
Spot prices: Germany, August 2014



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How multi-J may show  
the same reliability as  
the “good old silicon”?



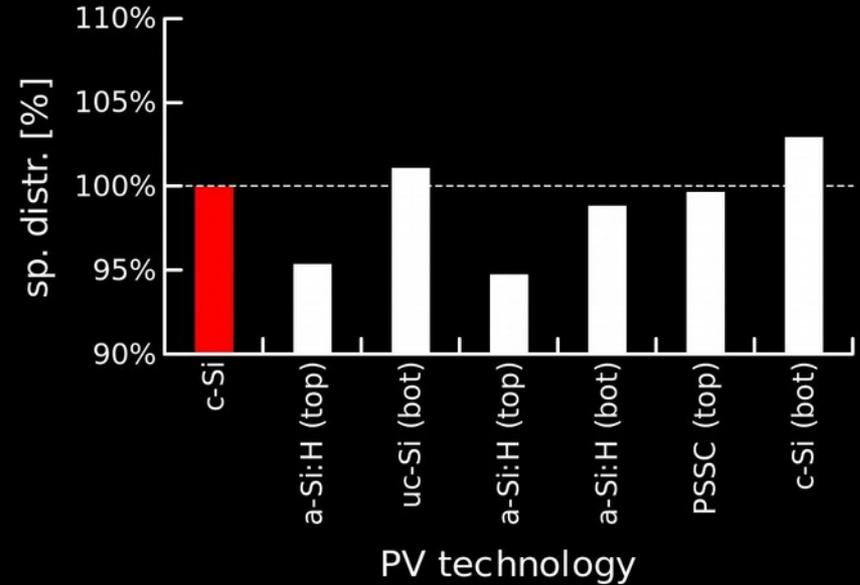
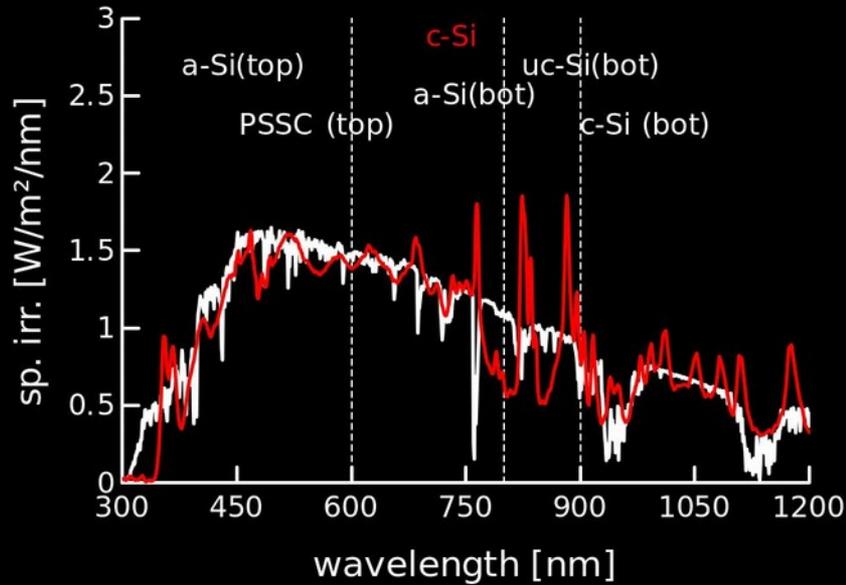


