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Assessment of performance and costs of CO₂ based Next Gen Geothermal Power (NGP) systems

NGP Makes CO₂ Work!

3rd European sCO₂ conference, Paris, September 2019

Dr. Stefan Glos, Siemens AG

Assessment of performance and costs of CO₂ based Next Gen Geothermal Power (NGP) systems

Agenda

1. CO₂-based geothermal power generation

Application range, basic concept, technology description, potential benefits

2. Thermodynamic Evaluation

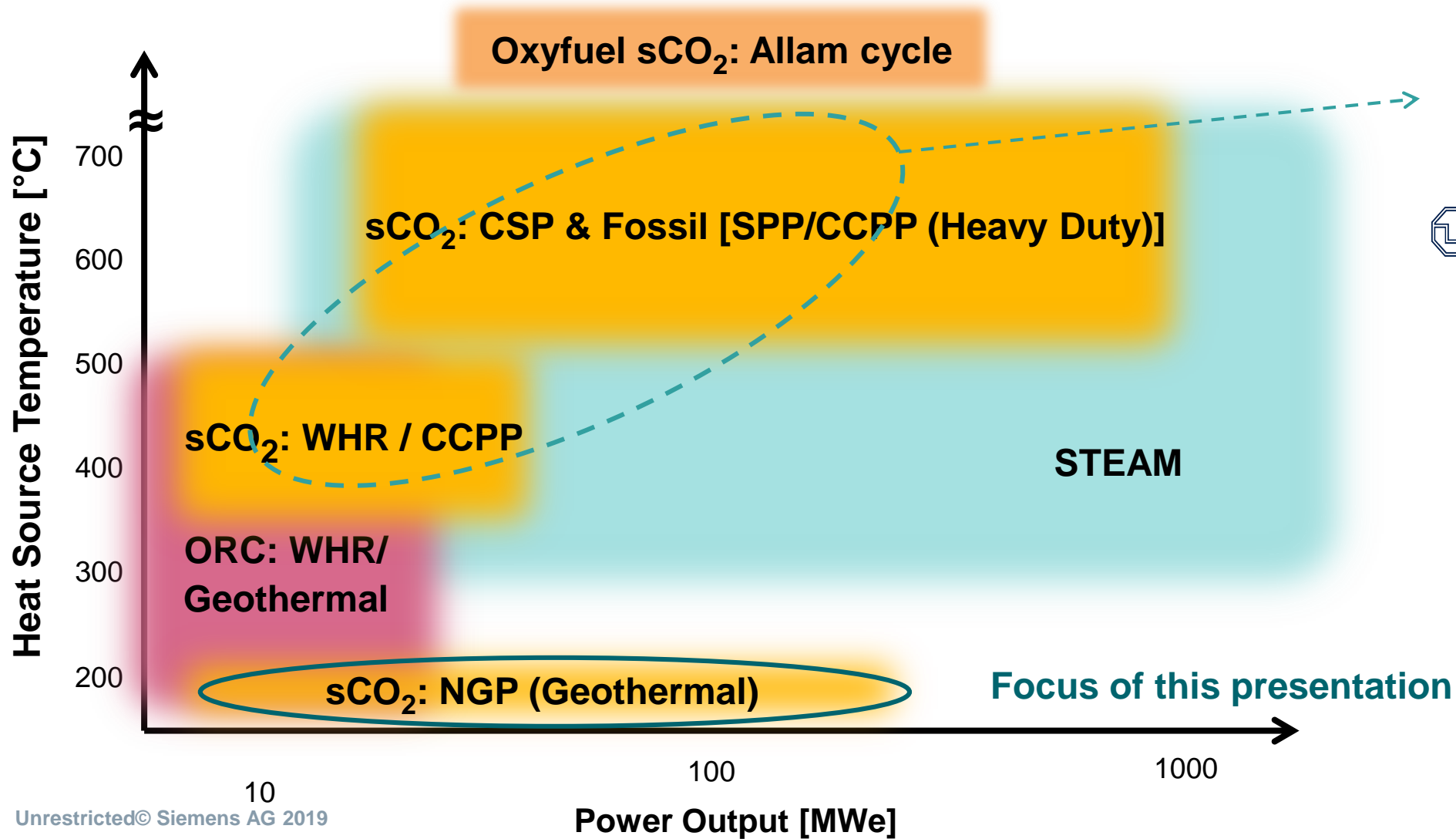
Cycle design, performance results, sensitivities, first component estimations

