



# Interplay of Science, Engineering and Technology in PV – Modelling and Monitoring

Becquerel Prize WINNER 2022 Keynote Speech

Marko Topič

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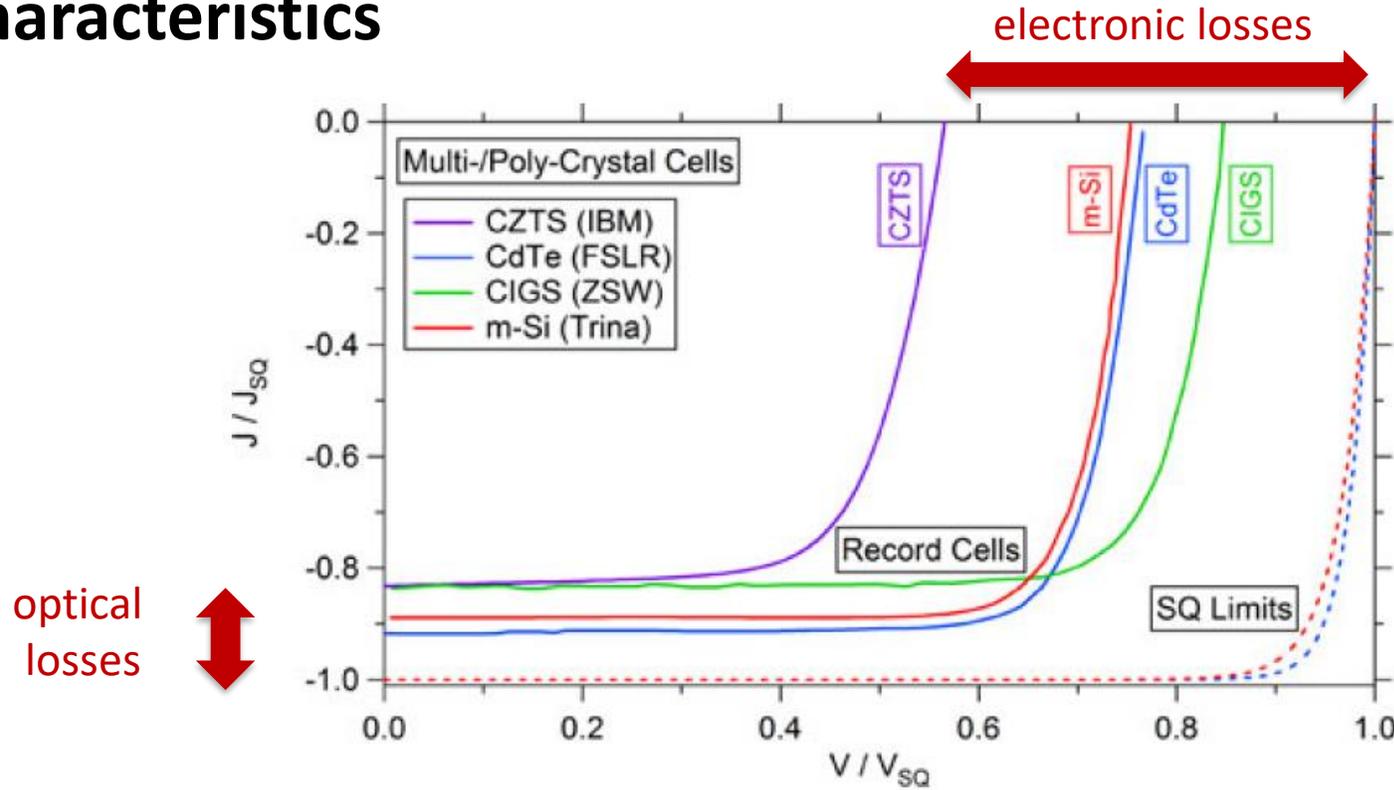
Faculty *of Electrical Engineering*

Laboratory *of Photovoltaics and Optoelectronics (LPVO)*





# Metrics of solar cell performance limits – normalized $J$ - $V$ characteristics ( $J/J_{SQ} - V/V_{oc\_SQ}$ )



360 IEEE JOURNAL OF PHOTOVOLTAICS, VOL. 5, NO. 1, JANUARY 2015

## Performance Limits and Status of Single-Junction Solar Cells With Emphasis on CIGS

Marko Topič, Senior Member, IEEE, Russell M. Geisthardt, and James R. Sites

**Abstract**—Limitations in performance and the status of single-junction solar cells are reviewed. Conversion efficiency in single-junction solar cells is systematically analyzed in terms of energy conversion efficiency, the Shockley–Queisser (SQ) efficiency limit, and two remaining efficiencies, i.e., optical efficiency and electri-

As we will show for the case of single-junction Cu(In,Ga)(Se,S)<sub>2</sub> (CIGS)-based solar cells that have achieved the highest energy conversion efficiency (>20%) among the film PV technologies, there is further room for improvement

IEEE JOURNAL OF PHOTOVOLTAICS, VOL. 5, NO. 4, JULY 2015 1217

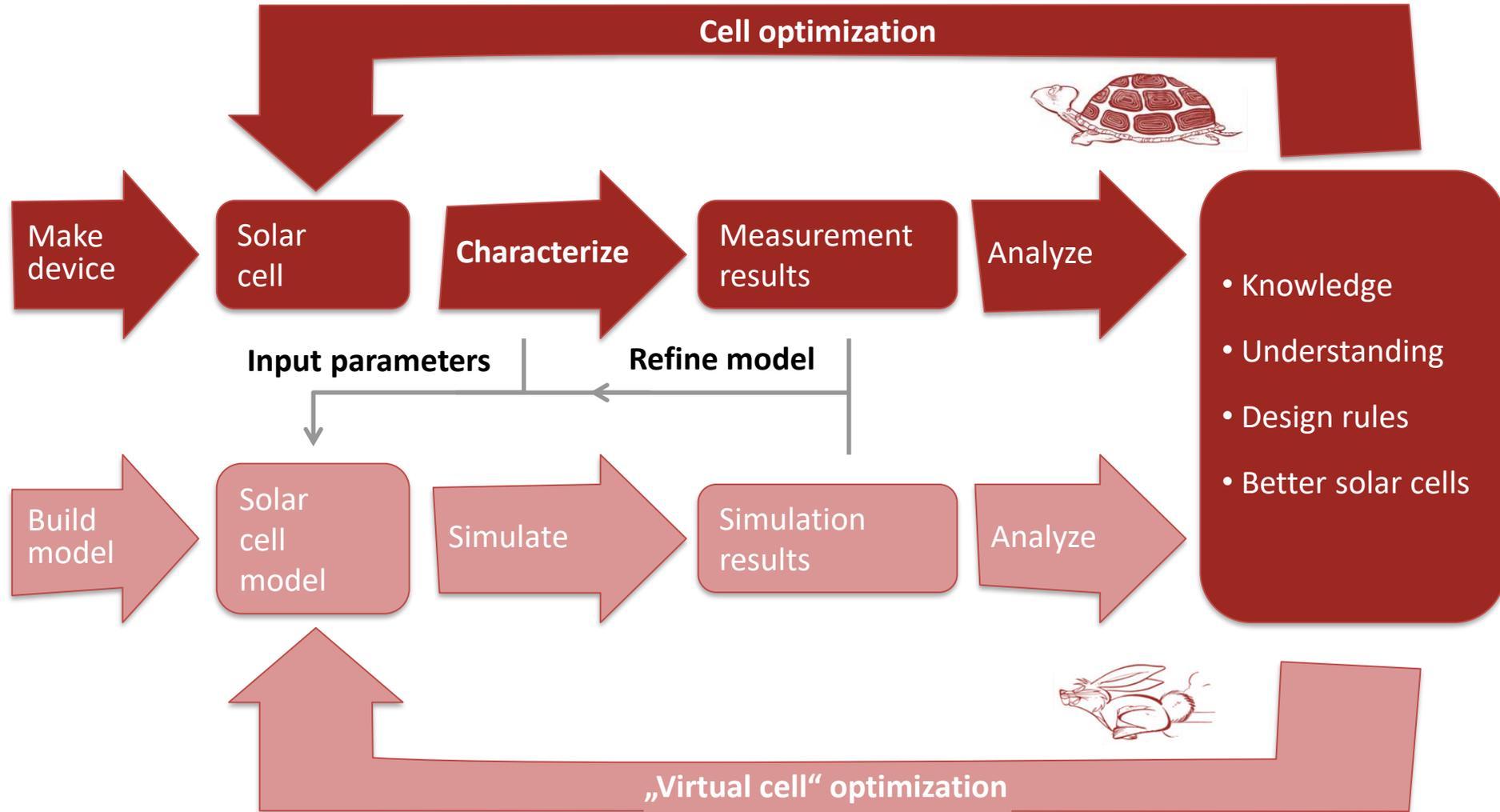
## Status and Potential of CdTe Solar-Cell Efficiency