# Electrical characterization of multi-junction modules

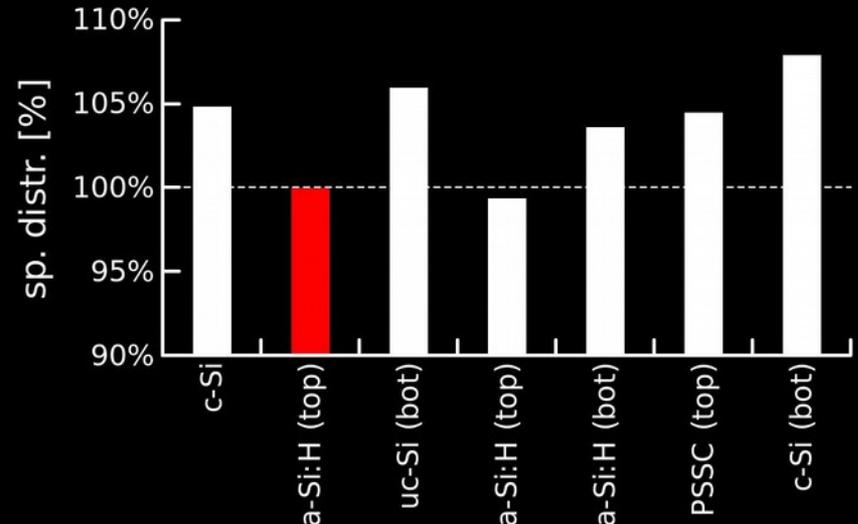
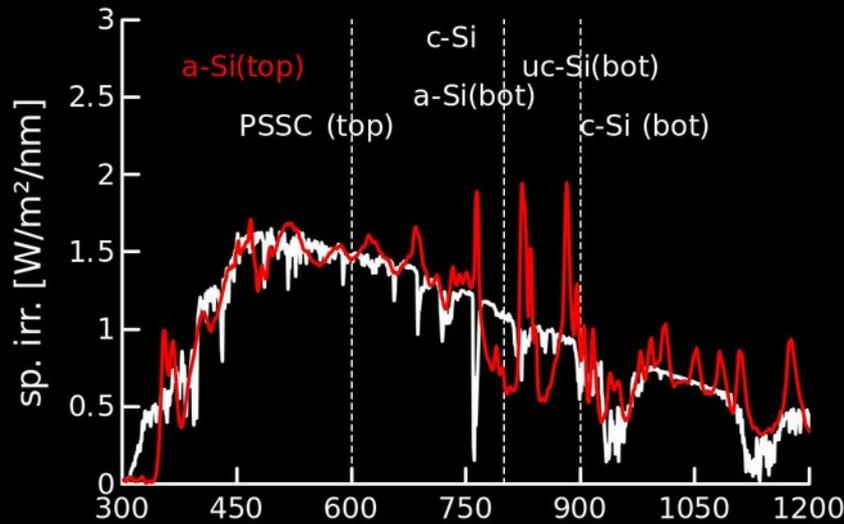
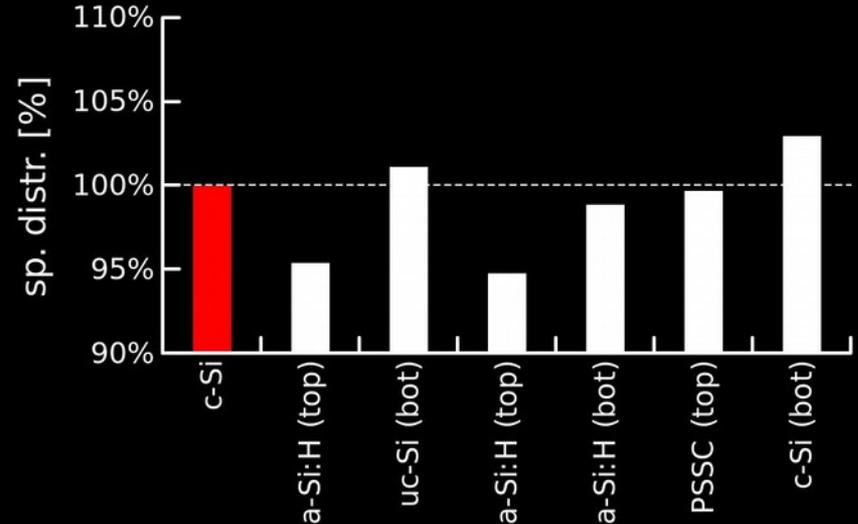
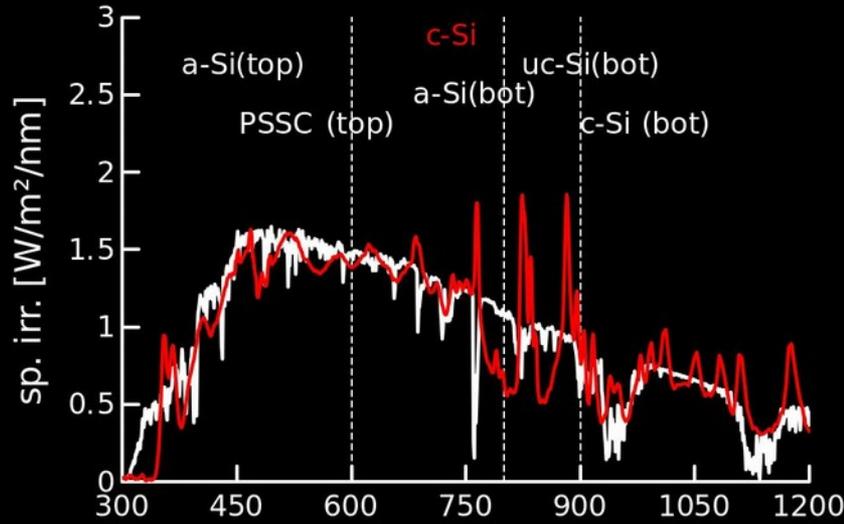
- 1) spectral responsivity measurement
- 2) best reference cell selection
- 3) calculation of the spectral mismatch
- 4) spectral tuning to decrease spectral mismatch
- 5) correction to STC