3. Economic Evaluation

Key approach, calculation results, cost optimization potentials

4. Summary and Outlook

Application space of sCO₂ power cycles

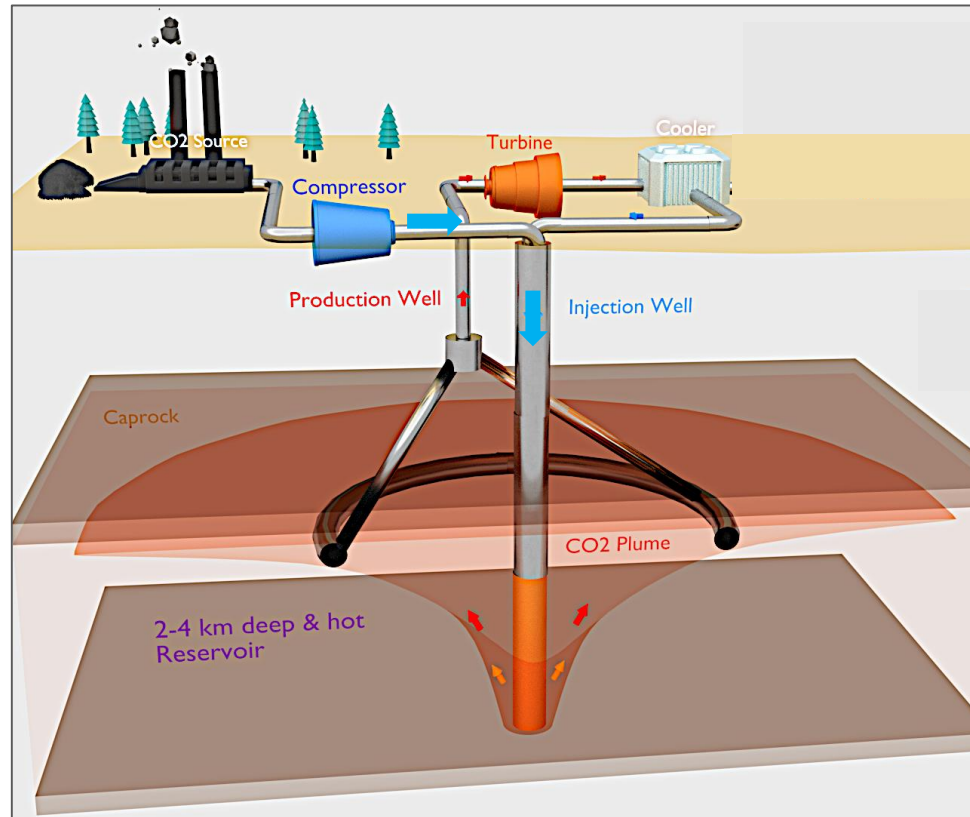


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CARBOSOLA



Innovative idea: CO₂-based geothermal power generation



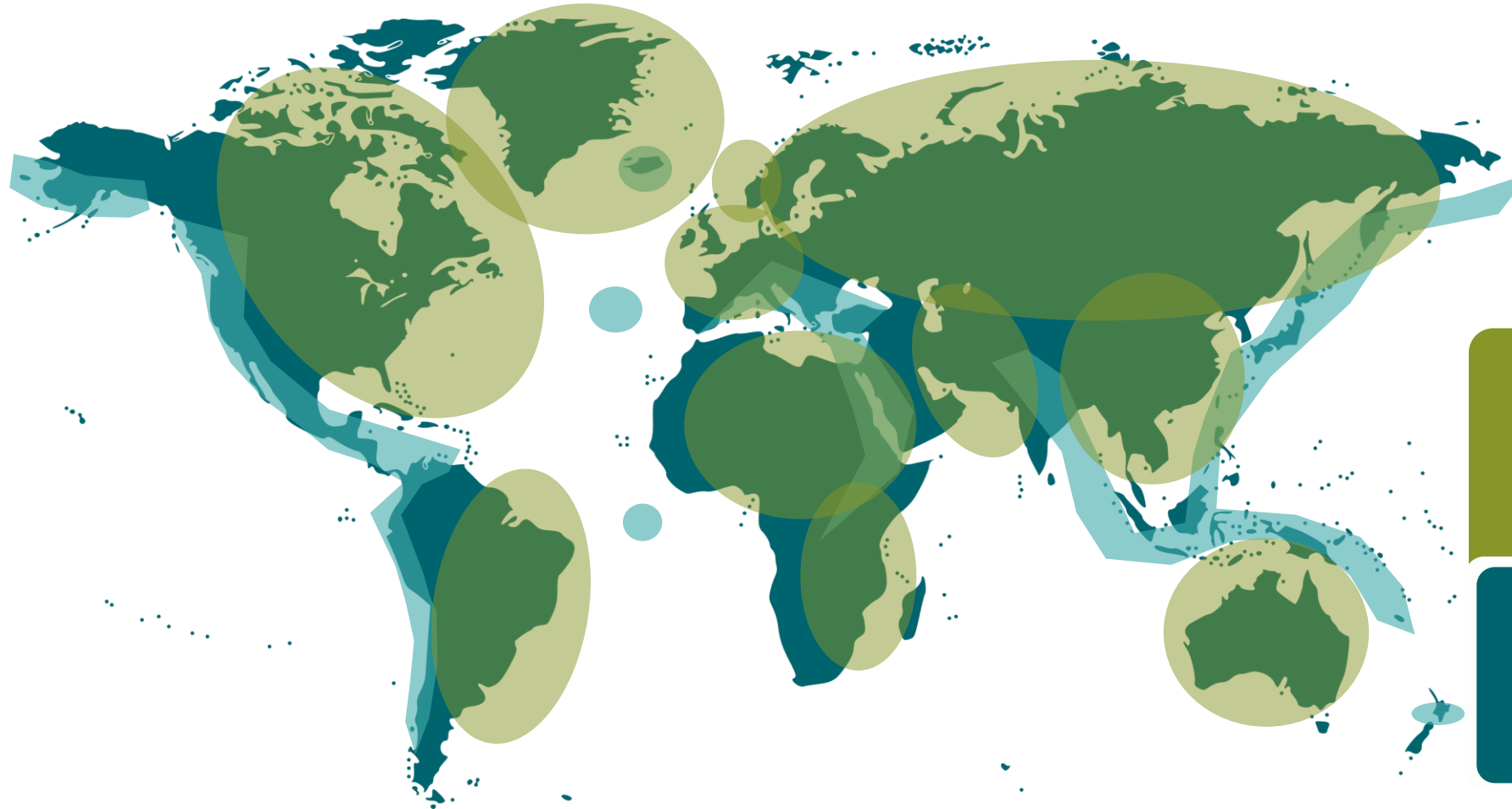
- 1) CO₂ captured at fossil-fueled power plants, cement manufacturers, etc. is stored underground (standard CCS or EOR/EGR thus far)
- 2) CO₂ forms a plume and heats up geothermally in the reservoir
- 3) CO₂ rises buoyantly through production wells and is expanded in a turbine to generate electric power
- 4) CO₂ is cooled and reinjected with the main CO₂ stream (coming from the CO₂ capture facility) through an injection well

➔ **Electricity generation 4 times more, compared to conventional, hydrothermal power generation**

➔ **NGP has a significant larger potential than Hydrothermal**

Randolph and Saar, 2011; Saar et al., 2012; Adams et al., 2014; Adams et al., 2015; Garapati et al., 2015

NGP has a significant larger potential than Hydrothermal



NextGen Geothermal Power

Technical potential
~2000 GW_{el}

Hydrothermal

Technical potential
~200 GW_{el}

Source:
GEA¹, 2016 &
ETH Zurich
with SIEMENS,
2018

NGP and CCS can be materialized worldwide

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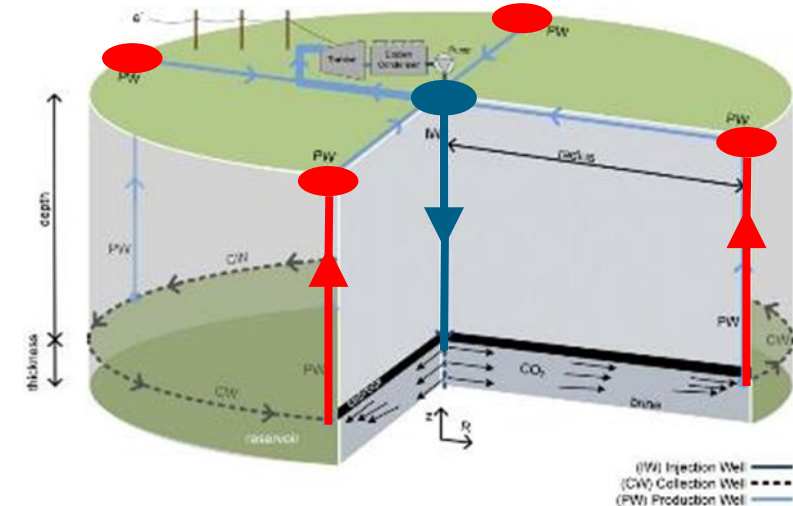
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Assessment of NGP Systems

Investigation scope

Geologic conditions – Base Case

Coordination number	1 (5-spot-system)	
Depth	2500 m	3500 m
Well diameter	0,41 m	
Reservoir permeability	50 mD	100 mD
Temp. gradient	35 °C/km	

