

# Solar District Heating in Scotland (!?)

Borehole Thermal Energy Storage Modelling in Energy Systems Optimisation

3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMART ENERGY SYSTEMS AND  
4<sup>TH</sup> GENERATION DISTRICT HEATING

COPENHAGEN, 12–13 SEPTEMBER 2017

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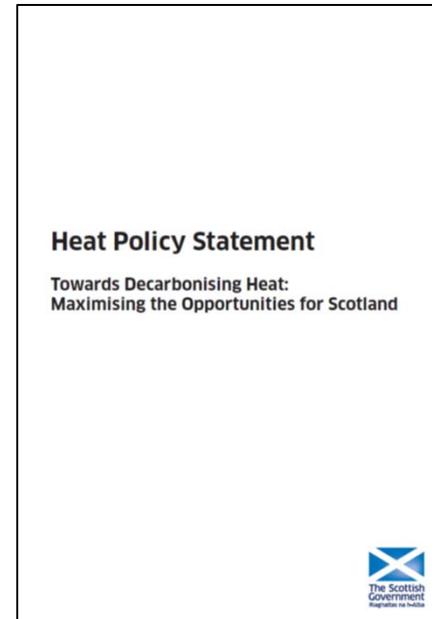
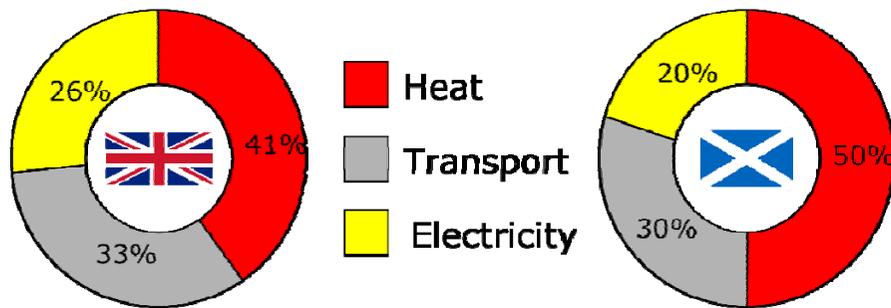


THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH



# Background

- End-use energy consumption



- Heat decarbonisation

- Demand reduction
- Efficient supply & distribution
- Low carbon & renewable heat