# Spectral tuning: theory



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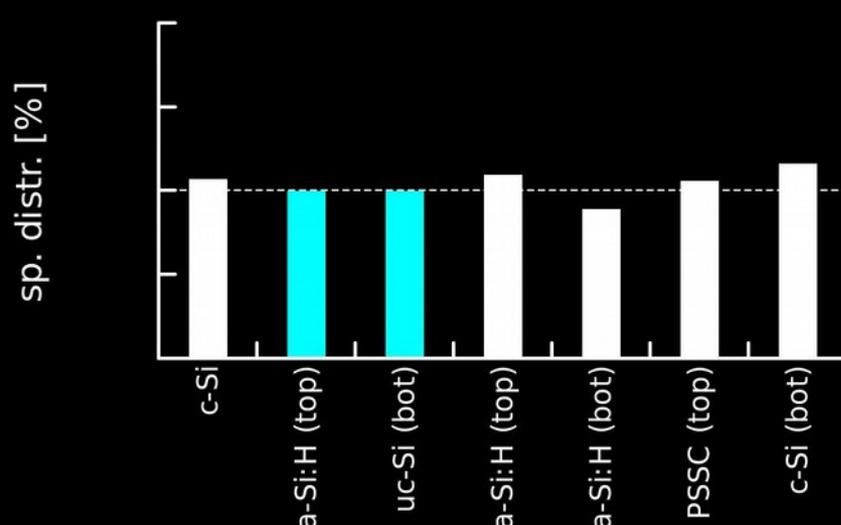
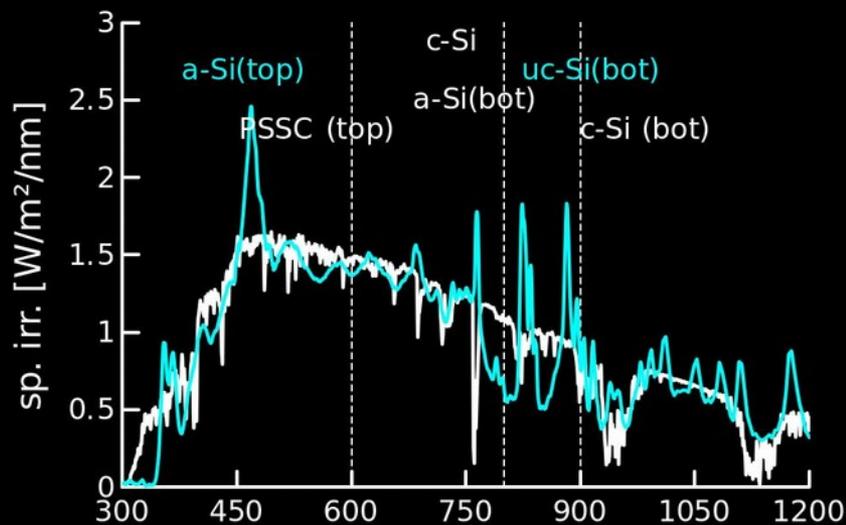
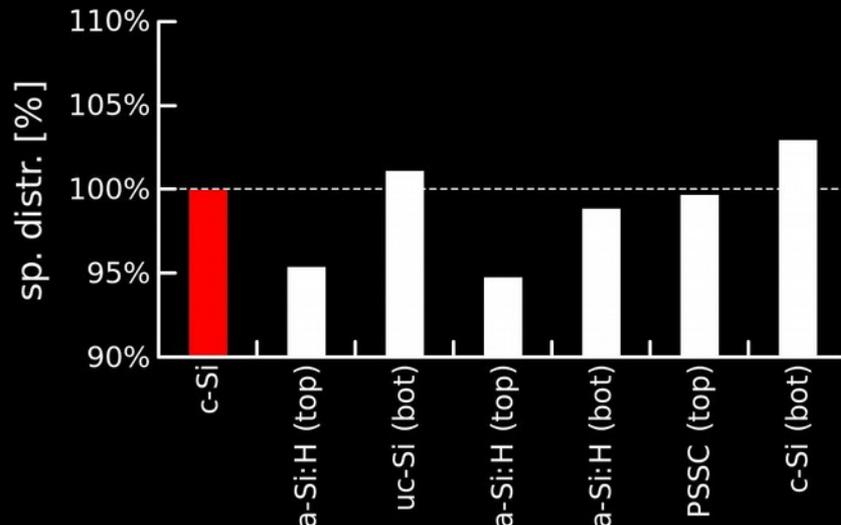
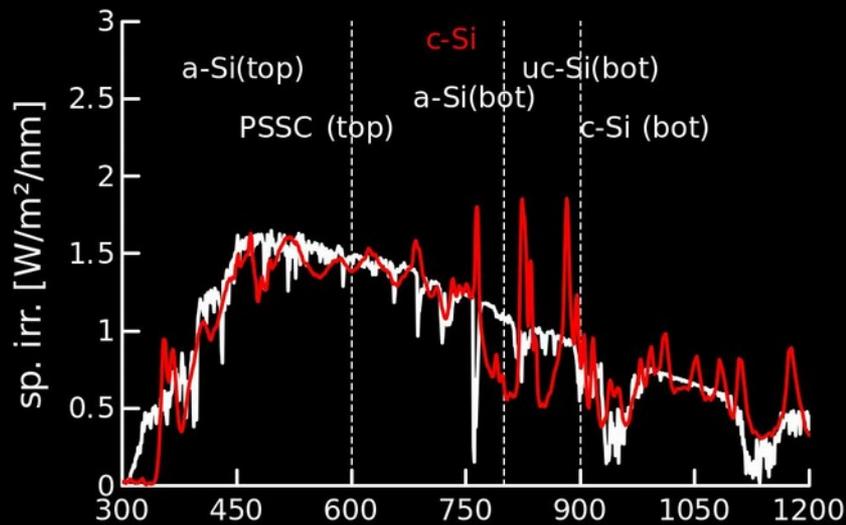


wavelength [nm]