Russell M. Geisthardt, Marko Topič, Senior Member, IEEE, and James R. Sites

**Abstract**—The status of the highest efficiency CdTe solar cells is presented in the context of comparative loss analysis among the

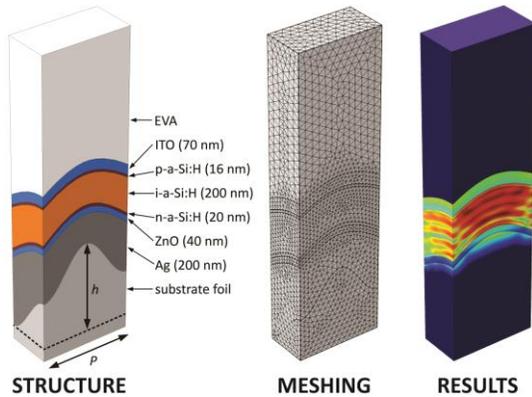


# Experimental and Simulation Cycles

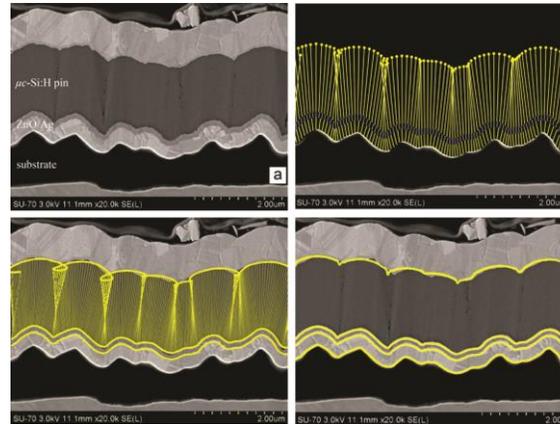


# Numerical Modelling and Simulation

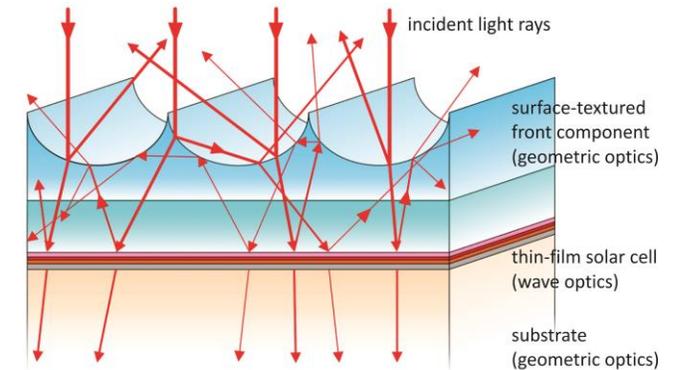
- Optical and electrical simulation of solar cells and other optoelectronic devices
- Combination of different modelling techniques (TMF, FEM, RCWA, RT)
- Development of specialized software for accurate design and optimization of inorganic and organic solar cells and photovoltaic modules (SunShine, FEMOS, CROWM, ASPIN2)



FEM simulation of a thin-film solar cell (results show A in each layer)



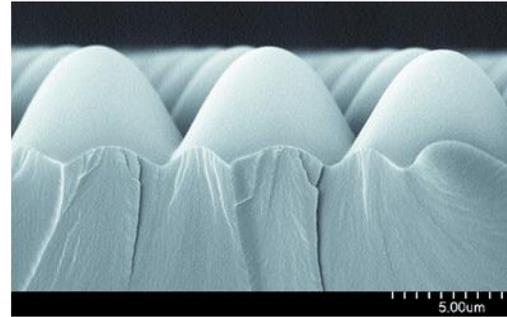
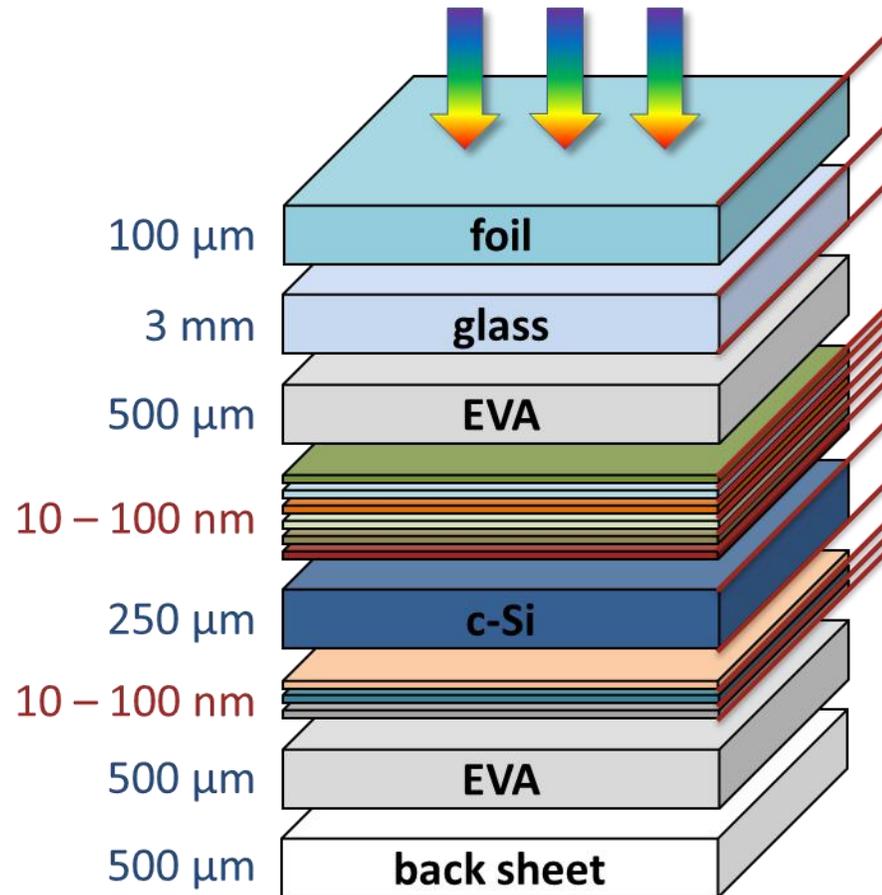
Non-conformal layer growth model for accurate simulation of nano-textured multi-layer solar cells



