



ANALYSIS OF THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE SOLUTIONS FOR A 1 MW CSP-ORC POWER PLANT

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Introduction

Why a Solar-ORC System?

- Applicable to medium size power plants (<5MW);
- Not much capital intensive, faster to deploy;
- Simpler than conventional steam cycle;
- Low pressure/ low cost piping;
- Firmer dispatchability than PV;
- Good part-load generation application...



SOLTIGUA Linear Fresnel Collector



EXERGY radial outflow turbine

Why a Thermal Storage System?

- Increased power production;
- Lower LCOE (electricity generation cost);
- Possible production extension to night time;
- more stable heat supply...

Methodology: *CSP-ORC plant description*

Gross Power Output: 1 MWe

Estimated Production: 1,5 GWh/yr (DNI Benguerir:
2100 kWh/m²/y)

Land usage: ~2.5 Hectares without storage, ~3.5
Hectares for with storage.



	Classical steam- CSP	CSP-ORC
Solar technology	PTC collectors	Linear Fresnel
Cooling medium	Water	Air
Foot print	2,5ha for 1MWe	2,2ha for 1MWe
CO ₂ equivalent	1000t/ year	1000t/ year
Water Consumption	Over 10000m ³ / year	0m ³ / year
operation	manned	unmanned
Type of HTF fluid	Synthetic oil	Mineral oil

Solar Field

Heat transfer
fluid:
Delcotherm E15

Rated DNI:
850kW/sqm

Heat output:
5000kW_{th}

Power Block

Working Fluid:
Cyclopentane

Inlet
temperature
300 C

Outlet
temperature
180 C

Ambien Air

Cooling
medium: air

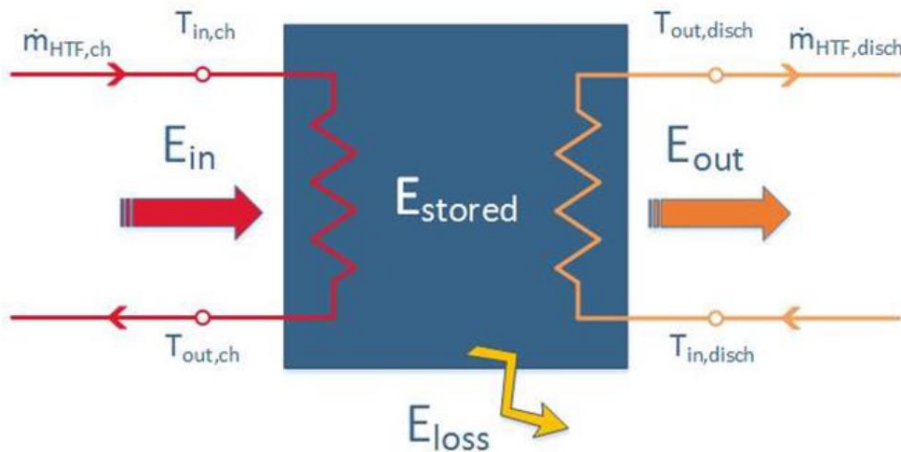
Ambient
temperature
range 10C to
45C

Methodology: *Thermodynamics of heat storage*

$$\eta_{TES,charging} = E_{stored}/E_{in}$$

$$\eta_{TES,discharging} = E_{out}/E_{stored}$$

$$\eta_{TES,overall} = \eta_{TES,charge} \times \eta_{TES,discharge} = E_{out}/E_{in} = 1 - E_{loss}/E_{in}$$



Scheme of an elementary TES system

- Energy being supplied to the system;
- Energy that can be delivered back by the system;
- Energy that was initially in the system;
- Energy that is lost the surroundings;
- Residual energy not being delivered by the storage system.

Methodology:

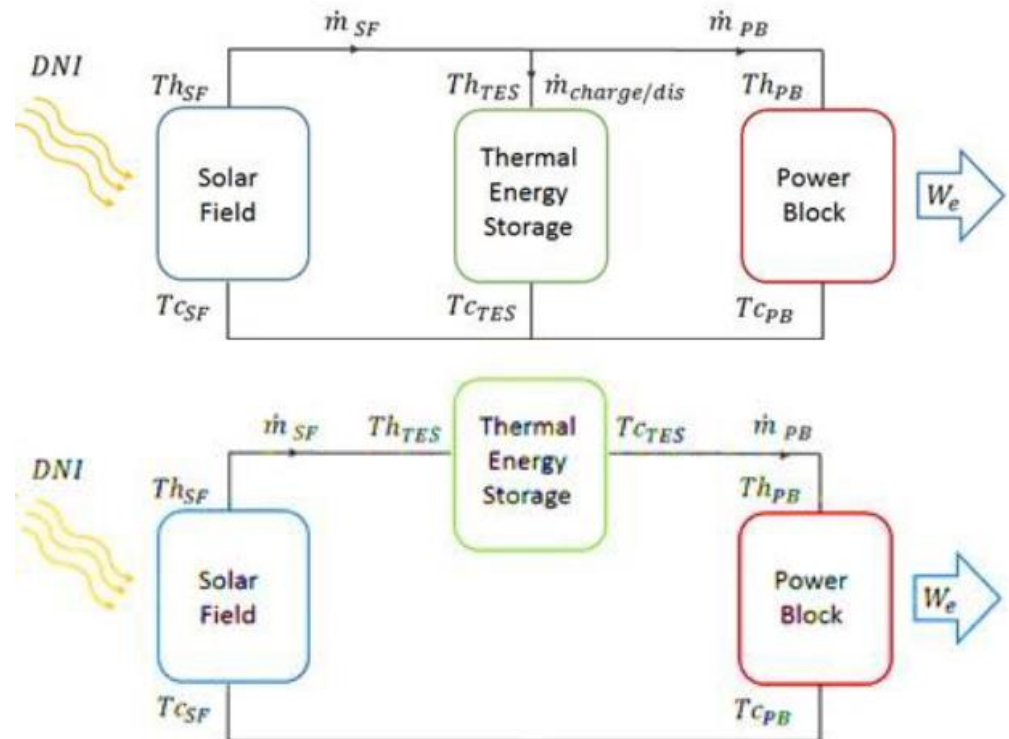
Possible storage configurations for CSP

Parallel configuration

- Allows a separation between the storage and the rest of the plant.
- Allows for higher temperatures within the storage.
- More operation flexibility.

Series configuration

- Preferred for latent heat storage systems.



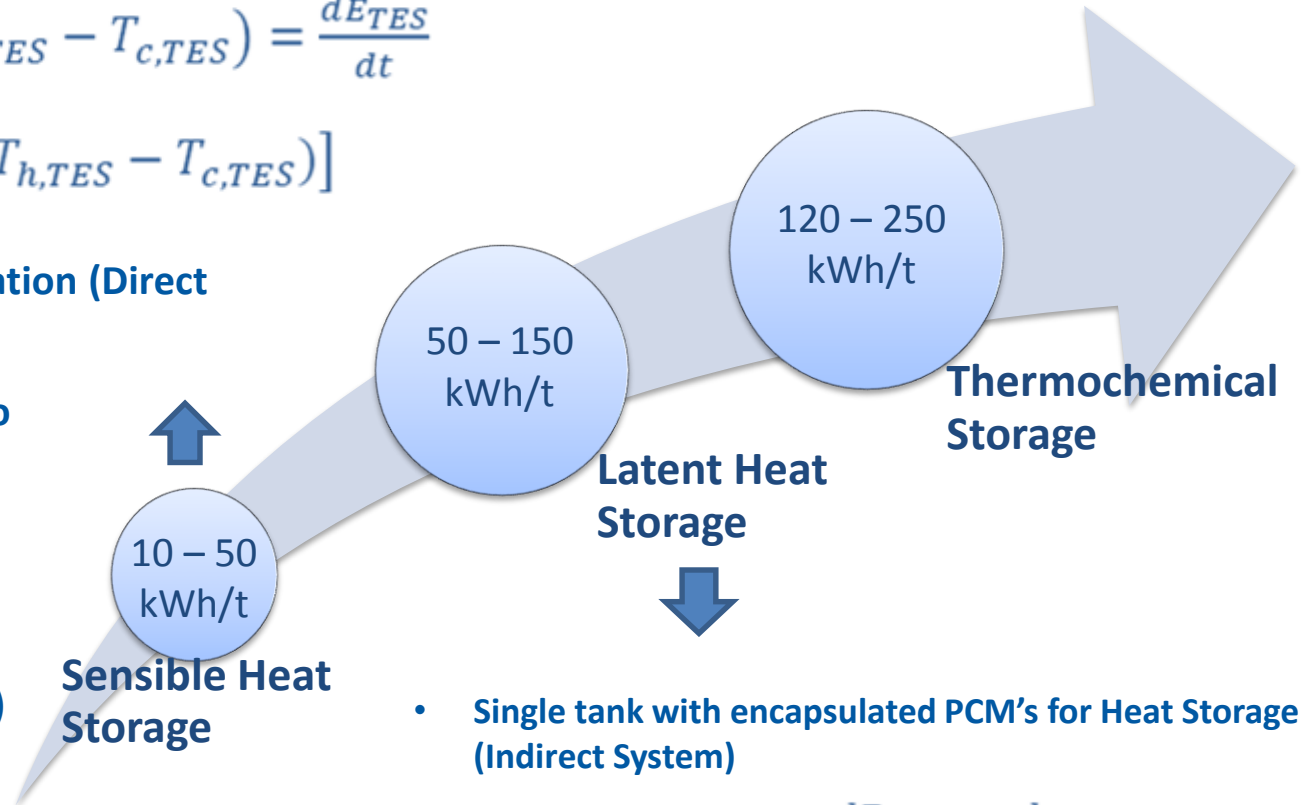
TES system integration layouts: parallel (top) and series (bottom).