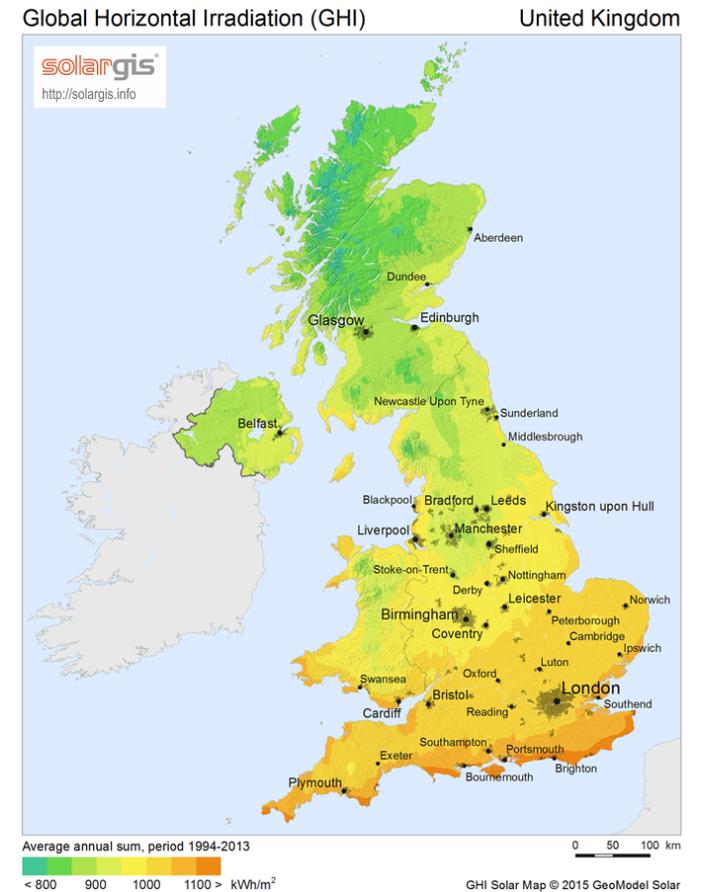
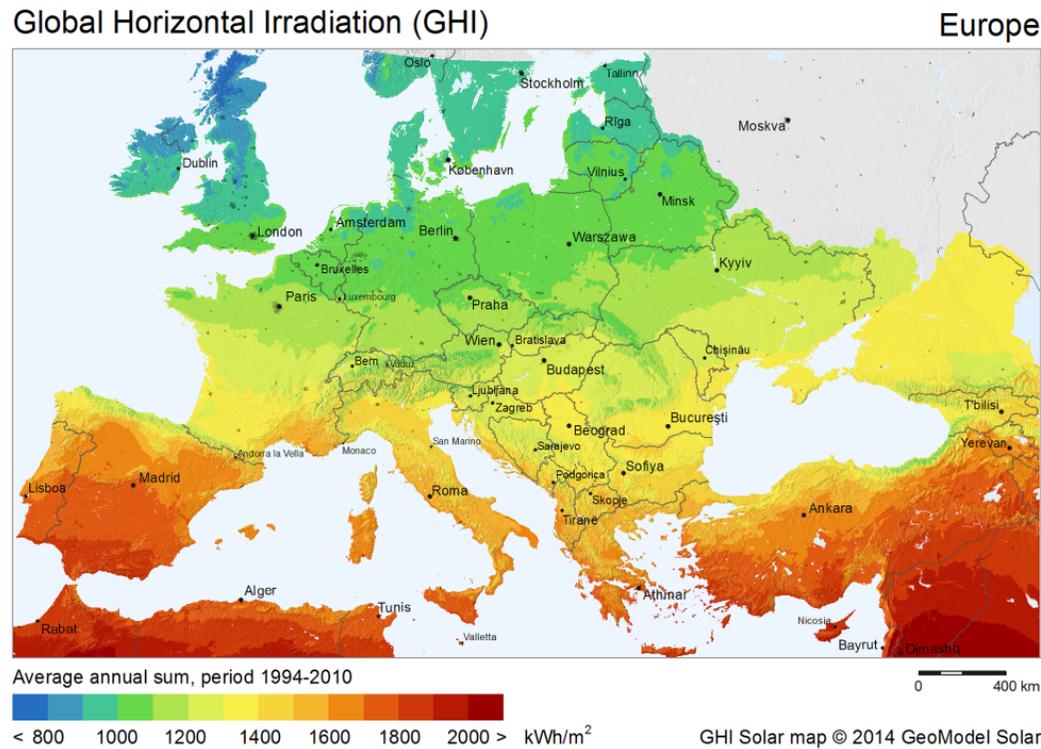
- District heating
- Gas grid
- Storage



# What about solar ?

*"It's fine Scottish weather we're having. The rain is falling straight down and kind of to the side like."*

Braveheart (1995)



# Case study: Drake Landing Solar Community

SHC 2012

The performance of a high solar fraction seasonal storage district heating system – five years of operation

Bruce Si

Energy 122 (2017) 471–481

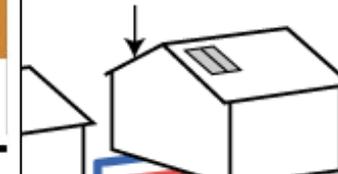
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Energy

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/energy](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/energy)



Two-storey single-family homes



Smart thermal g  
solar energy syst

Libing Yang<sup>a,\*</sup>, Evgu

<sup>a</sup> Natural Resources Canada, Canme  
<sup>b</sup> Second University of Naples, Depa

*Journal of Building Performance Simulation*, 2014  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19401493.2013.876448>

Taylor & Francis  
Taylor & Francis Group

Energy Cen  
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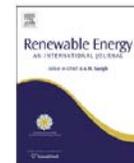
Department of Mechan

Renewable Energy 81 (2015) 377–388

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Renewable Energy

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/renene](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/renene)



[www.dlsc.ca](http://www.dlsc.ca)



Influence of location and design on the performance of a solar district heating system equipped with borehole seasonal storage