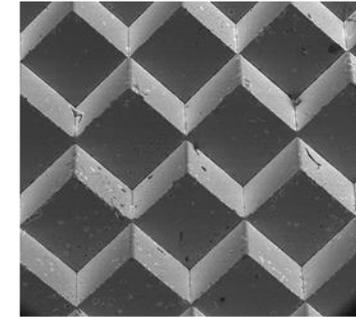
Combined geometric optics / wave optics model (CROWM) for simulation of micro-textured TFSC

# Optical modelling of modern PV devices

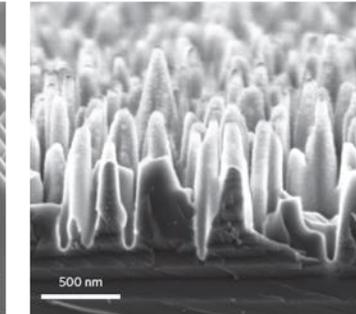
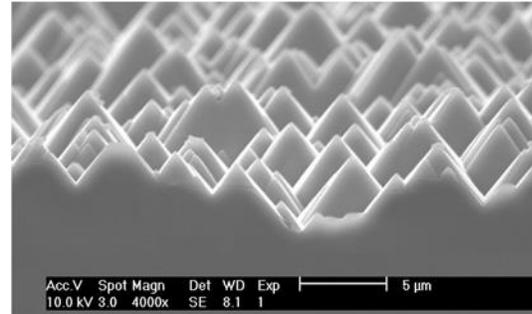
- Interface textures



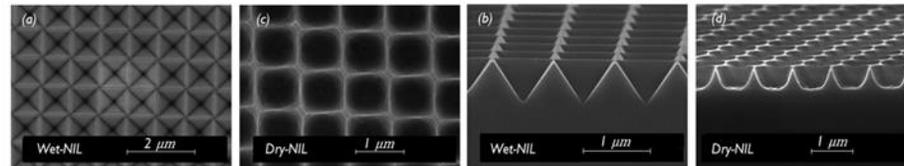
[HT-MLA-09, Holotools, Germany]



[C. Ulbrich et al., PIP, 2012]



[H. Savin et al., Nature Nanotechnology, 2015]

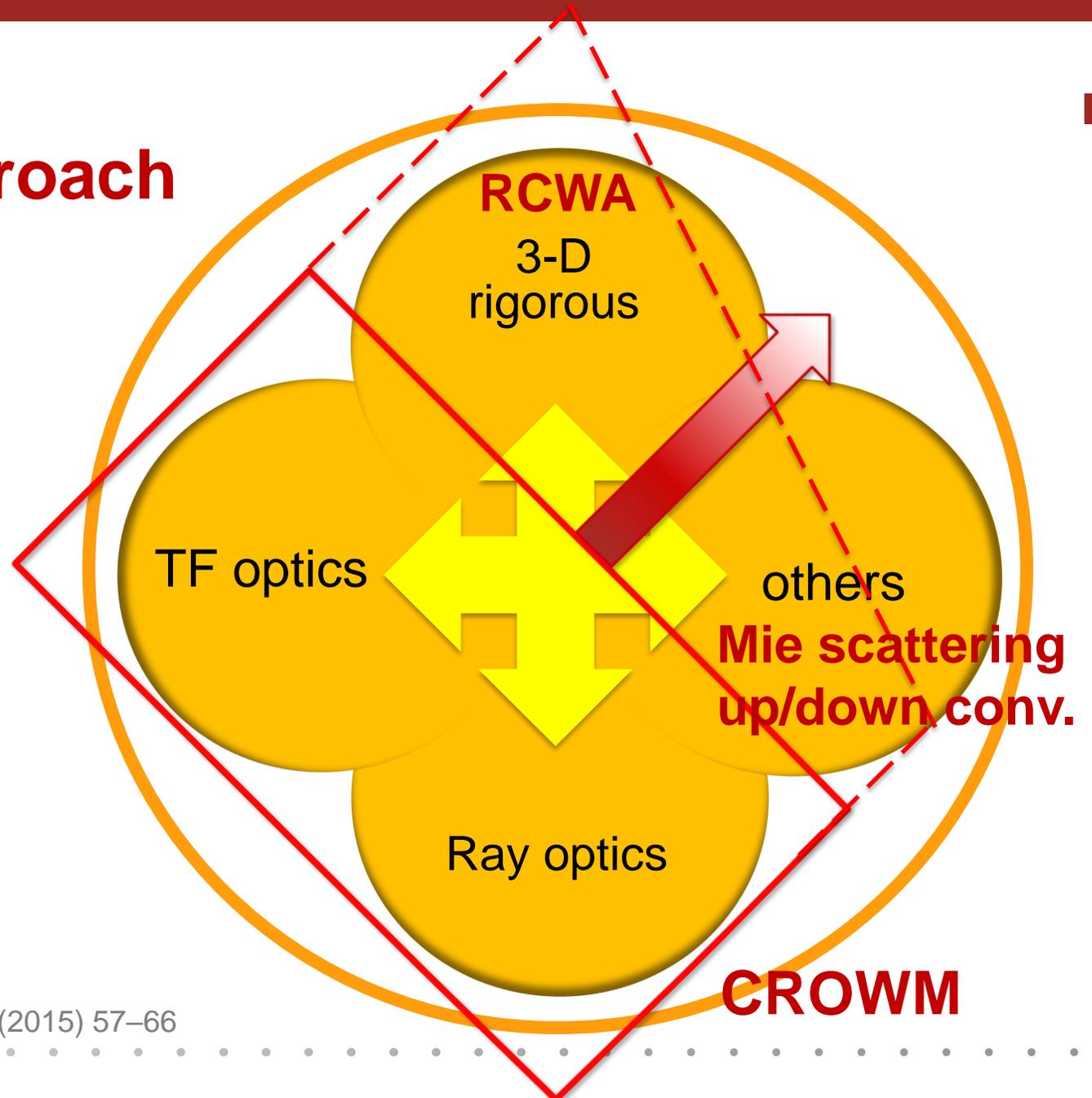


[C. Trompoukis et al., PIP, 2015]

# Coupled modelling approach - CMA

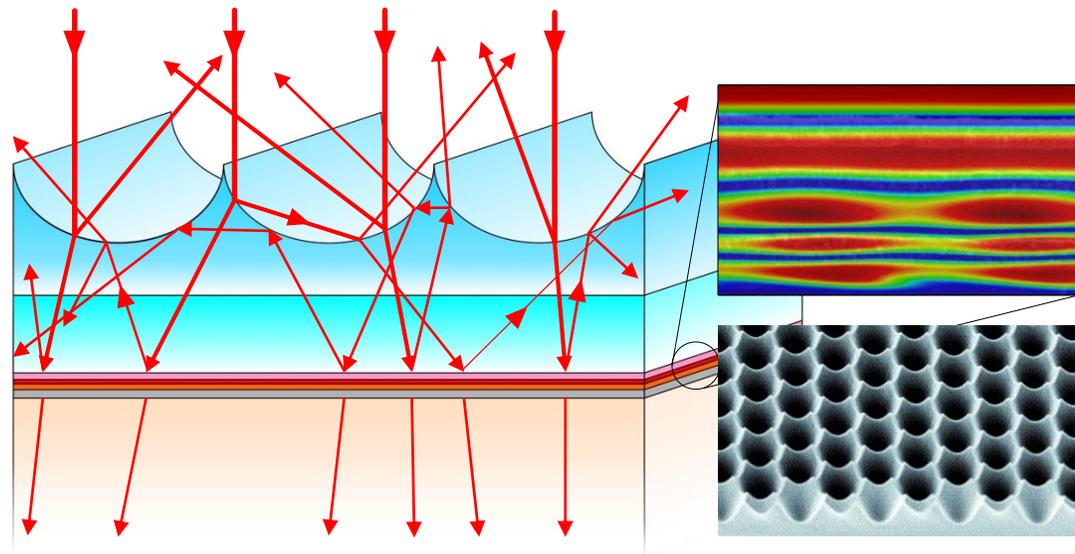
Optical modelling  
for high efficiency  
solar cells

to take  
the advantage of  
accuracy and speed



# Simulator **CROWM**

(Combined Ray-Optics Wave-Optics Model)