PV technology

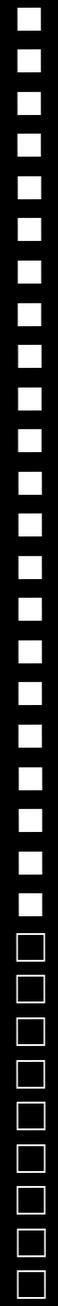


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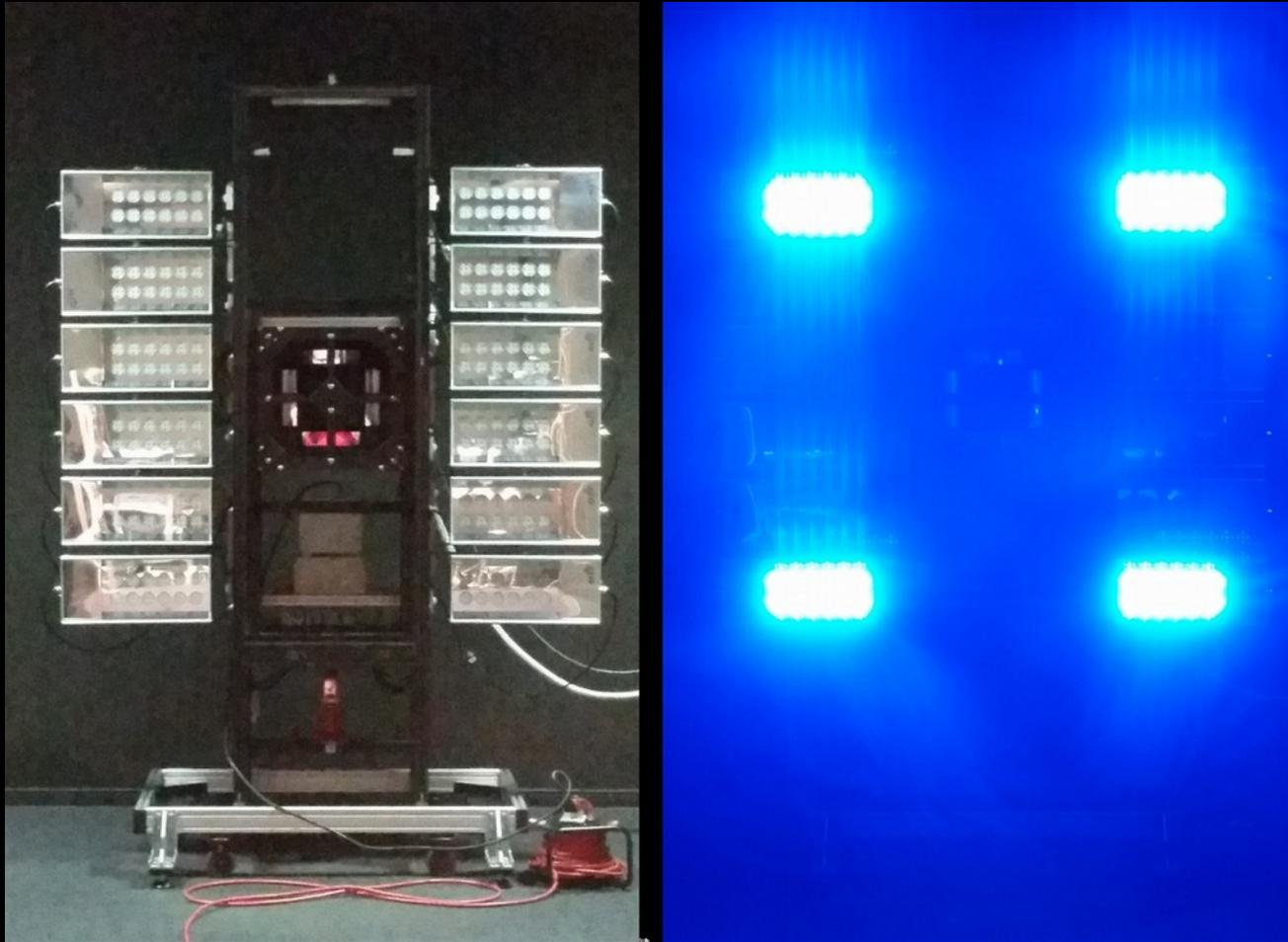


wavelength [nm]

PV technology



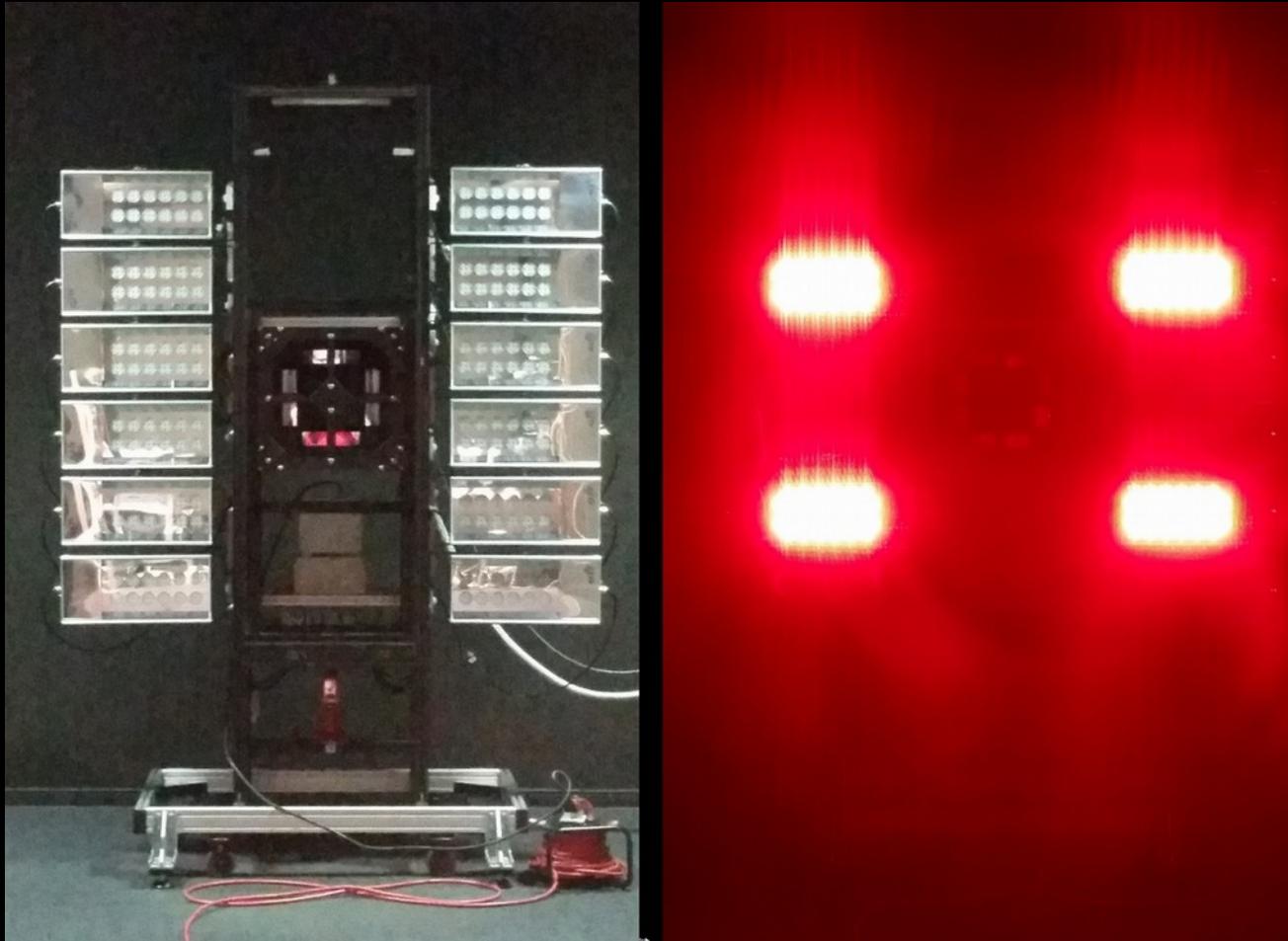
# Spectral tuning for modules



Pravettoni, Manni, Dittmann, 31<sup>st</sup> EU PVSEC, Hamburg (2015)