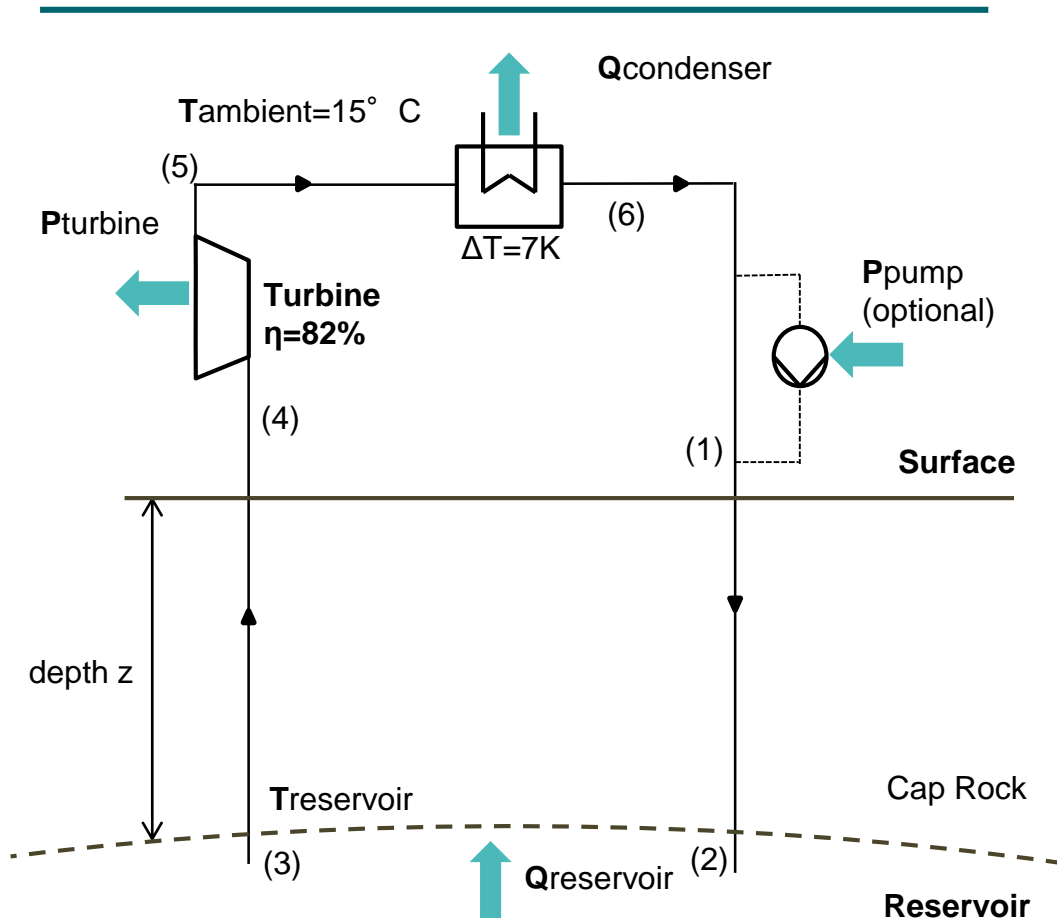


Saar, Adams; Subsurface Energy Storage with CO₂; 2018

Power Cycle Variants

direct		indirect			
sCO ₂		sCO ₂		brine	
with thermosiphon	with supplemental pumping	sCO ₂	Isobutane/ R245fa/ R1234ze	sCO ₂	Isobutane/ R245fa/ R1234ze

Direct cycle design (NGP)



$$\Delta p = \frac{\mu \cdot L}{\rho \cdot A} \cdot \frac{\dot{m}}{\kappa} = S \cdot \frac{\dot{m}}{\kappa}$$

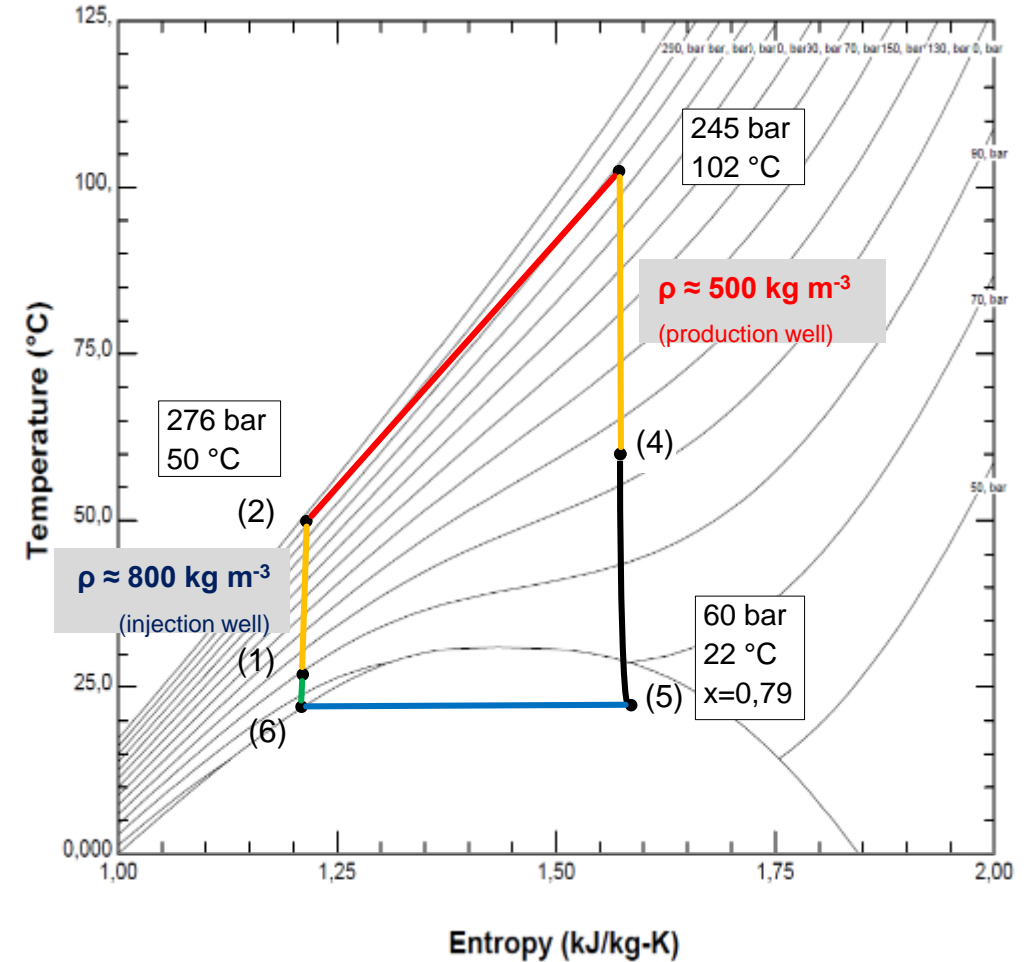
$$= M \cdot \dot{m}$$

(Darcy's law)

κ = reservoir permeability

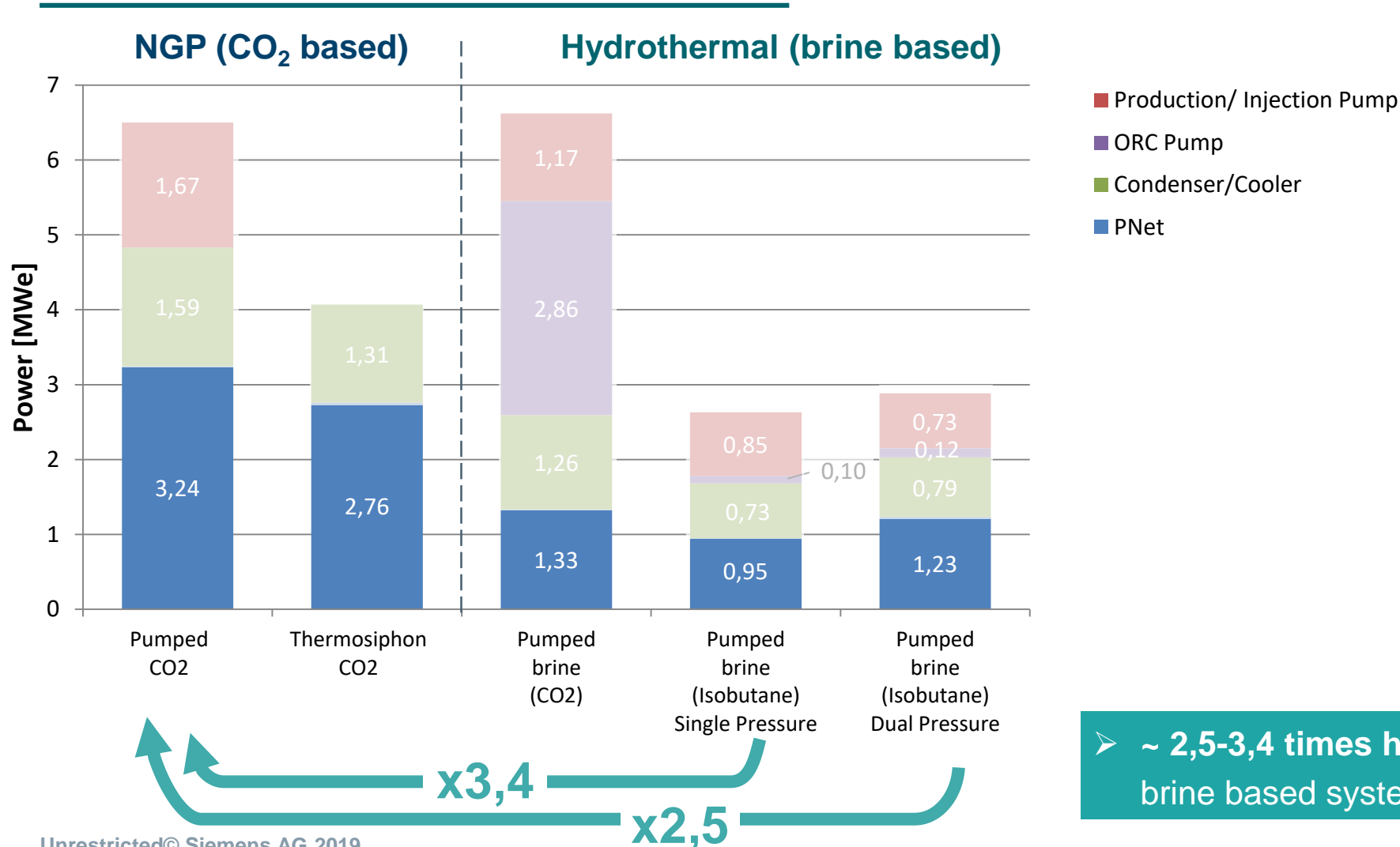
M = mean spec. inverse mobility

Example for direct sCO₂ (pumped)