<http://lpvo.fe.uni-lj.si/en/software>

## RAY TRACING

- textured superstrate
- 2D geometric optics
- incoherent propagation
- periodic boundary condition

~ 10 - 10000  $\mu\text{m}$  (layer thickness,  
texture features)

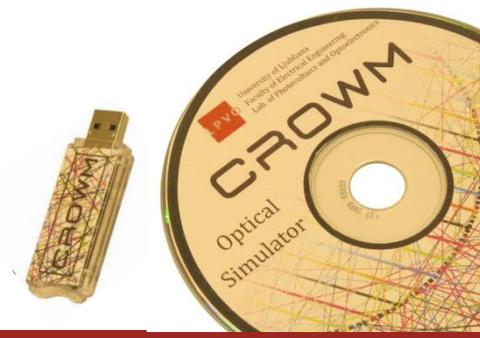
## TRANSFER MATRIX FORMALISM

- flat multi-layer optoelectronic device
- 1D wave optics
- coherent propagation

~ 0.01 - 10  $\mu\text{m}$  (layer thicknesses)

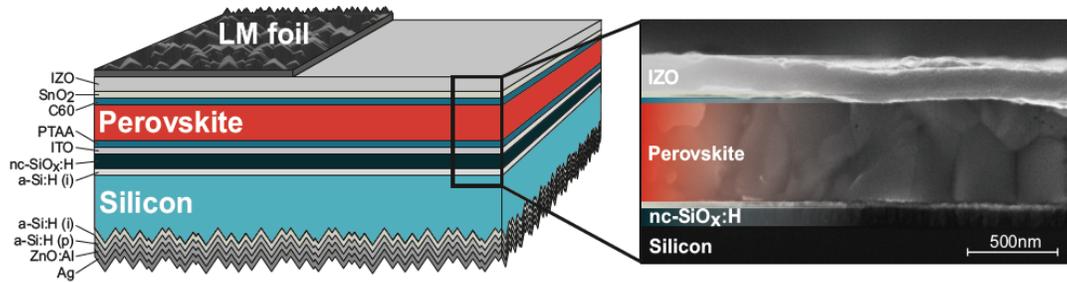
B. Lipovšek et al., Informacije MIDEM 41 (2011) 264-271.

B. Lipovšek et al., IEEE Journal of Photovoltaics 4 (2014) 639-646.

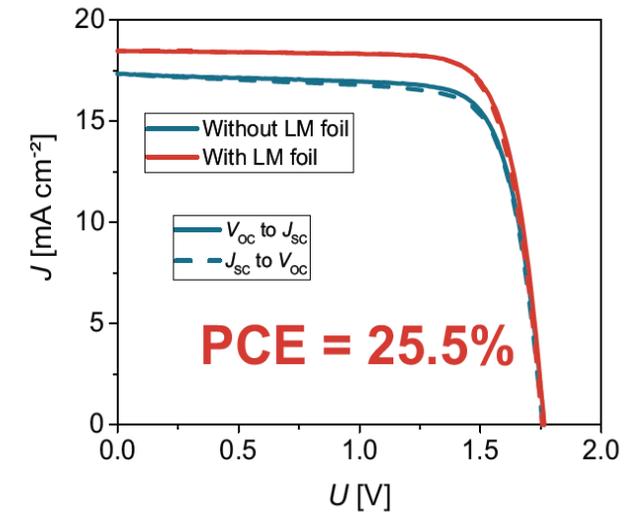
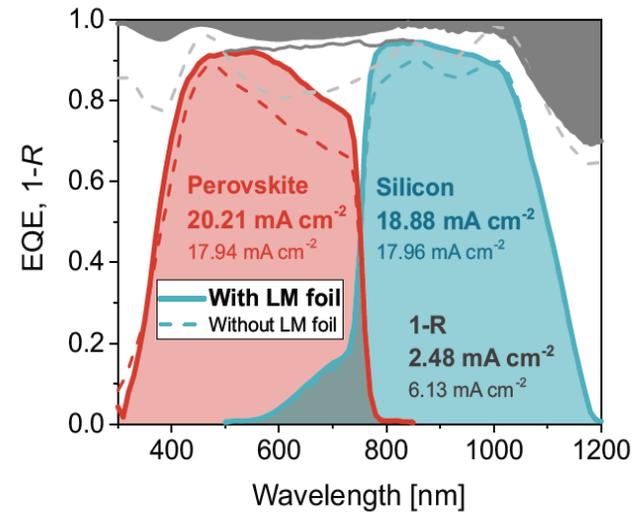


# Tandem perovskite/Si solar cell

- Monolithic perovskite/silicon heterojunction (SHJ) tandem solar cell
- Bottom cell: back-side textured SHJ with nc-SiO<sub>x</sub>:H front surface field
- Top cell: p-i-n type design with „triple cation“ absorber  
 $\text{Cs}_{0.05}(\text{MA}_{0.17}\text{FA}_{0.83})\text{Pb}_{1.1}(\text{I}_{0.83}\text{Br}_{0.17})_3$
- Light Management (LM) from textured foil on a glass substrate<sup>[2]</sup> - resembling module integration



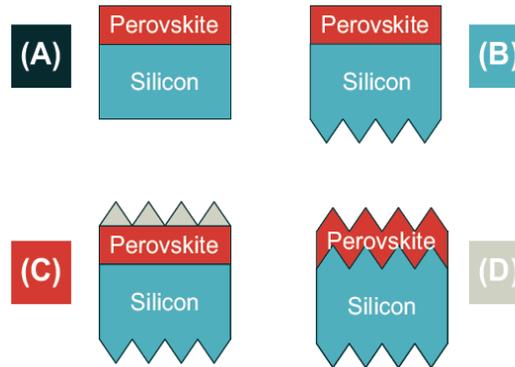
Mask area =	W/o LM foil	$J_{sc}$ [mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ]	$V_{oc}$ [V]	FF [%]	PCE [%]	PCE <sub>MPP</sub> [%]
active area	With LM foil	17.3	1.76	76.4	23.4	23.4
Mask area >	W/o LM foil	18.5	1.76	78.5	<b>25.5</b>	
active area	With LM foil	17.1	1.76	78.6	23.7	
	With LM foil	19.4	1.76	77	26.5	26.5



M. Jošt et al. Energy & Environmental Science **11** (2018) 3511–3523.

# Tandem perovskite/Si solar cell

- Texture position comparison
  - Flat device **(A)** <sup>[4]</sup>
  - Back-side c-Si texture **(B)**
  - Back-side c-Si texture with LM foil **(C)**
  - Both-sided c-Si texture **(D)**
- Perovskite thickness fixed at 1000 nm, altering perovskite bandgap to reach the current-matching
- $V_{OC} = V_{OC,Si} + V_{OC,pero} = 710 \text{ mV} + E_g/q - 400 \text{ mV}$  <sup>[5]</sup>