CrossMark

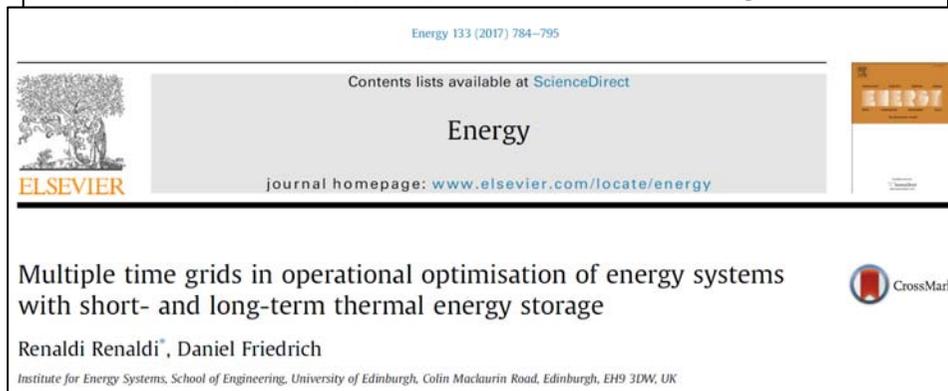
Ciarán Flynn<sup>\*</sup>, Kai Sirén

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# Methodology: Optimisation & Simulation

## Optimisation

- Mixed Integer Linear Programming
- Problem:
  - Temporal properties of storage.



First-law model.

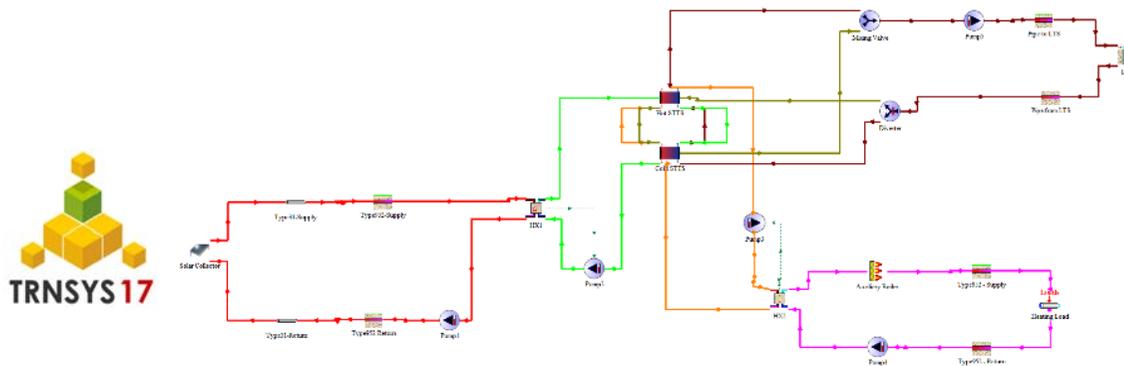
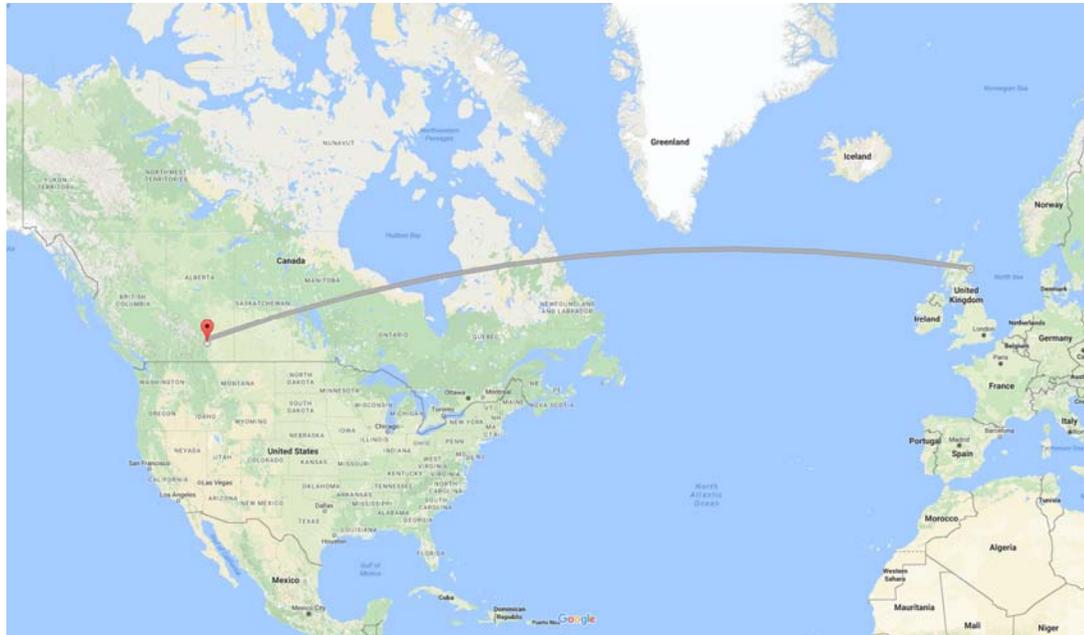
- Lower computational time; accuracy maintained.

