



# STERG

SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY  
RESEARCH GROUP



# An Organic Rankine Cycle as technology for Smaller Concentrated Solar Powered Systems

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# Introduction

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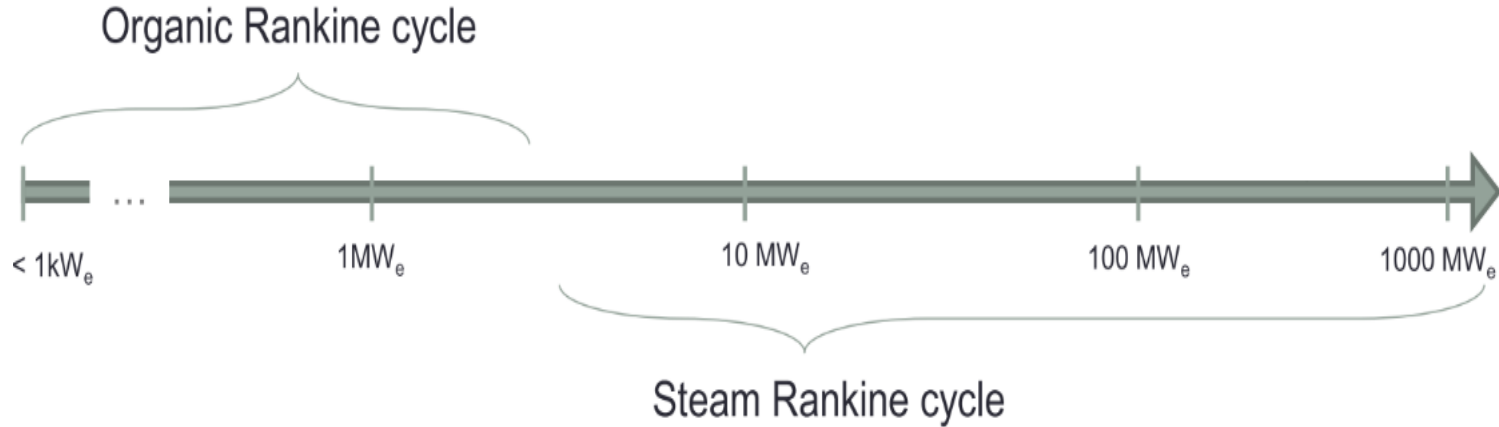
- Motivation
- Objectives
- ORC maturity in CSP
- Specific site in SA
- Simulation
- Conclusion

# Motivation



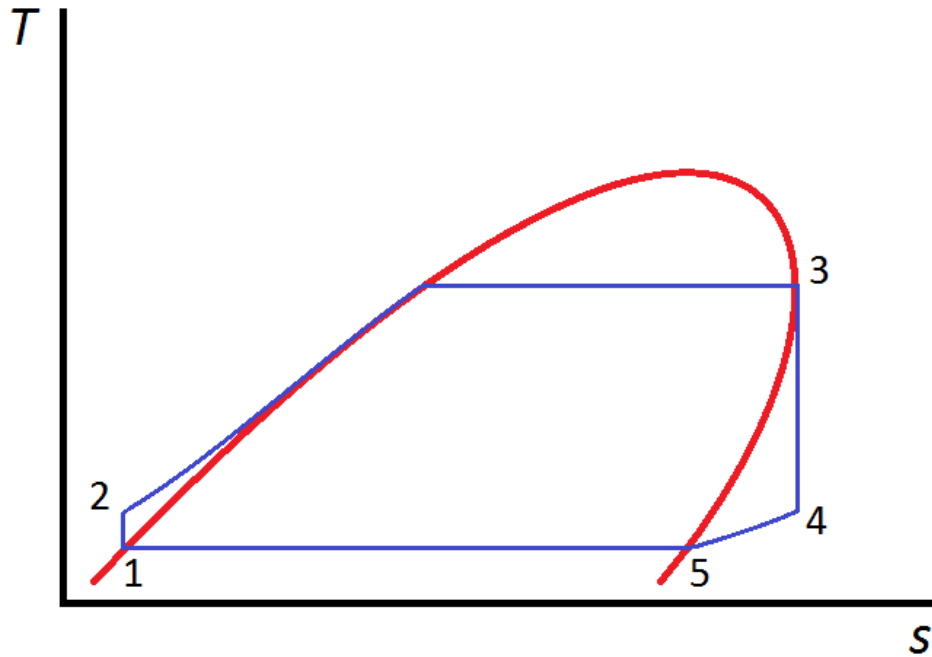
- The real value of CSP
- Economic competitiveness of CSP
- Why ORC?