Device design	$E_g$ opt. [eV]	$J_{sc\_SIM}$ [ $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$ ]	$V_{oc}$ [V]	FF [%]	PCE [%]
(A)	1.69	19.07	2.00	80	30.5
(B)	1.65	20.01	1.96	80	31.4
(C)	1.66	19.97	1.97	80	31.5
(D)	1.66	20.56	1.97	80	32.5

M. Jošt et al. Energy & Environmental Science **11** (2018) 3511–3523.

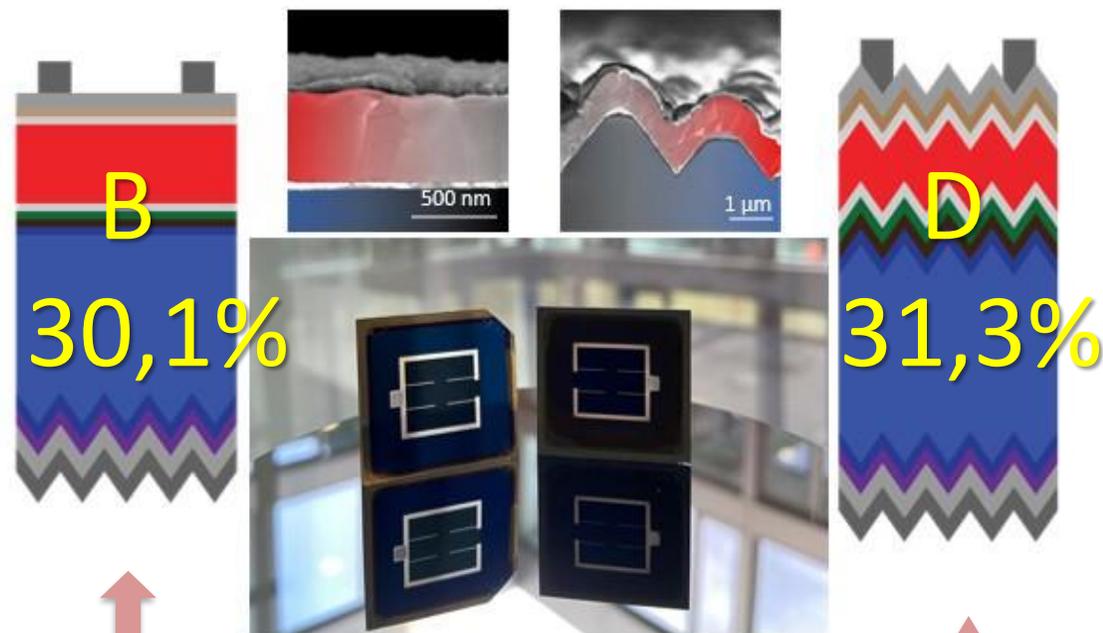
# Tandem perovskite/Si solar cell

JULY 7, 2022

EPFL AND CSEM SMASH THROUGH THE 30% EFFICIENCY BARRIER FOR PEROVSKITE-ON-SILICON-TANDEM SOLAR CELLS—SETTING TWO CERTIFIED WORLD RECORDS.



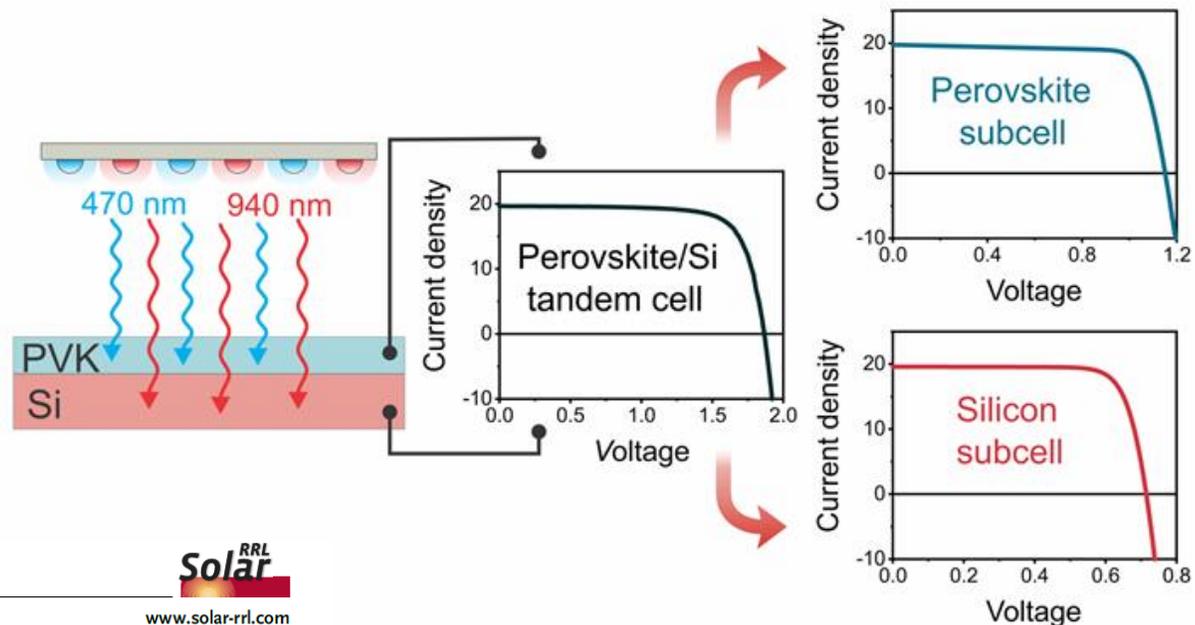
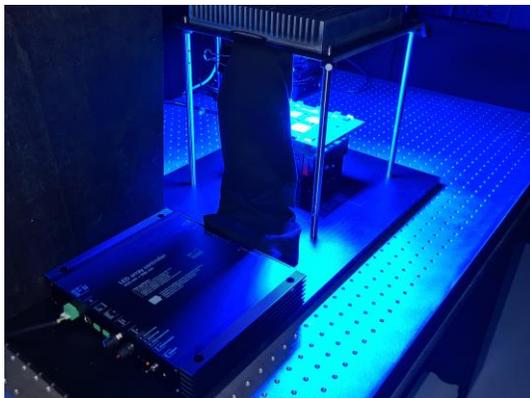
Device design	$E_g$ opt. [eV]	$J_{sc\_sim}$ [ $mA\ cm^{-2}$ ]	$V_{oc}$ [V]	FF [%]	PCE [%]
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<https://www.csem.ch/page.aspx?pid=172296>