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## Simulation

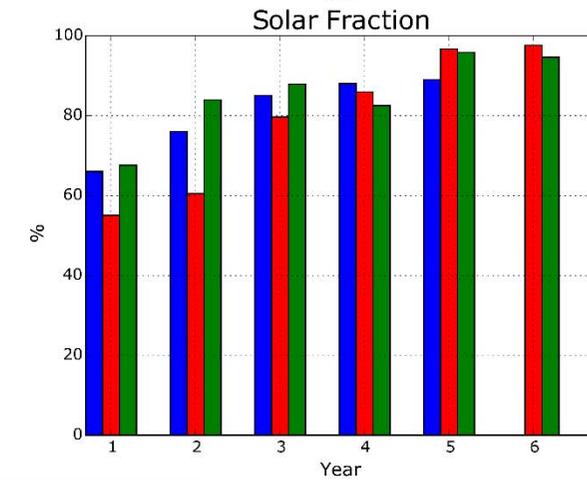
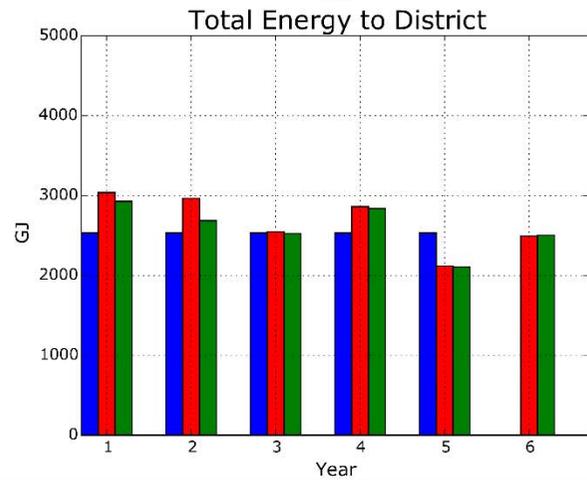
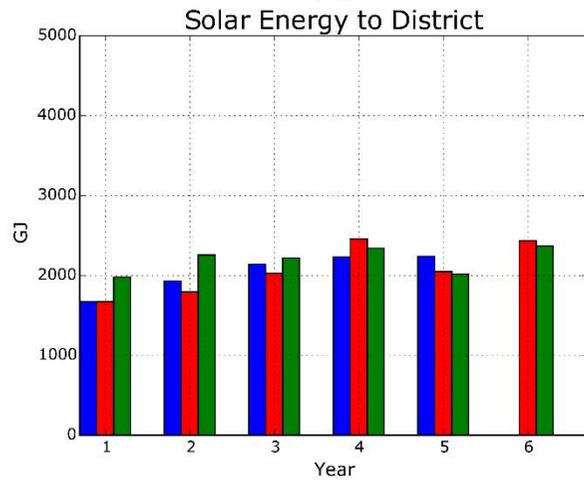
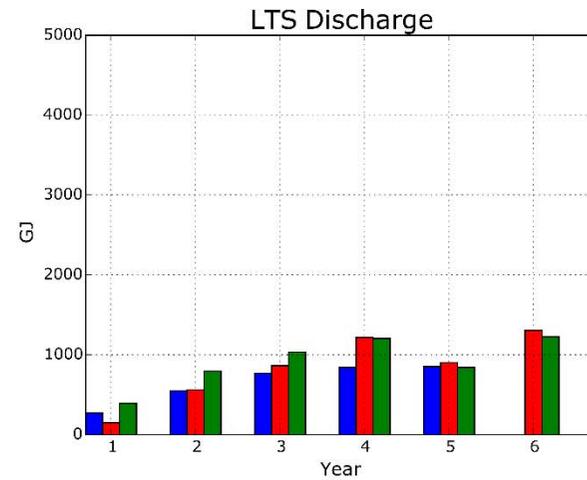
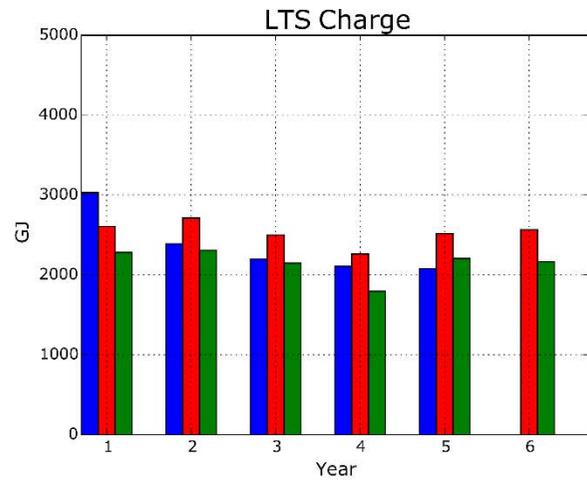
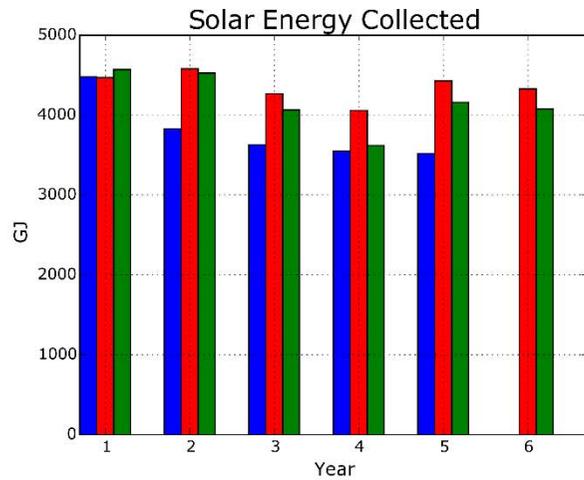
- TRNSYS
- Problem:
  - Performance in the UK.
  - Parametric study.
- Solution:
  - Build a validated TRNSYS model.
- Borehole TES model:
  - Type 557 DST
- Thermo-economic analysis.