Methodology: *Thermal storage technologies*

$$\dot{Q} = \dot{m}_{TES} C_{p,TES} (T_{h,TES} - T_{c,TES}) = \frac{dE_{TES}}{dt}$$

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{d}{dt} [M_{TES} C_{p,TES} (T_{h,TES} - T_{c,TES})]$$

- **Two tanks HTF configuration (Direct System)**
- **Classical molten salt two tanks configuration (Indirect System)**
- **Single tank thermocline system with filler material (Direct System)**



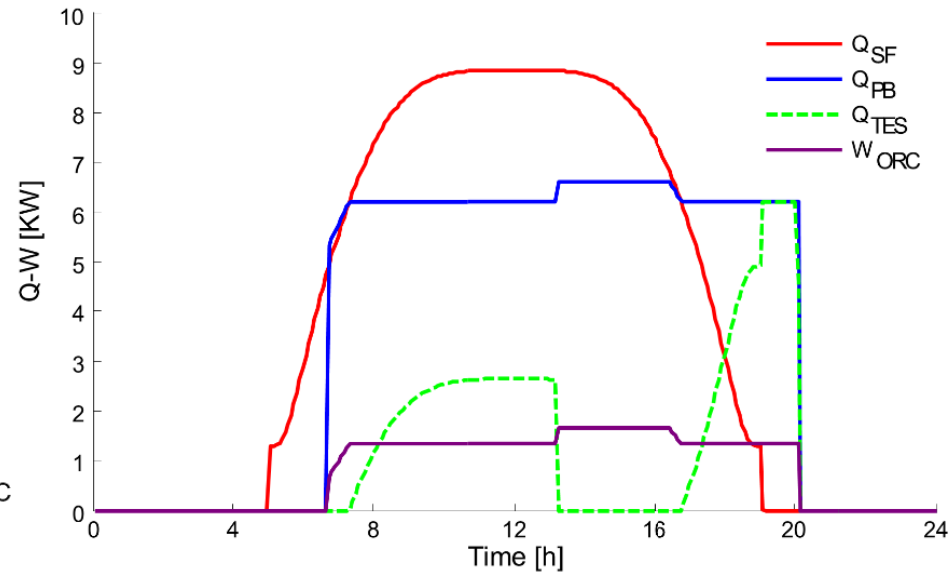
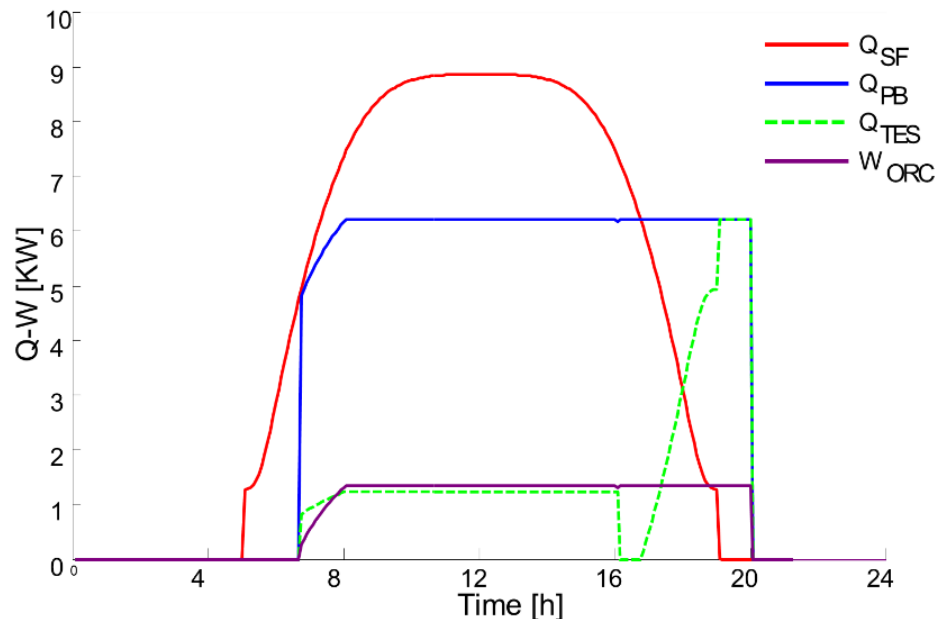
- **Single tank with encapsulated PCM's for Heat Storage (Indirect System)**