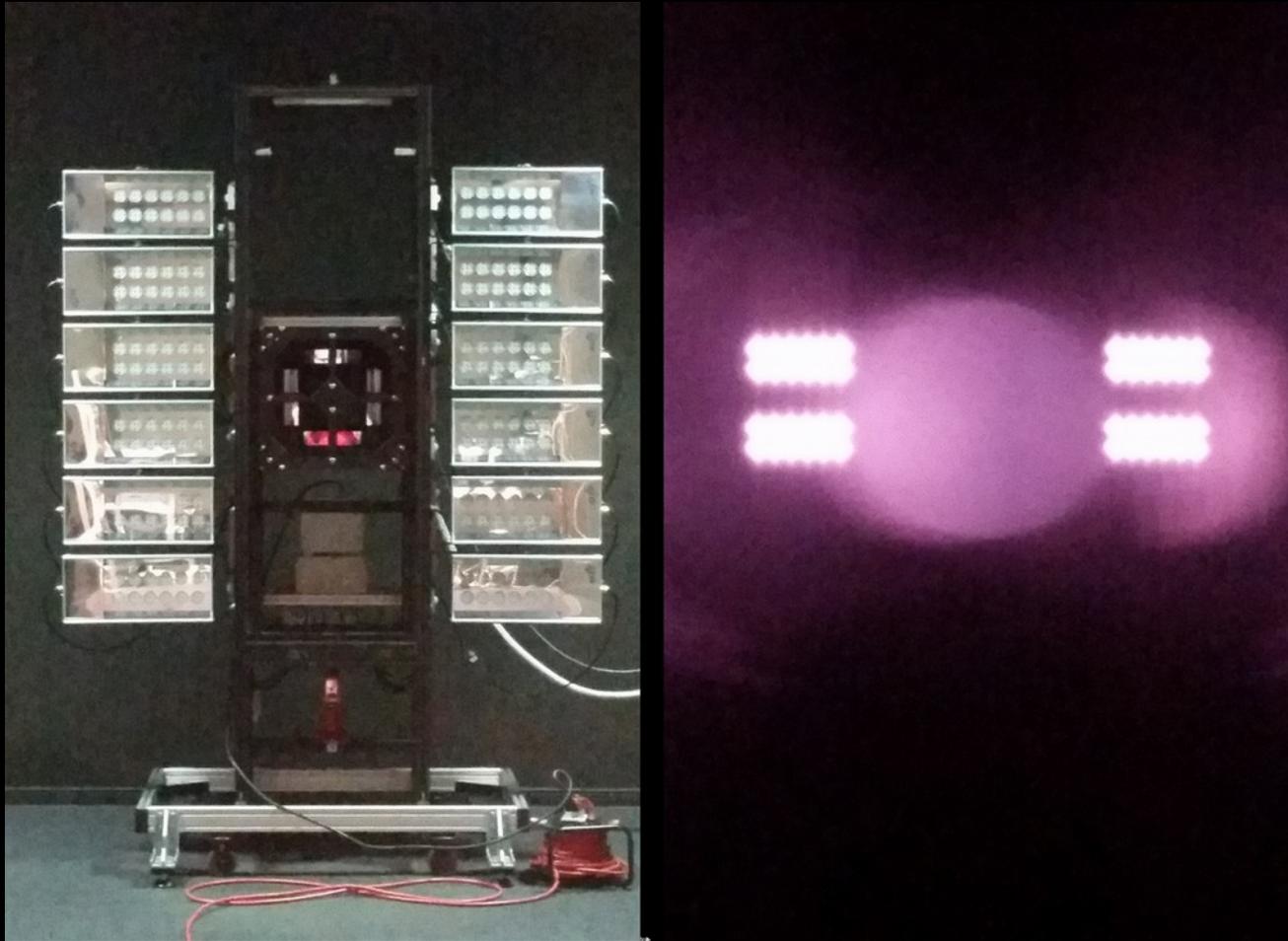
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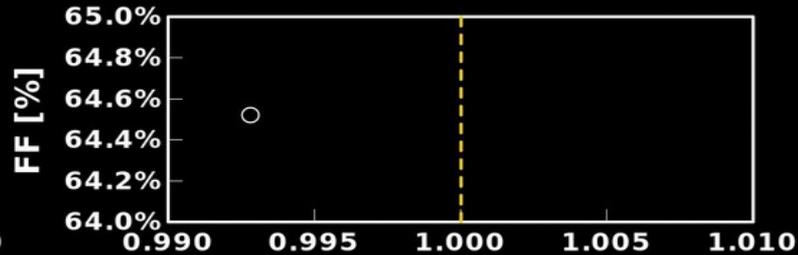
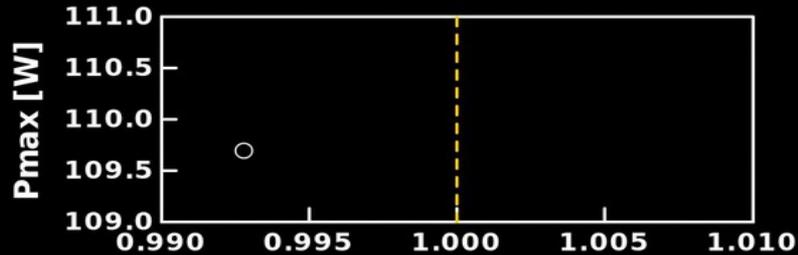
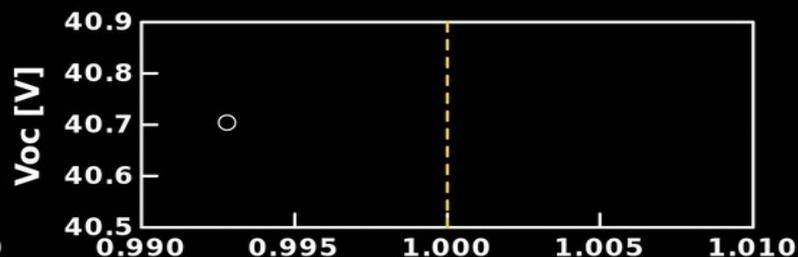
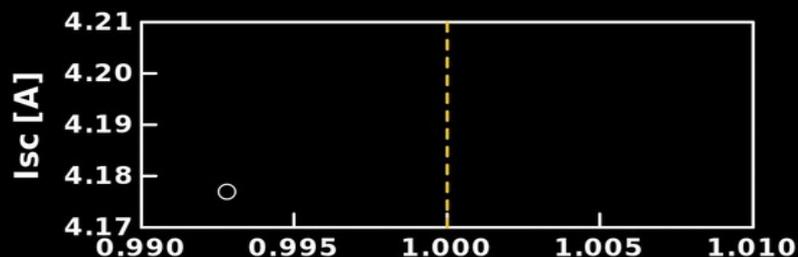
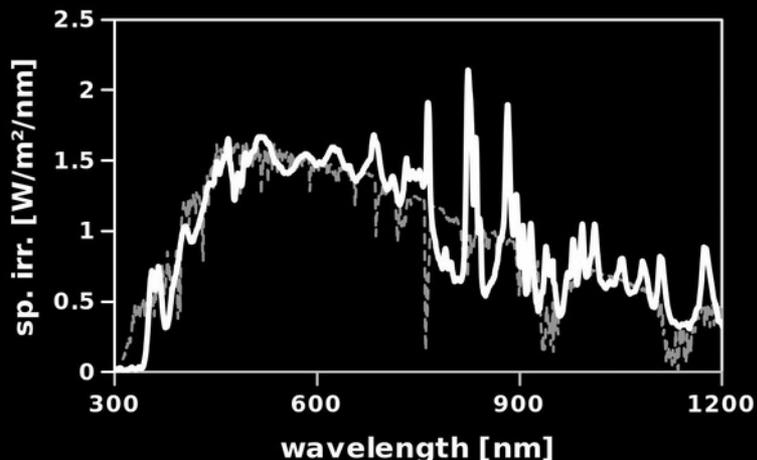