# Motivation



**Proposed Thermal range of Rankine Cycles**  
(Dickes, 2016)

# Typical ORC



# Motivation



- Advantages of ORC
  - Turbine simplicity
  - No condensation on turbine blades
  - Reduced maintenance
  - Cheaper plant with less components
- Disadvantage
  - Low efficiency

# Objectives



- Determine the technological maturity
- Identify an industry and site in Southern Africa
- Analyse and simulate an ORC with CSP
- Perform an over-head economic analysis



# ORC Maturity in CSP



- 1 MW APS Saguaro PT plant in Arizona, USA in 2006



- Smaller developments and other industries

# Site in Southern Africa

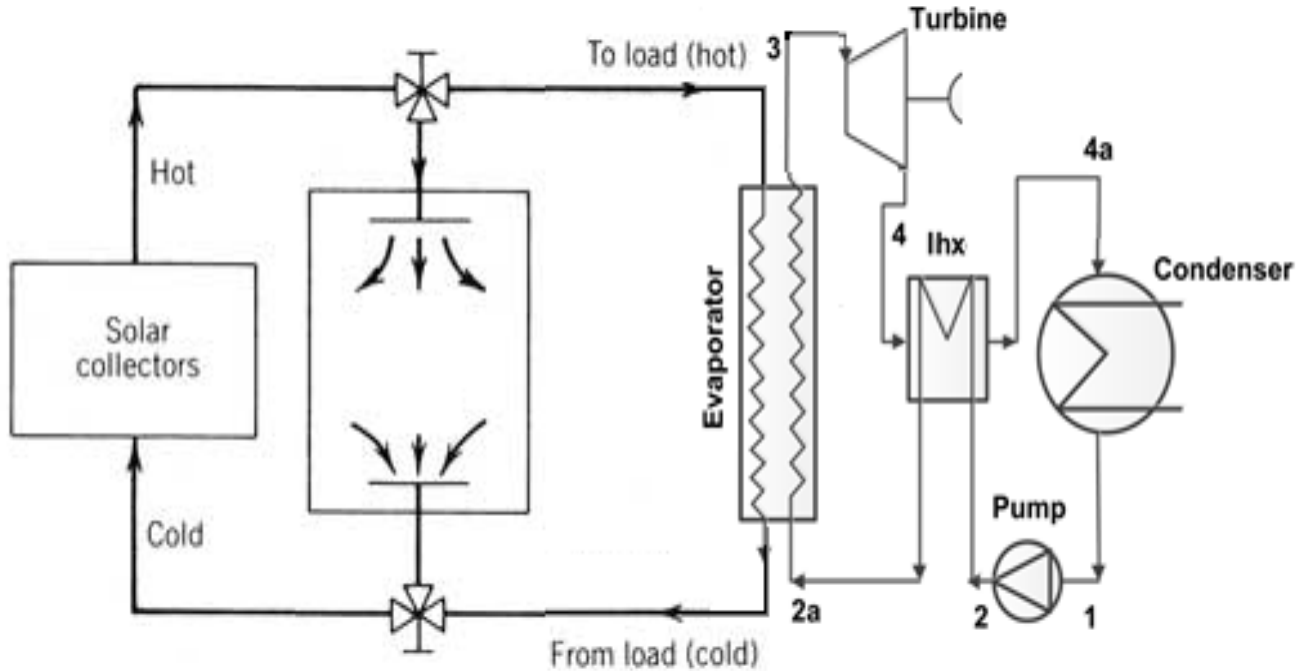


- Possible industries
  - Industrial
  - Residential off-grid
- United Manganese of the Kalahari (UMK)



Site (Google maps, 2017)