$$\dot{Q} = \dot{m}_{TES} \lambda_{PCM} = \frac{dE_{TES}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} [M_{TES} \lambda_{PCM}]$$

Results:

Daily simulation results

Daily performance of the direct sensible heat TES system (right) and indirect latent heat TES system (bottom).



Main parameters

- Heat from the solar field,
- Heat from/to the storage system;
- Heat to the power block;
- Electric yield.

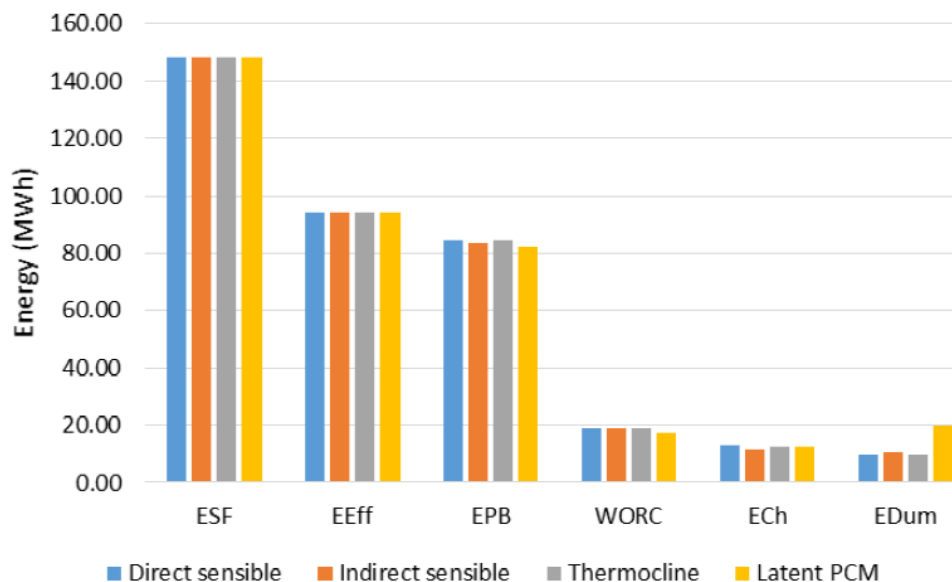
Results:

Overall technologies comparison

Main remarks

- Larger amount of energy is dumped with indirect and latent systems;
- Higher system density for indirect and thermocline systems;
- Lower average Power Block efficiency for the latent heat system;
- Electric yield.

	Direct sensible	Indirect sensible	Thermo-cline	Indirect latent
Average PB efficiency (%)	22,25	22,29	22,13	21,23
Storage medium volume (m ³)	420	315	200	125



Comparison of daily TES operation parameters:

- Energy collected by SF “ESF”;
- Energy on the HTF “EEff”;
- Energy to the ORC “EPB”;
- Electric production “WORC”;
- Energy to the TES “Ech”;
- dumped energy “EDum”.

Conclusions

The main conclusions drawn from the work presented here are:

- Sensible heat storage systems enable faster charging processes and more agile operation;
- Latent heat systems exhibit poorer thermodynamic performance in comparison with sensible heat storage;
- Direct sensible heat storage systems request a prohibitive amount of storage medium;
- Latent heat systems require the lowest amount of storage medium;
- Thermocline storage steps forward as the most leveraged solution.

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Thermal storage systems

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Thanks for your attention



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