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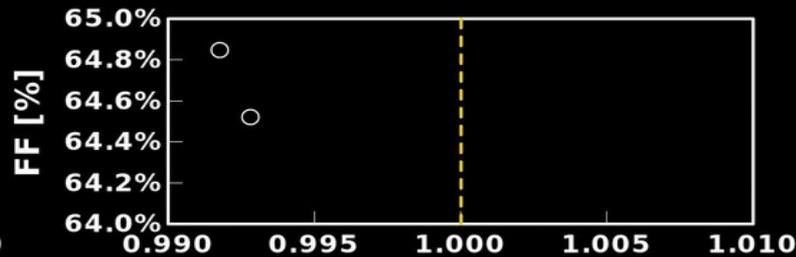
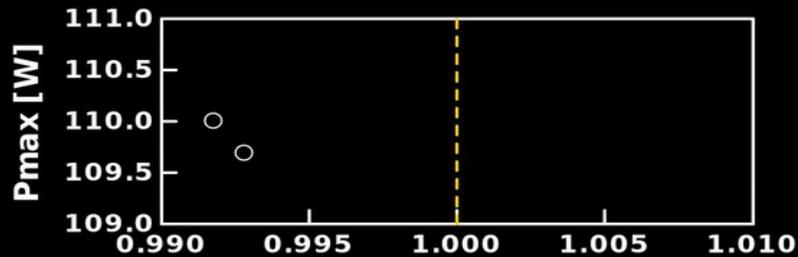
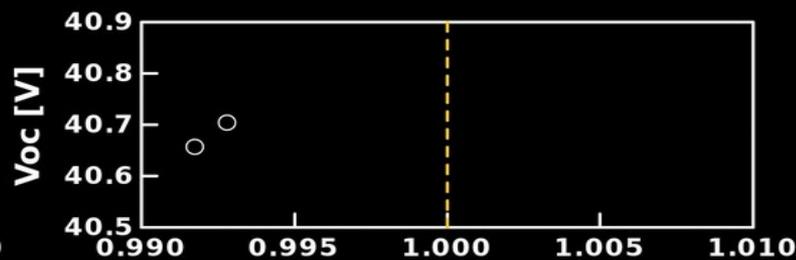
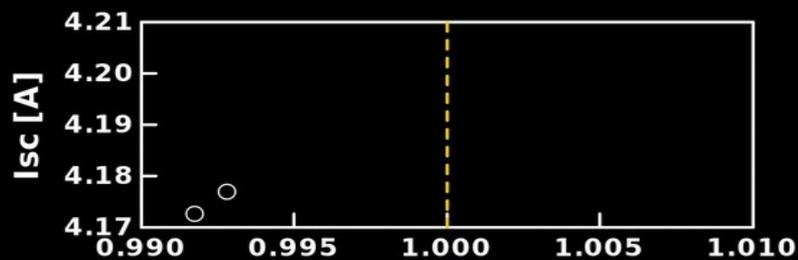
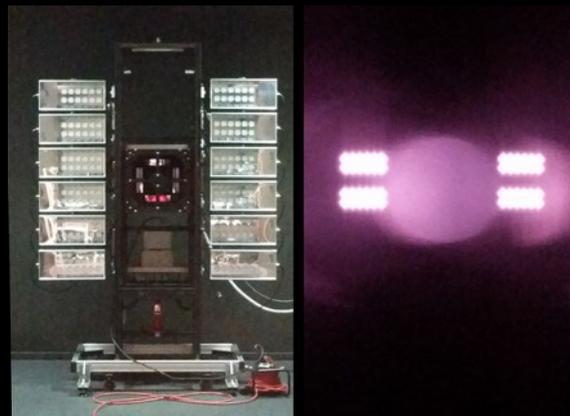
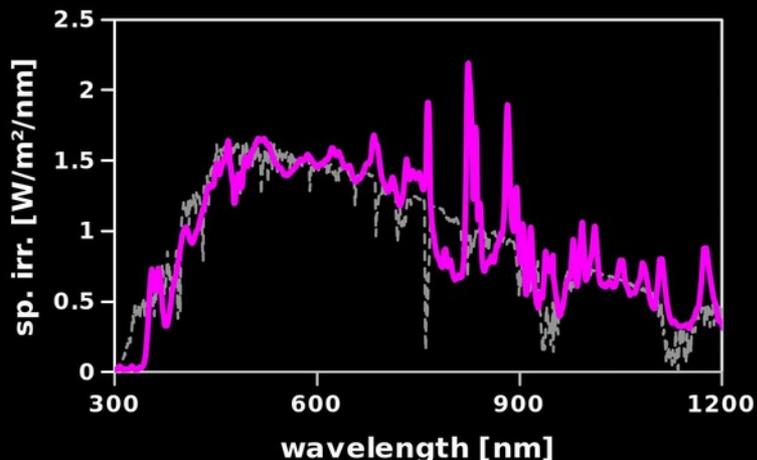
# An example: a-Si:H/ $\mu$ c-Si:H