- Heat source
- Heat sink
- Injection-/ production well
- Turbomachinery work
- Pumping work

Calculation results for base case conditions



Reservoir conditions:
NPG base case

Depth	2500 m
Temp. gradient	35 K/km
Reservoir permeability	50 mD
injection-/ production well diameter	0,41 m

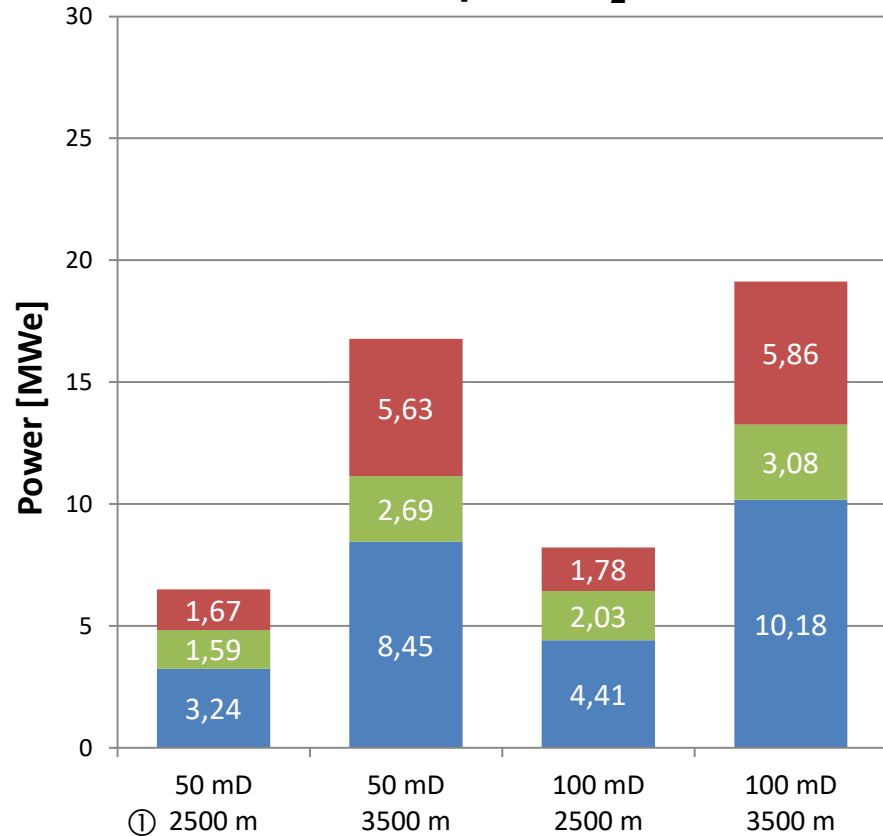
Assumptions:

T _{ambient}	15°C
ΔT-Pinch Condenser	7 K
ΔT-Pinch HX	5 K

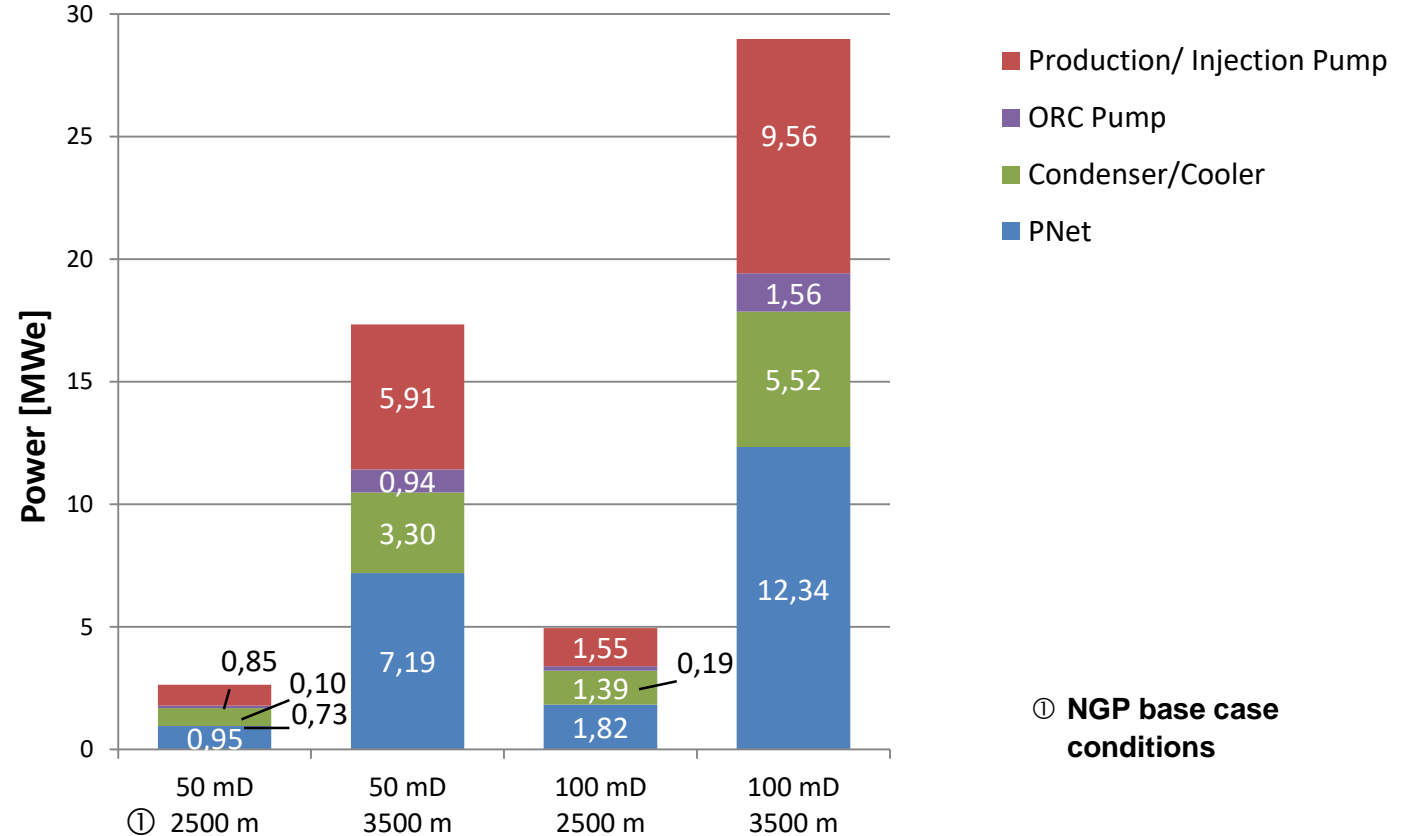
➤ ~ 2,5-3,4 times higher P_{Net} compared to brine based systems at base case conditions

Impact of depth and permeability

Pumped CO₂



Pumped brine (Isobutane)