M. Jošt et al. Energy & Environmental Science 11 (2018) 3511–3523.

# Method for subcell analysis in 2T tandem solar cells



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

Solar<sup>RRL</sup>

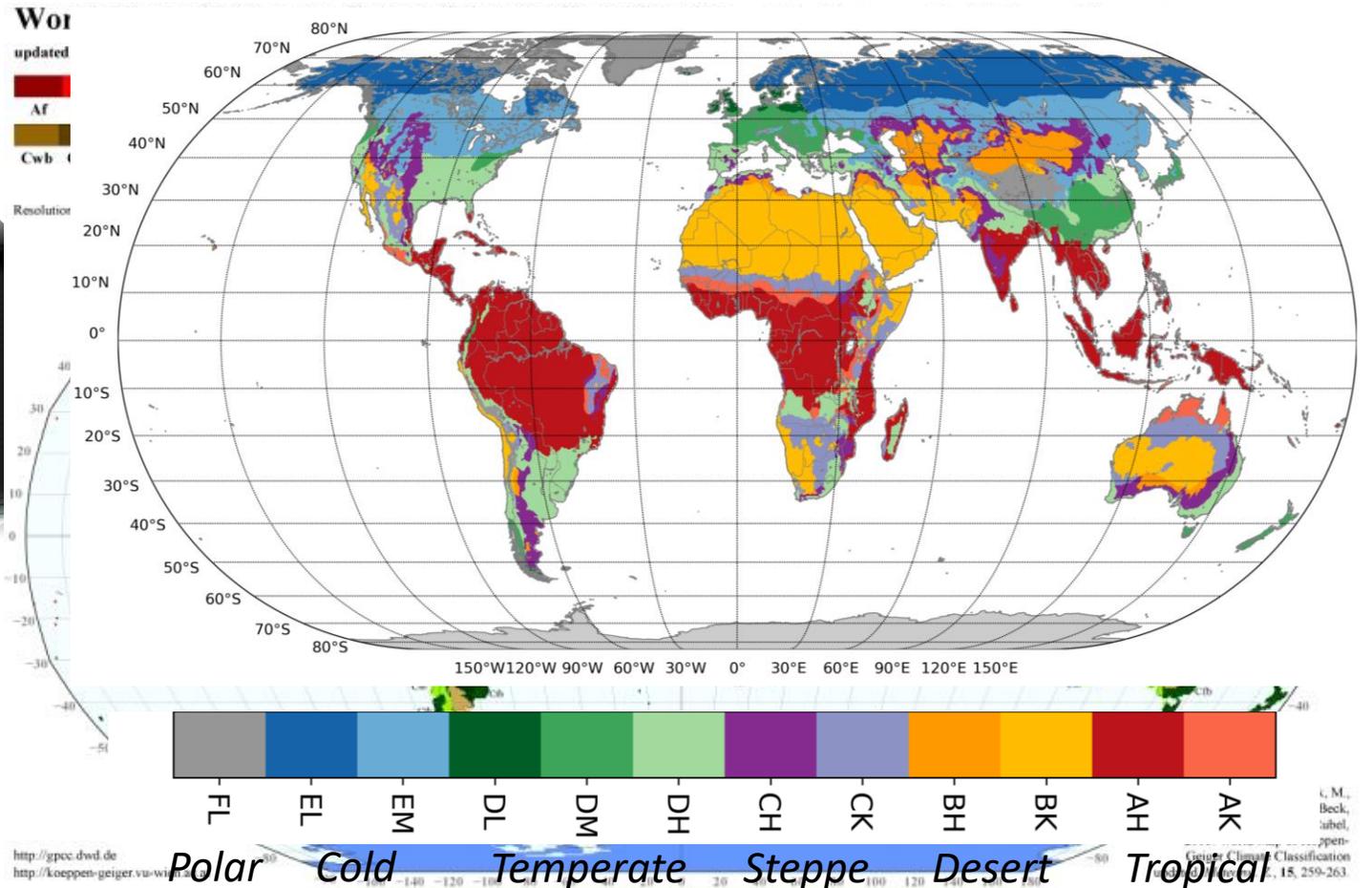
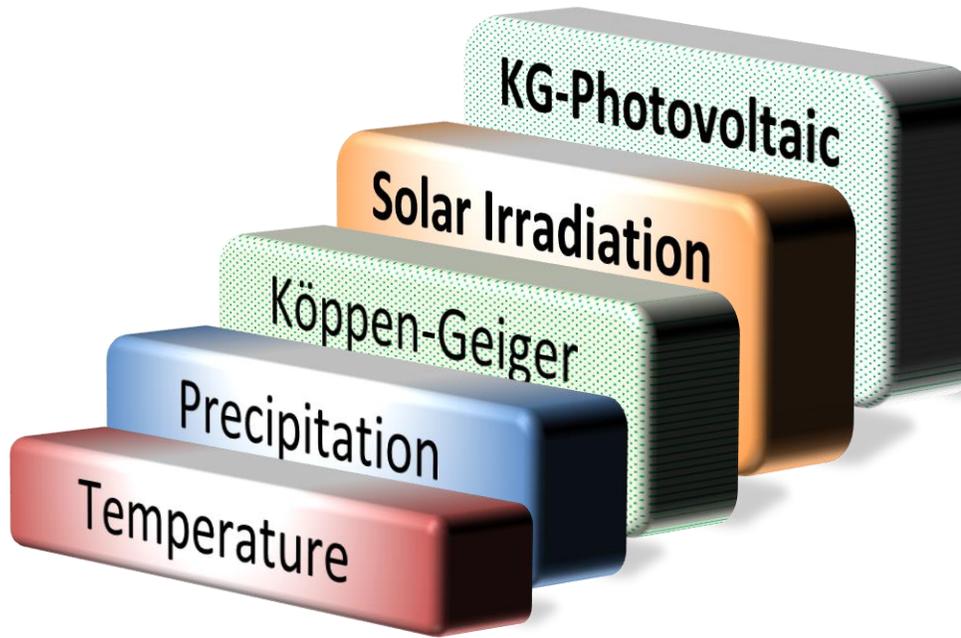
www.solar-rrl.com

## Subcell Operation and Long-Term Stability Analysis of Perovskite-Based Tandem Solar Cells Using a Bichromatic Light Emitting Diode Light Source

Marko Jošt,\* Gašper Matič, Eike Köhnen, Bor Li, Boštjan Glažar, Marko Jankovec, Steve Albrecht, and Marko Topič\*