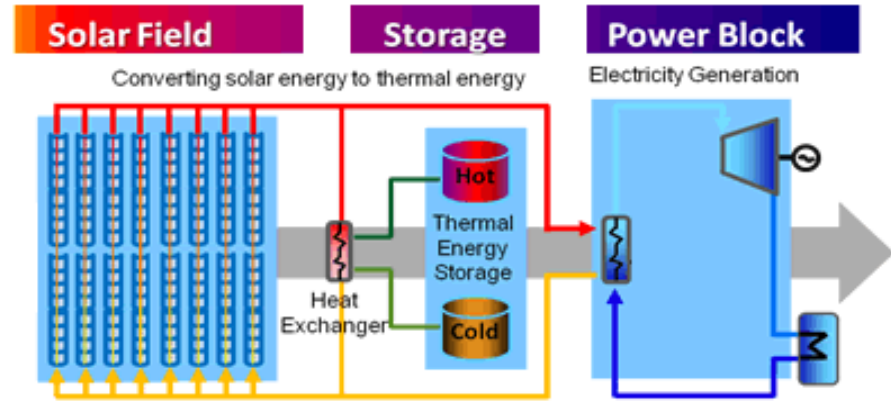
# Simulation: ORC Plant



# Simulation: Approach



- Model functional blocks
  - Solar field
  - Storage
  - Power block



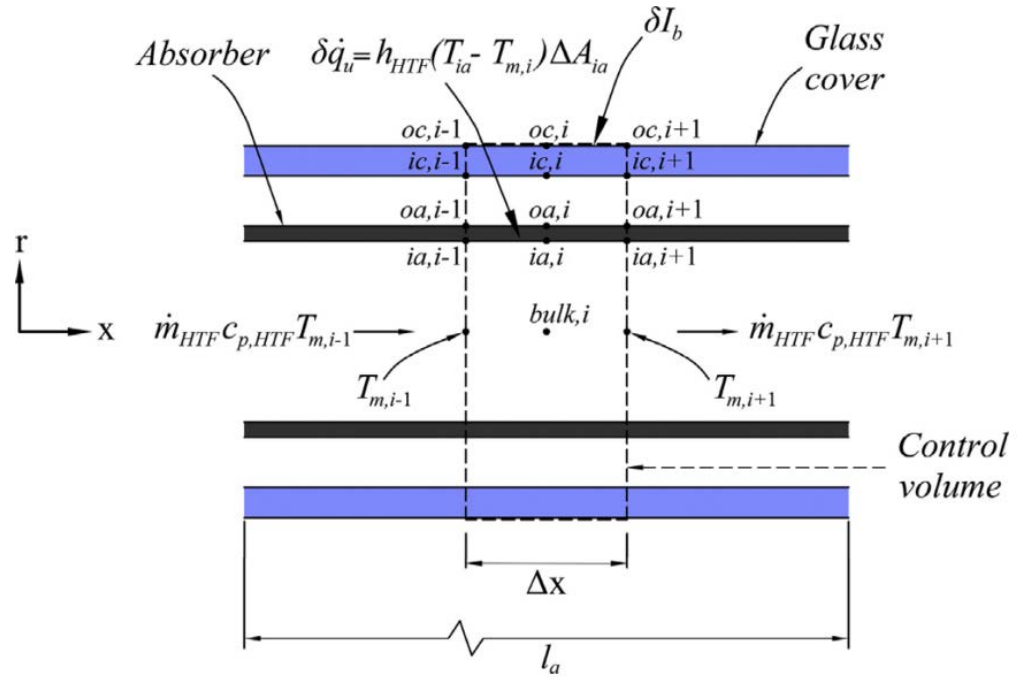
- Steady state and transient model

# Simulation: Approach



- Steady state model
  - Specify output (500kWe – 5MWe)
  - Neglect storage
  - Solar field analysis
  - Power block

# Simulation Approach ...



# Simulation: Approach



- Transient simulation
  - Specify output (500kWe – 5MWe)
  - Incorporate storage
  - Simulate over TMY
  - Calculate LCOE

# Conclusion



- The technology is very immature
- Mining site will be considered
- The future of ORC with CSP



# References



- Dickes, R. (2016). Solar-based ORC power systems. In *ORC-Plus Workshop*.
- Google maps, (2017).  
<https://www.google.de/maps/place/Umk+Mine+Hotazel/>

# The End Thank You

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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Prof Frank Dinter  
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