spectral mismatch

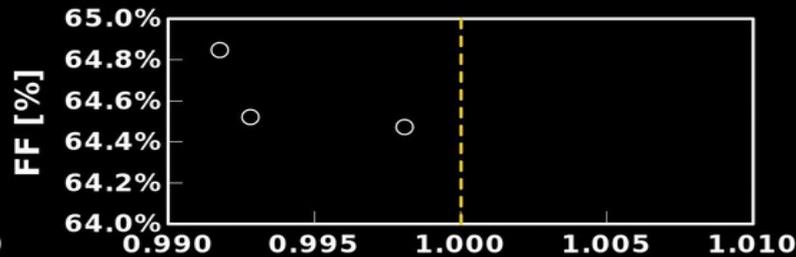
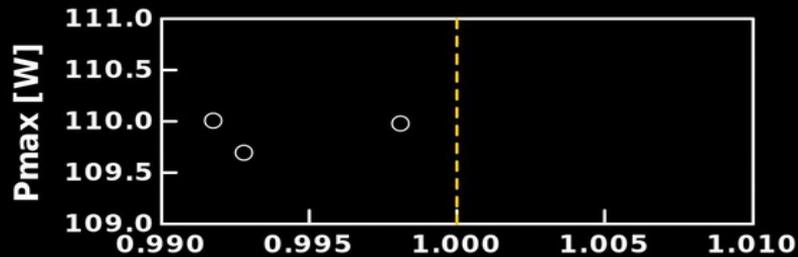
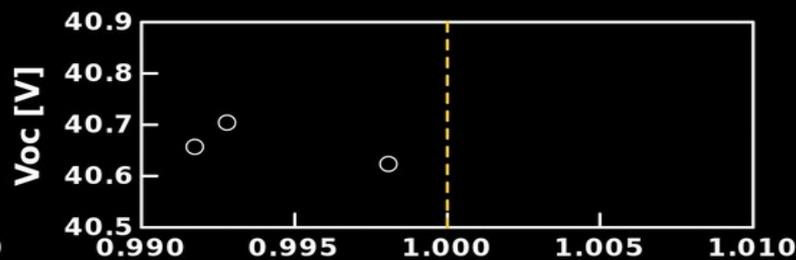
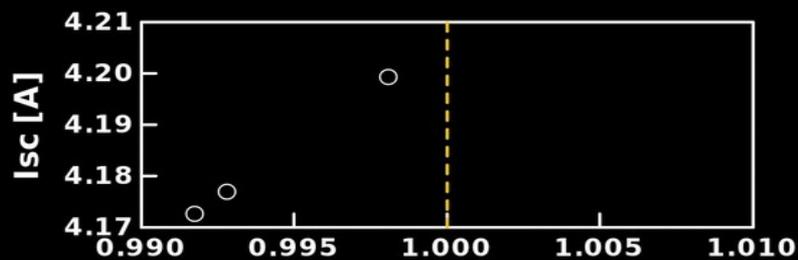
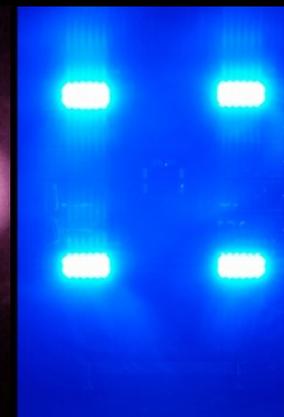
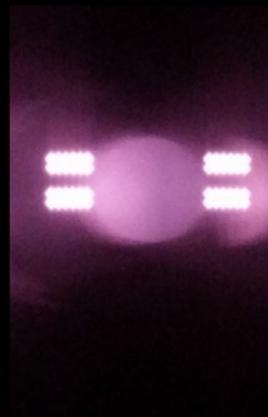
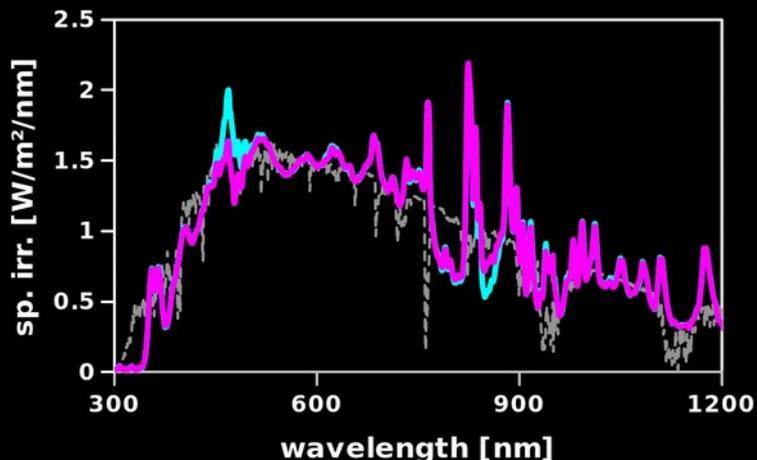