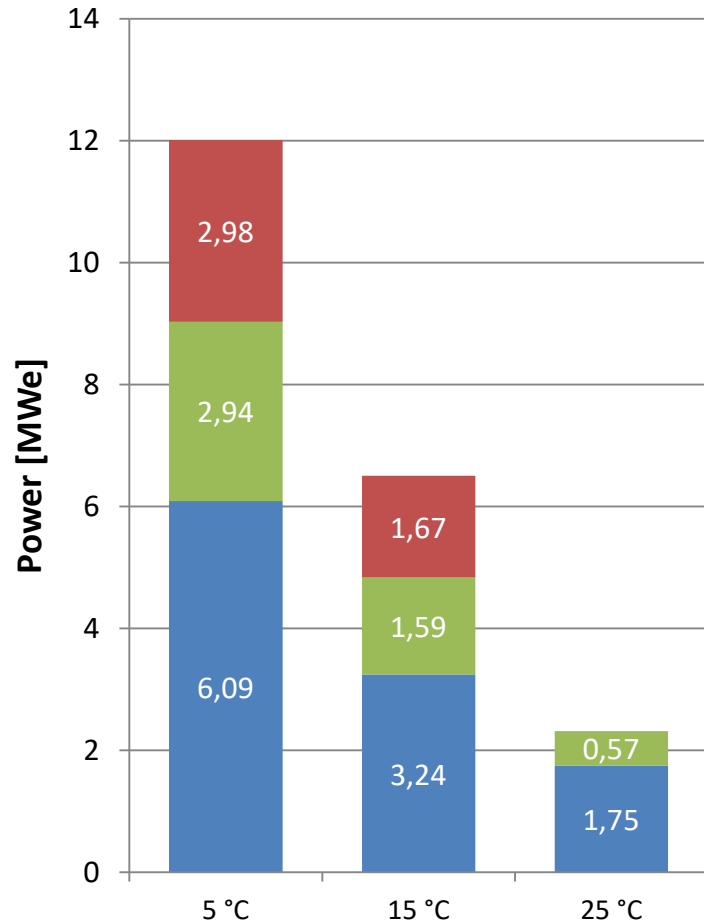


① NGP base case conditions

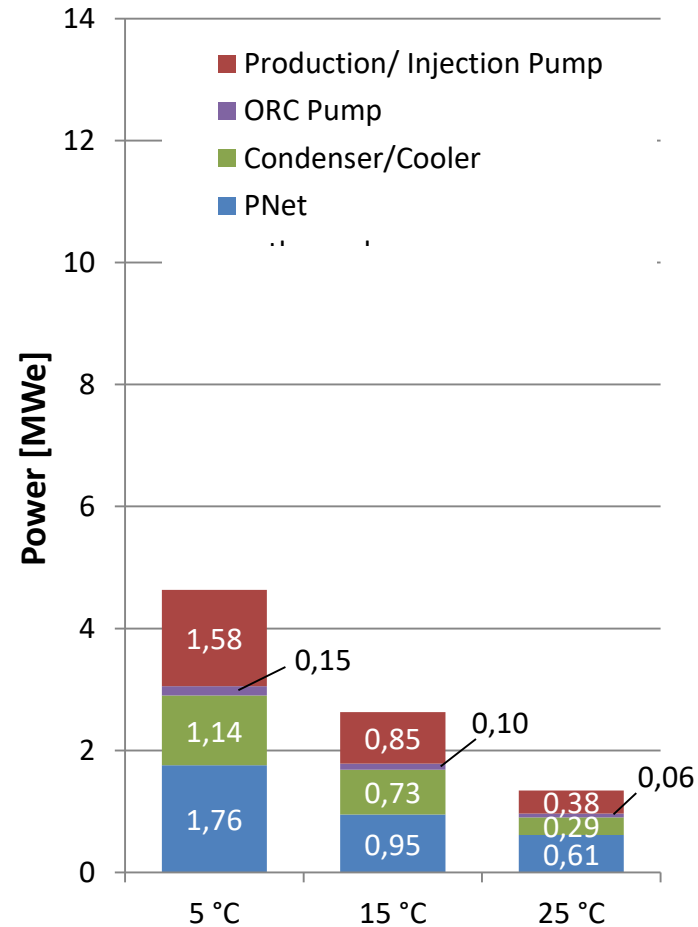
➤ Performance differences strongly depending on reservoir conditions

Impact of ambient temperature

Direct CO₂ (NGP)



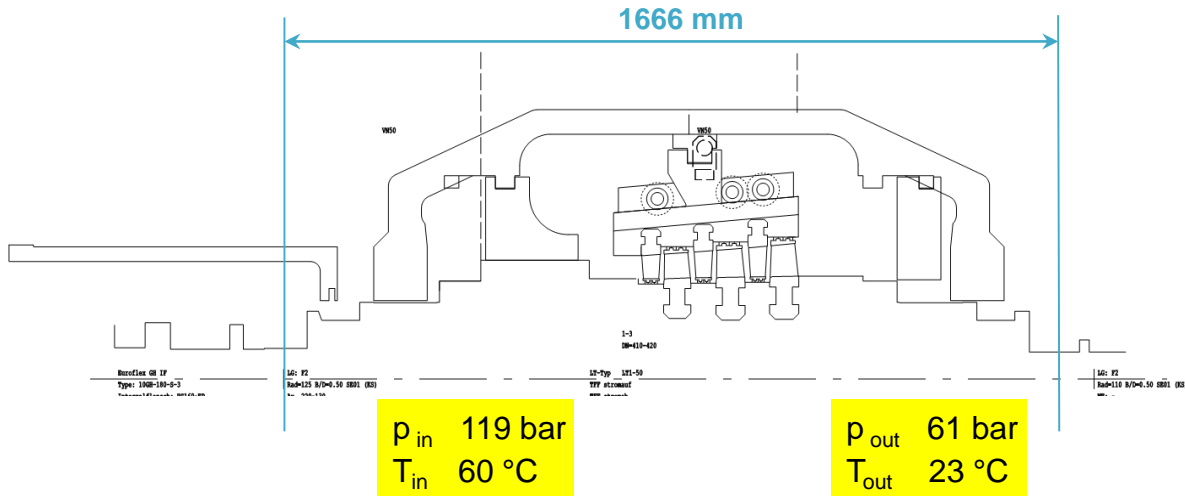
Indirect (brine /Isobutane)



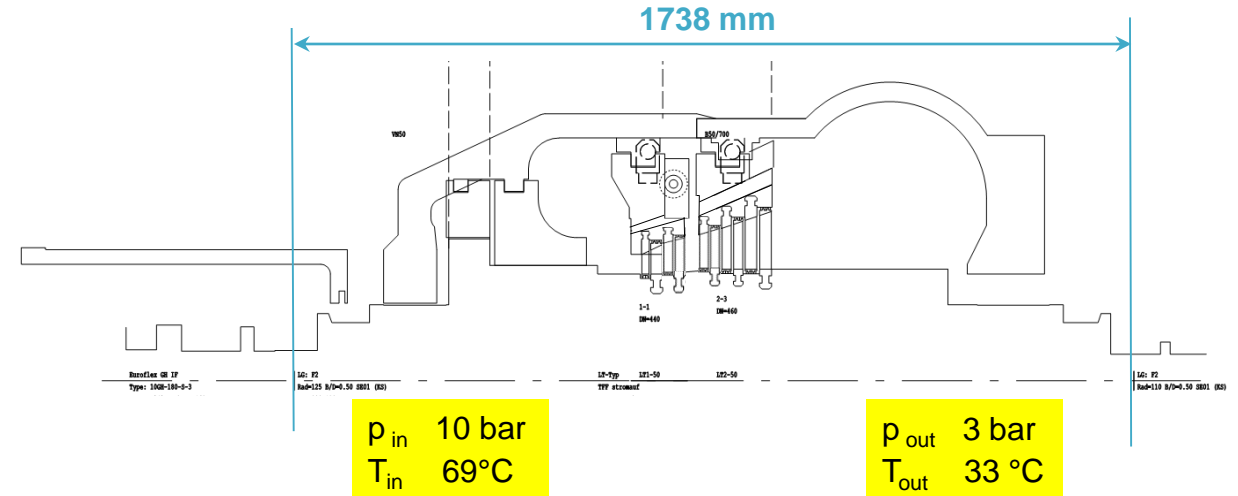
- Higher sensitivity of NGP system to cooling conditions
- NGP system achieves for lower ambient temperatures even higher net output