M. Jošt et al., Solar RRL, Aug. 2021, 2100311, str. 1-8. doi: 10.1002/solr.202100311.

# Köppen-Geiger-Photovoltaic (KGPV) Climate Classification

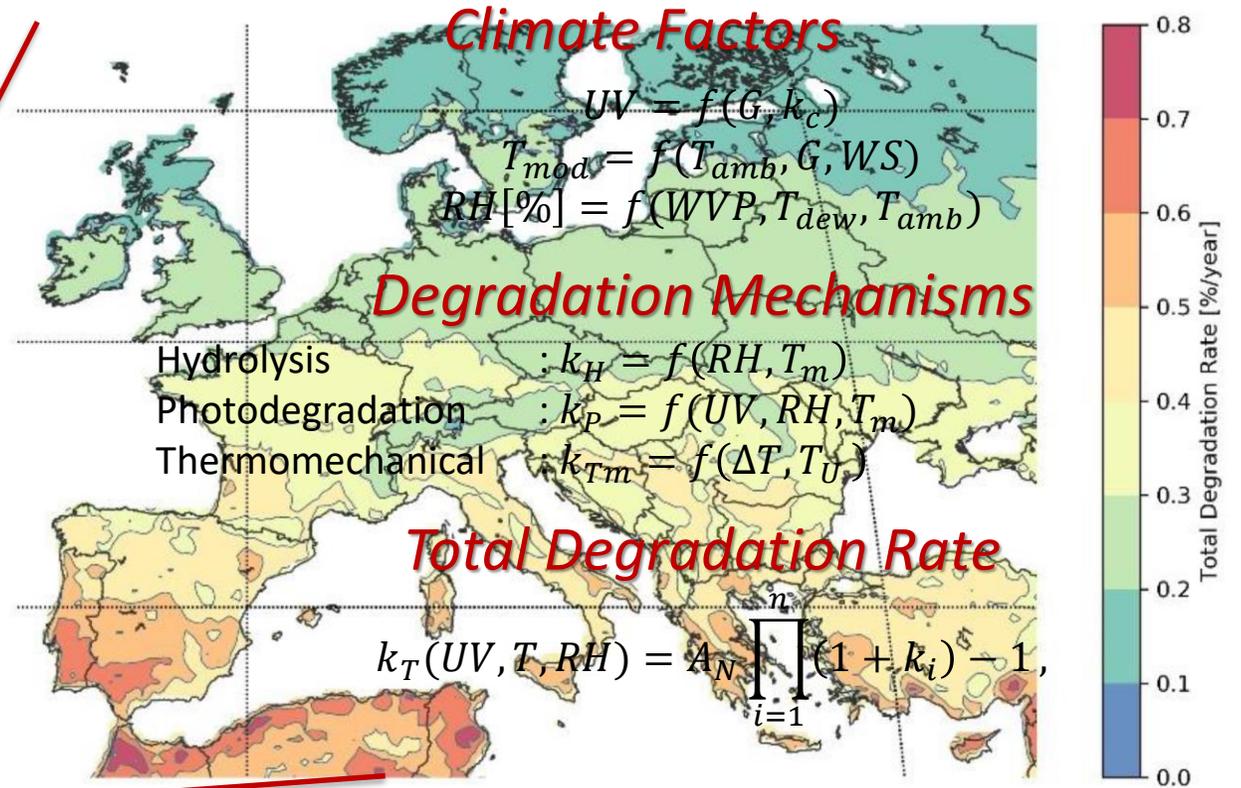
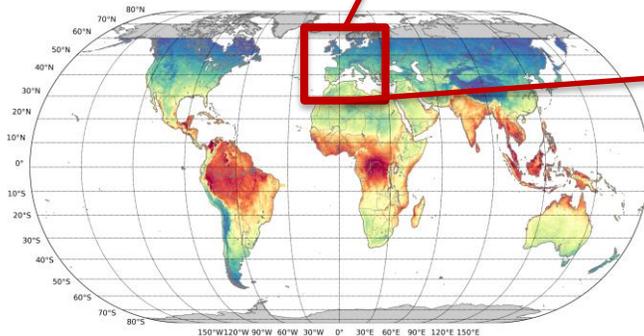
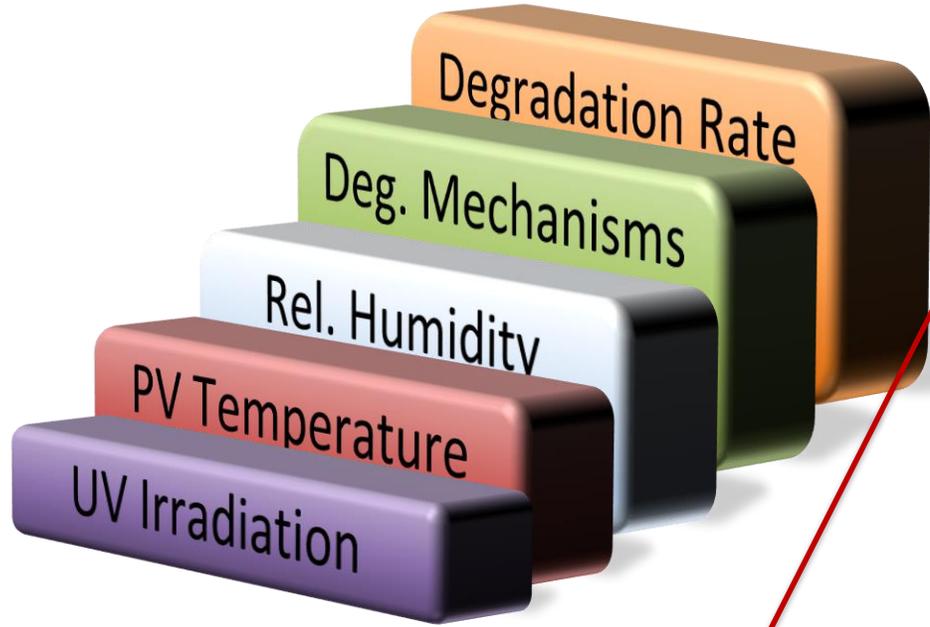


M. Kottek et al., Meteorol. Z., 2006

J. Ascencio-Vásquez, K. Brecl, M. Topič, Solar Energy, 2019

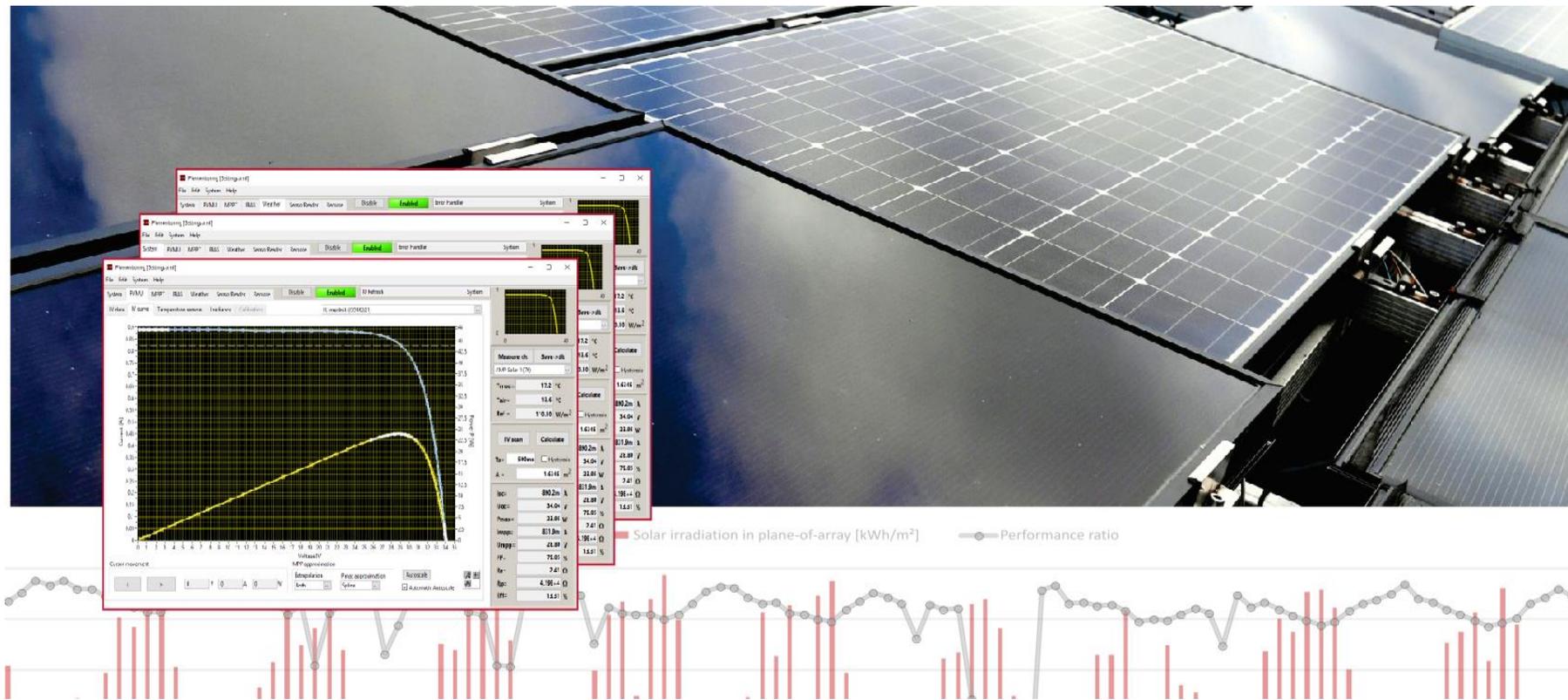
**Irradiation Zones – L : Low, M: Medium, H: High, K: Very High**