# An example: a-Si:H/ $\mu$ c-Si:H



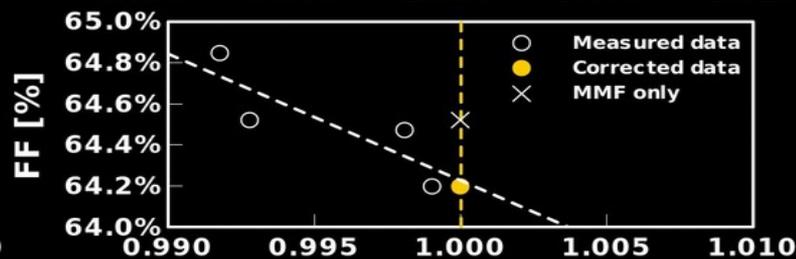
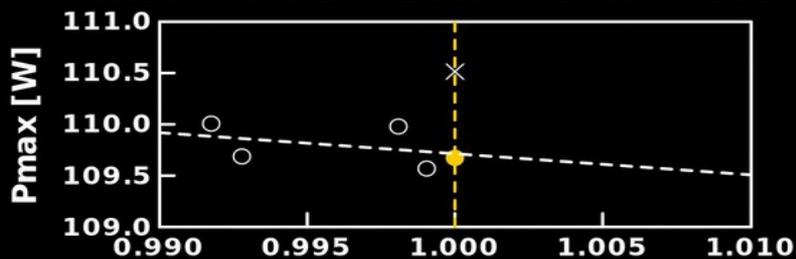
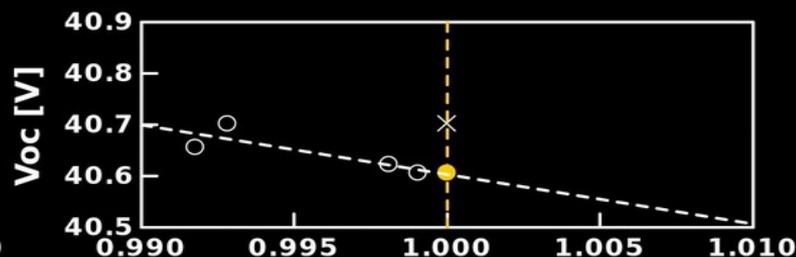
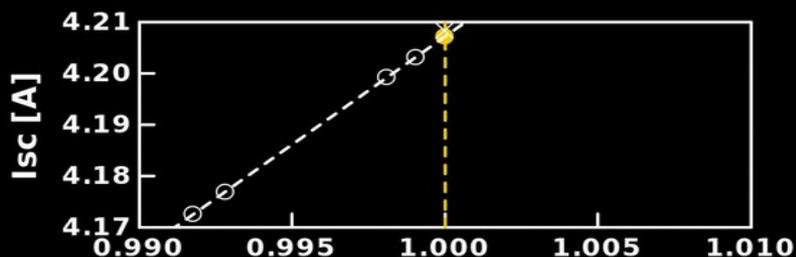
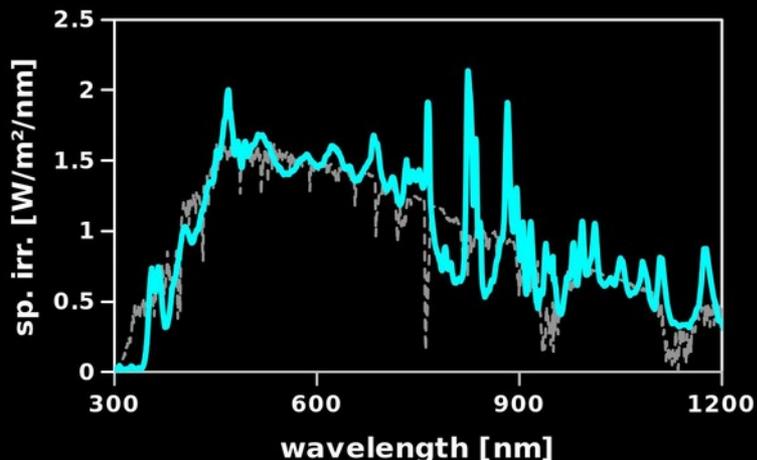
spectral mismatch

# An example: a-Si:H/ $\mu$ c-Si:H



spectral mismatch

# An example: a-Si:H/ $\mu$ c-Si:H



spectral mismatch

# Conclusions

Multi-J may enter PV history, as TISO did

Normative activity is ongoing to improve reliability of new generation PV

Multi-J characterization has been challenging so far

Novel solutions to allow spectral tuning at module level were developed at SUPSI

# Acknowledgments

**Bundesamt für Energie (BFE)  
Azienda Elettrica Ticinese (ATE)**  
for funding of research project  
PM-THIN (2011-2014)

Gabi Friesen, Sebastian Dittmann,  
Loris Manni, Alessandro Virtuani

Thanks for your attention

**AND SPECIAL THANKS  
TO RONNY, DAVIDE,  
& SYLVAIN**