Turbine dimension – Base case

NGP (Pumped CO₂)



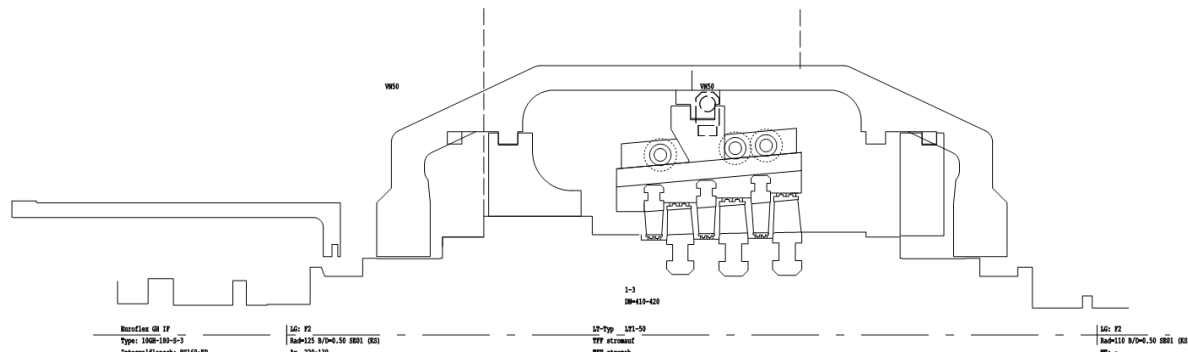
Pumped brine (Isobutane)



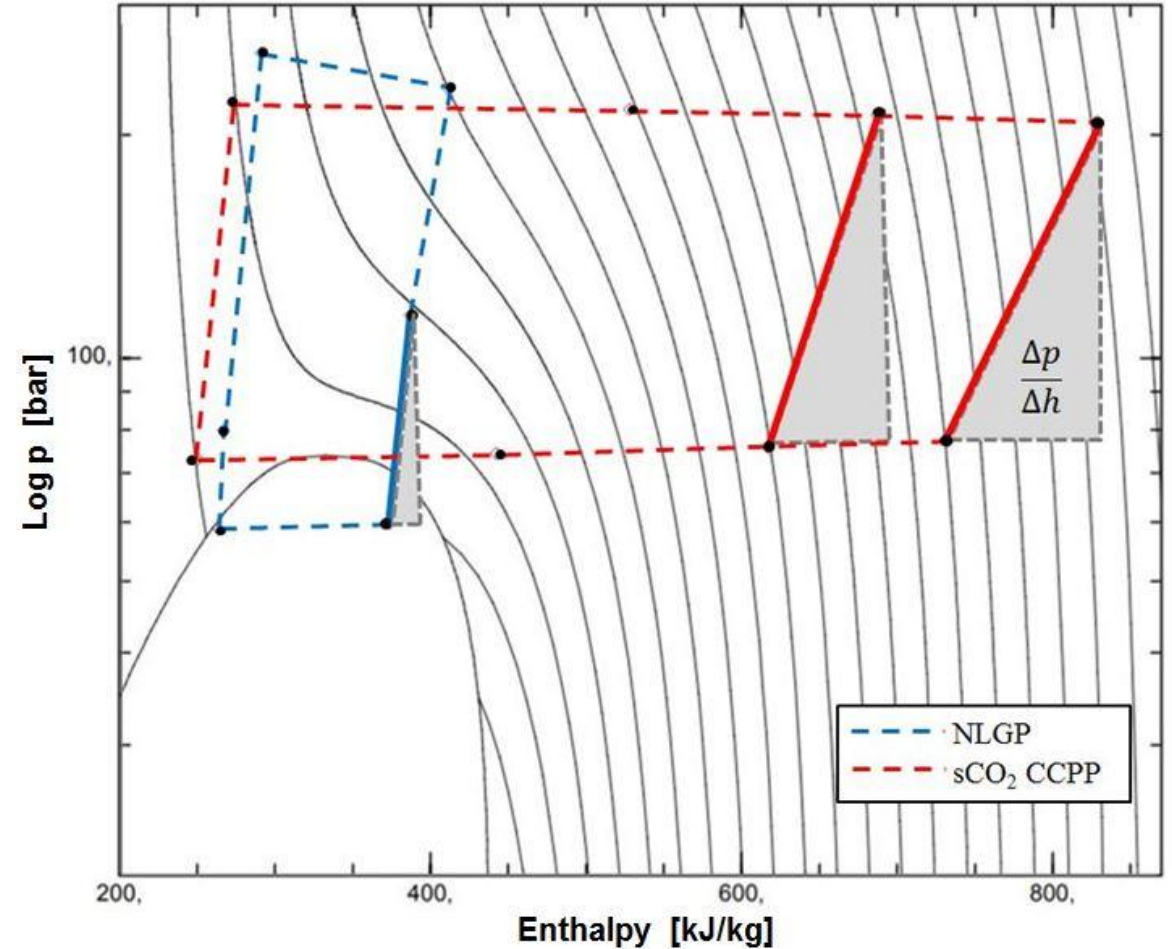
		Pumped CO ₂	Brine (Isobutane)
$\dot{V}_{turbine,inlet}$	[m ³ /s]	1,3	2,3
$\dot{V}_{turbine,outlet}$	[m ³ /s]	2,2	7,7
Δh	[kJ/kg]	14,5	41,2
Δp	[bar]	58	7

- Lower volumetric flow in CO₂ turbine
- Lower enthalpy difference
- Higher pressure levels

Turbine dimension – Base case



- Low enthalpy drop & high pressure difference
- High bending forces
- Large chord length and root sizes



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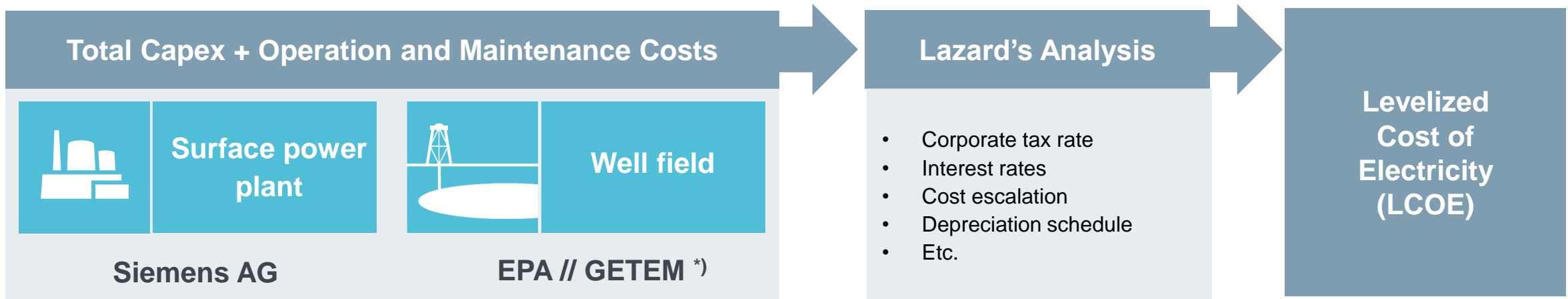
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CO₂-based geothermal power generation

Key approach for cost assessment

- No significant thermal decline during lifetime
- Operating lifetime: 25 years (No significant thermal decline)
- Wellfield size: 5 x 5 km (25x injection wells + 36x production wells)
- Surface piping: 65km (Ø ~1 – 1,2m)
- Turbine train design for 60°C/ 115bar
- Location: USA