# Global PV Module Degradation Rates



J. Ascencio-Vásquez, K. Brecl, M. Topič, *Energies*, 2019  
 I. Kaaya, J. Ascencio-Vásquez, K.-A. Weiss, M. Topič, *IEEE JPV*, 2019

# Outdoor monitoring of PV modules



Made in LPVO

# Booth E5:



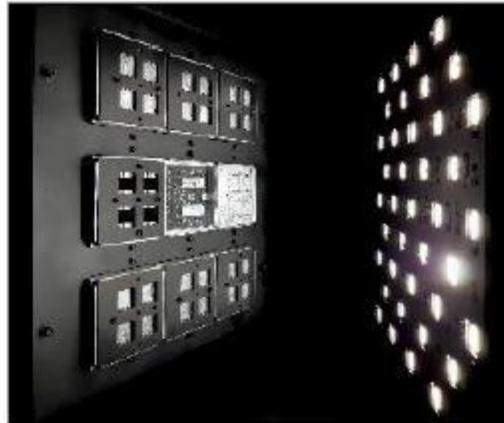
Laboratory of Photovoltaics  
and Optoelectronics

## BCLED



24 channel system  
for tandem cells

## WLED



216 channel system  
for single cells

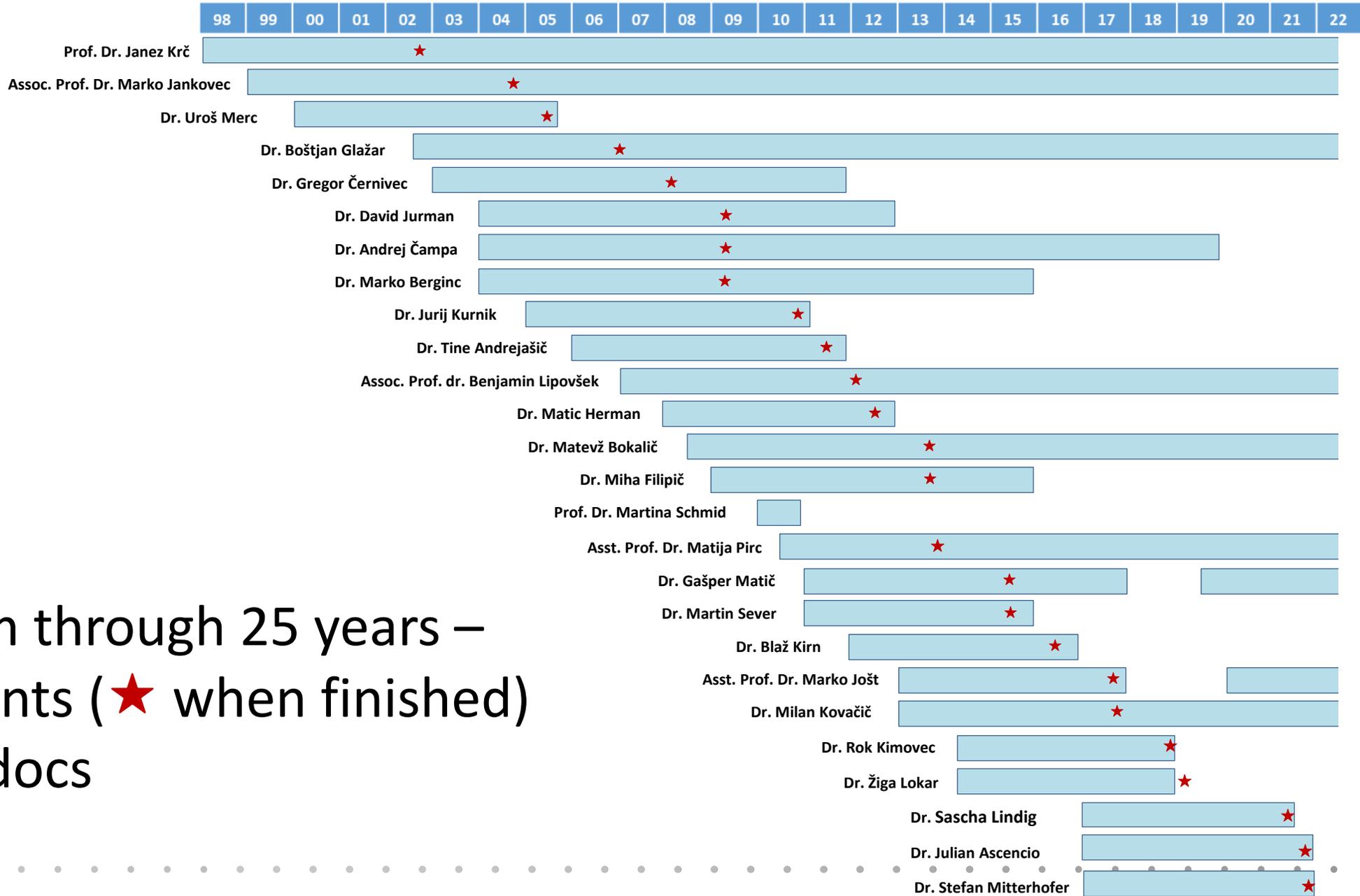
## 550 W MPP TRACKER



16 channel system  
for full-size PV modules



**Berlaymont , 22 Jan 2020**  
**Timmermans cabinet (12<sup>th</sup> floor)**



LPVO team through 25 years –  
PhD students (★ when finished)  
and post-docs



**Rok Kimovec** · 1st  
R&D Engineer



**Julián Ascencio-Vásquez** · 1st  
Sr. R&D Consultant - PV Expert | Modelling | Big Data | Member IEA PVPS



**Dr Uros Merc** · 1st  
President at BISOL Group



**Andrej Campa** · 1st  
R&I Manager at ComSensus, PhD in Electrical Engineering



**Dr. Gregor Černivec** · 1st  
Head of R&D at Bosch Rexroth d.o.o., Skofja Loka



**Tine Andrejasic** · 1st  
Head of Development @ REC d.o.o.



**Stefan Mitterhofer** · 1st  
Guest Researcher at National Inst Standards and Technology (NIST)



**Miha Filipič** · 1st  
Programmer | Researcher | Electrical Engineer



**Martin Sever** · 1st  
Development Engineer at RLS Merilna tehnika d. o. o.



**Matic Herman** · 1st  
Head of hardware development at Sentinel Marine Solutions



**Berginc Marko** · 2nd  
Senior metrologist and head of research in metrology department at SIQ



**David Jurman** · 1st  
R&D electronics engineer at Win Systems d.o.o.





What a Landatio!  
Thank you, Rutger!



## Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda on Photovoltaics

**-55% emissions by 2030** ✓  
**climate neutrality** ✓  
**reduced energy dependency** ✓

**We need to act NOW!**  
**We need to act FAST!**

## Photovoltaics



# Acknowledgement:

ETIP PV  
Steering Committee  
and Secretariat

LPVO team

many friends and  
colleagues in PV

*Thank you for your attention!*