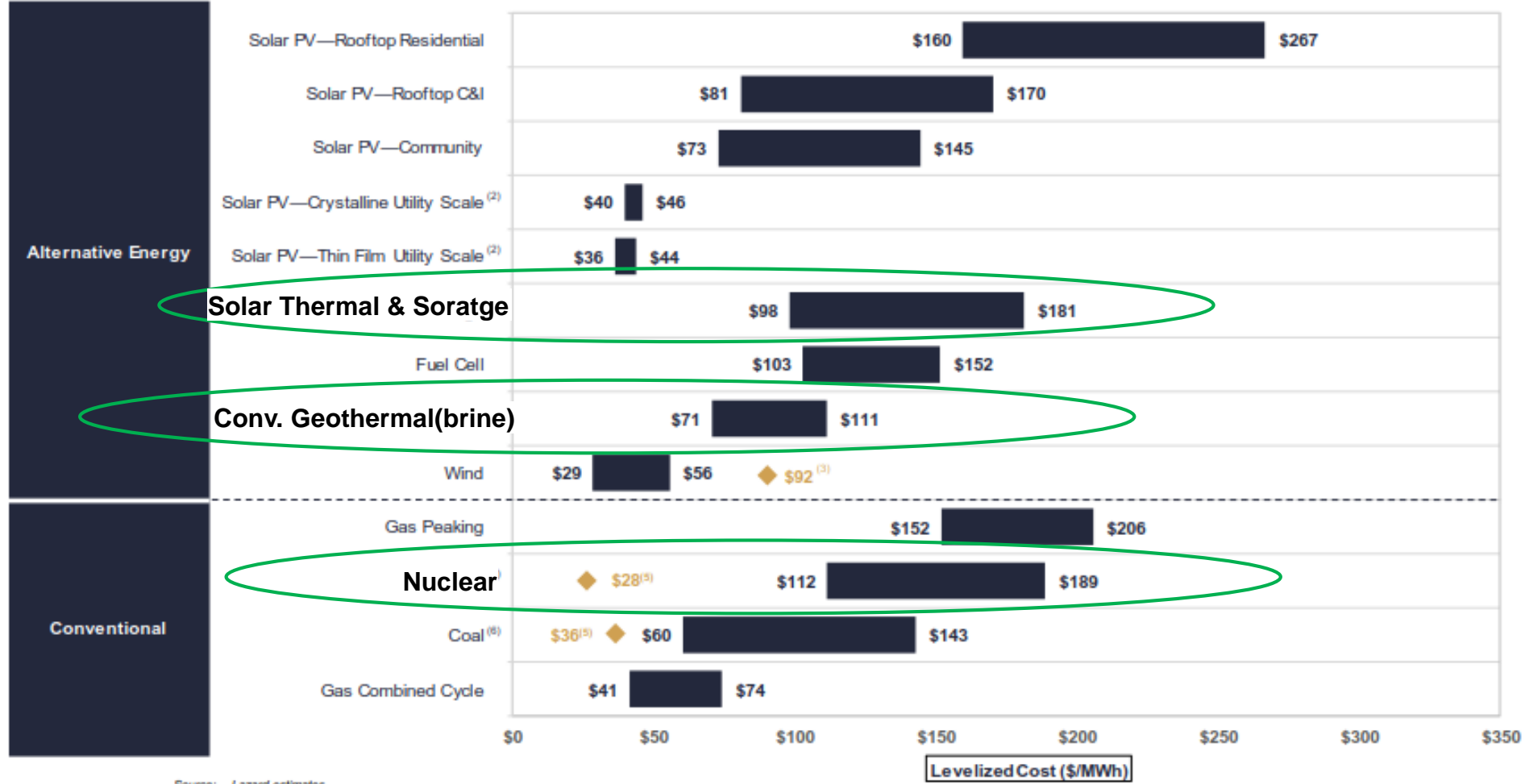
	(1)	(2)
Reservoir depth	2,5 km	3,5 km
Reservoir permeability	50 mD	100 mD
	52 MW	157 MW



*) EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2008
GETEM: Geothermal Electricity Technology Evaluation Model

Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—Unsubsidized Analysis

Certain Alternative Energy generation technologies are cost-competitive with conventional generation technologies under certain circumstances⁽¹⁾



Emission free full dispatchable technologies

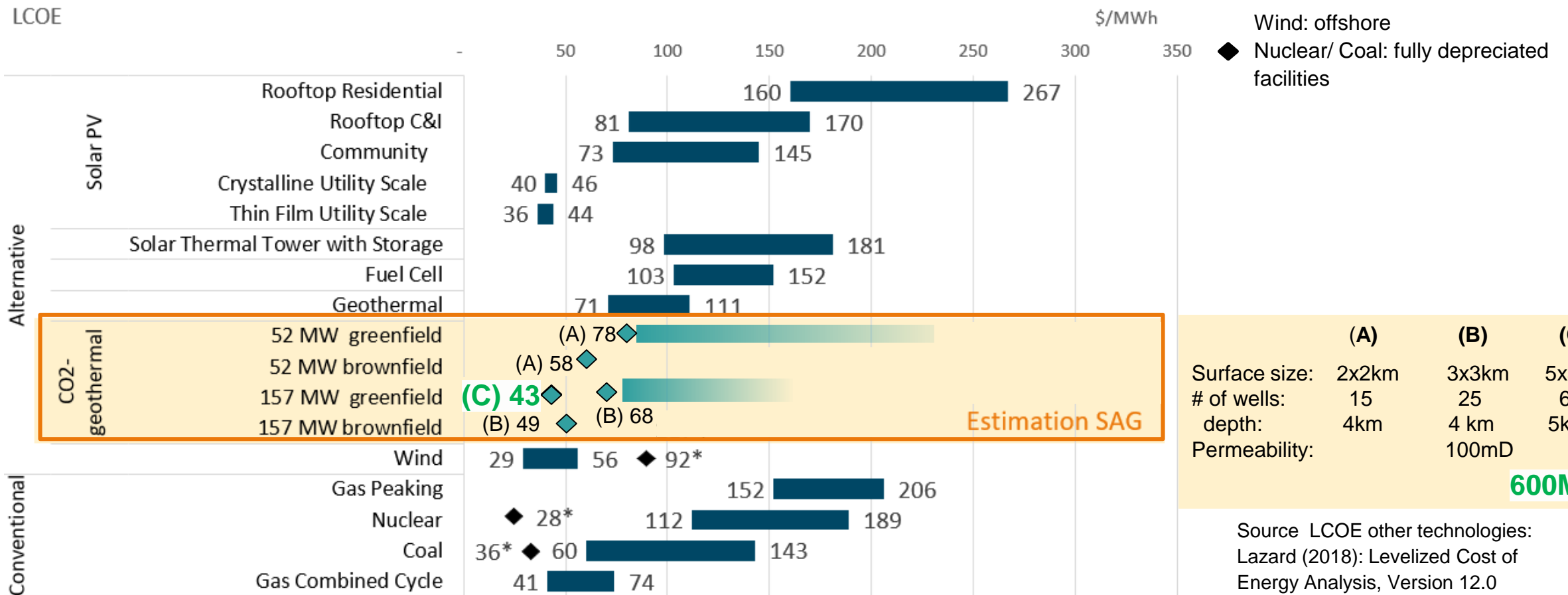


<https://www.lazard.com/perspective/levelized-cost-of-energy-and-levelized-cost-of-storage-2018/>



<https://www.lazard.com/media/450784/lazard-levelized-cost-of-energy-version-120-vfinal.pdf>

Levelized Cost of Electricity (LCOE) – first results NGP system compared to other technologies

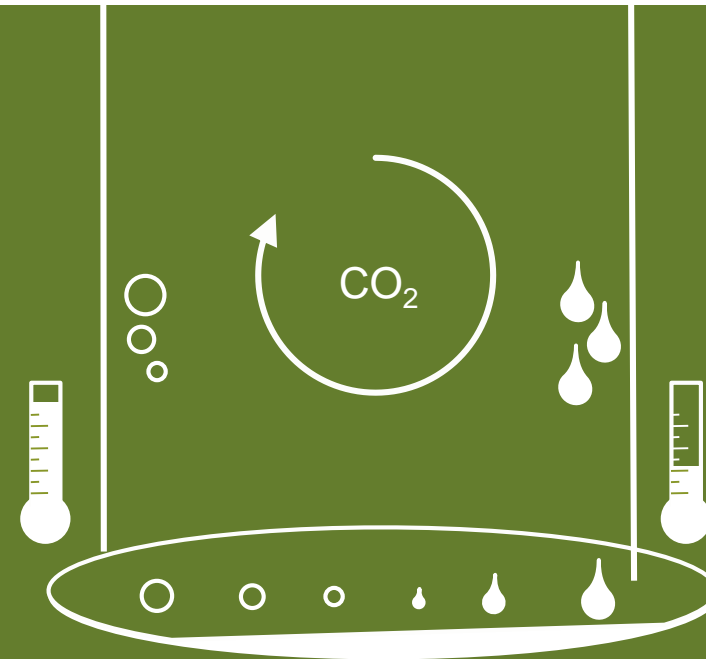


- Estimated LCOE for 160 MW power plant within range of conventional technologies
- Focus on geologically more favorable locations can almost quarter costs

Summary



- Agreement of thermodynamic simulations of NGP systems with published data
- Significant more power (than conventional technology)
- Surface power plant layout less complex with respect to equipment
- Cost competitive (compared to solar energy with storage)
- NGP can push the profitability of capturing carbon dioxide and transform CCS to CCU

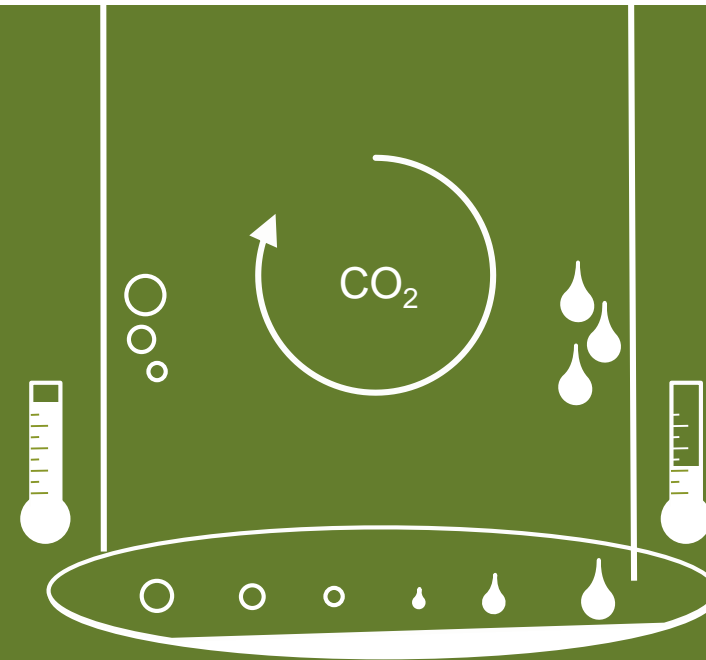


Outlook

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- Identification of partner for subsurface portion and project development
- Accelerate R&D / Proof of concept / Realization of NGP demonstrator
- Realization of commercial projects



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Thank you for your attention !

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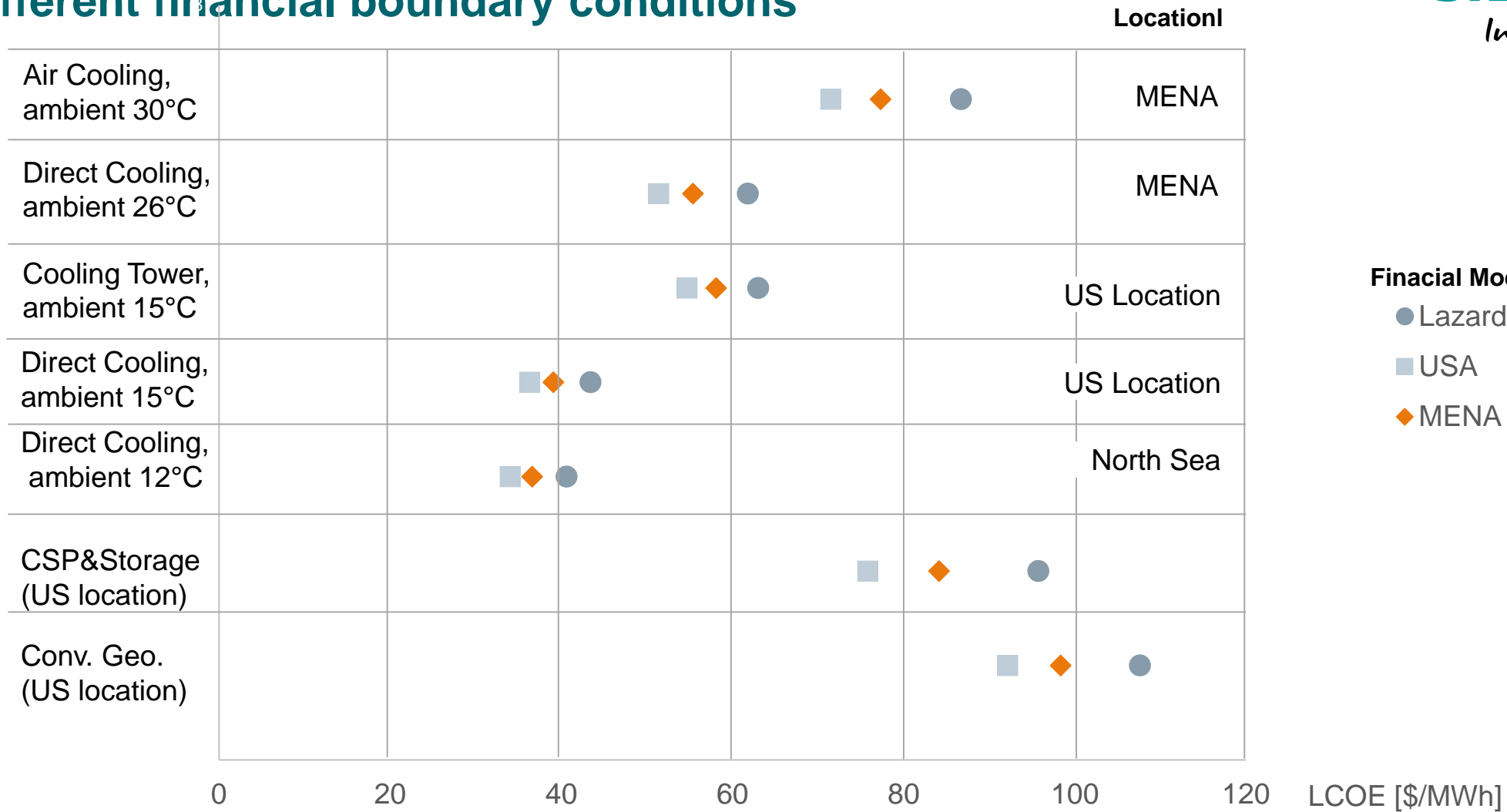
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Backup



LCOE Calculation

Different financial boundary conditions



- For the same location and the same financial model LCO 40% lower
- Even for MENA region with Air Cooling LCOE lower than CSP + Storage

LCOE Calculation

Different financial approaches - Assumptions

Assumption	Lazard	USA (Siemens assumptions)	MENA (Siemens assumptions)	your boundaries
Cost of Debt	8%	2,6%	3,2%	
Combined Tax Rate	40%	23%	5%	
Depreciation schedule	MACRS 5-years	MACRS 5-years	Declining Balance (20%)	