# Methodology: TRNSYS Simulation



- Solar Fraction
- System Efficiency
- LCOE & LCOE<sub>SolarThermal</sub>

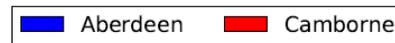
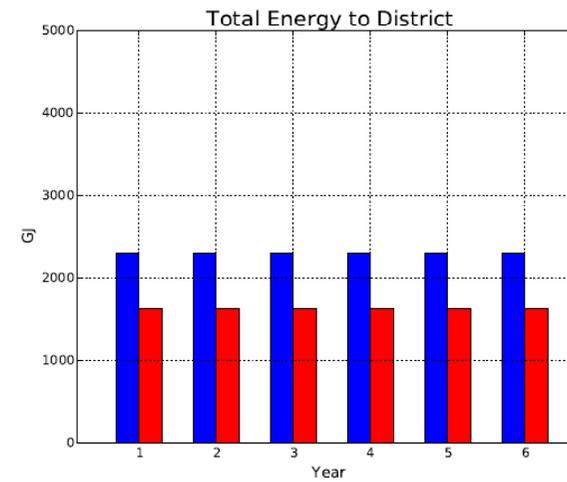
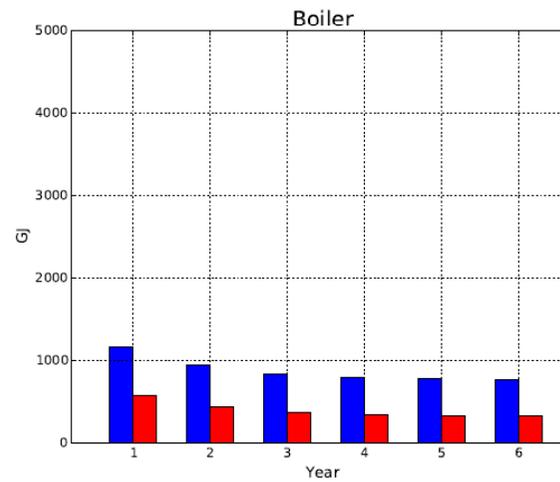
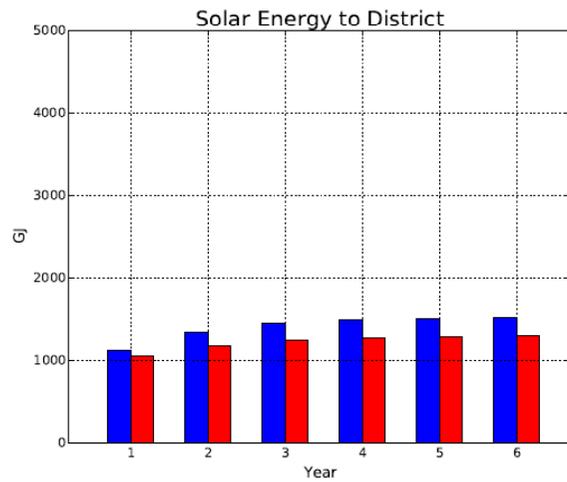
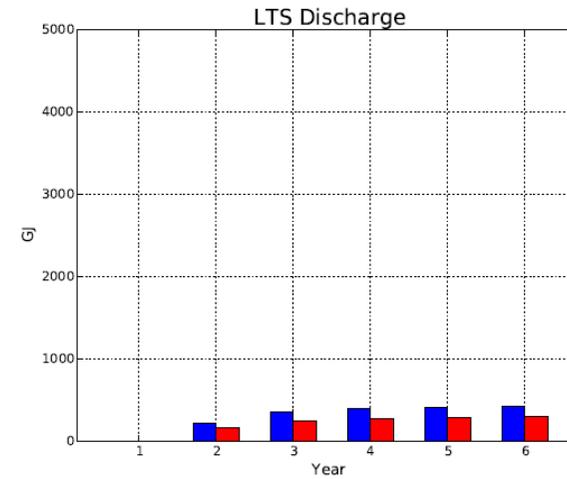
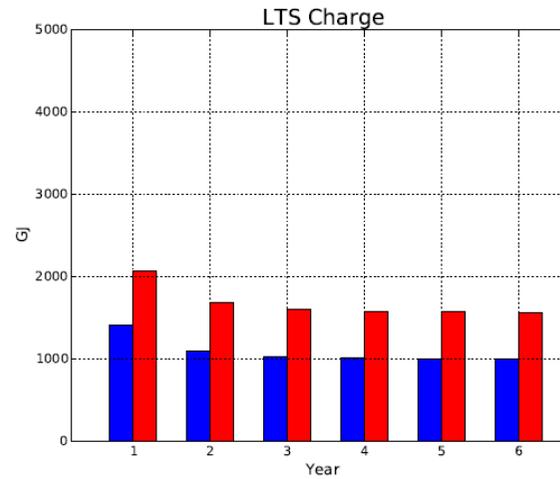
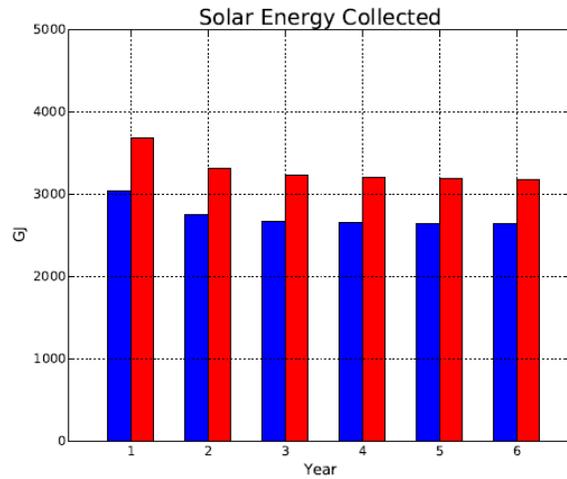
# TRNSYS Model Validation



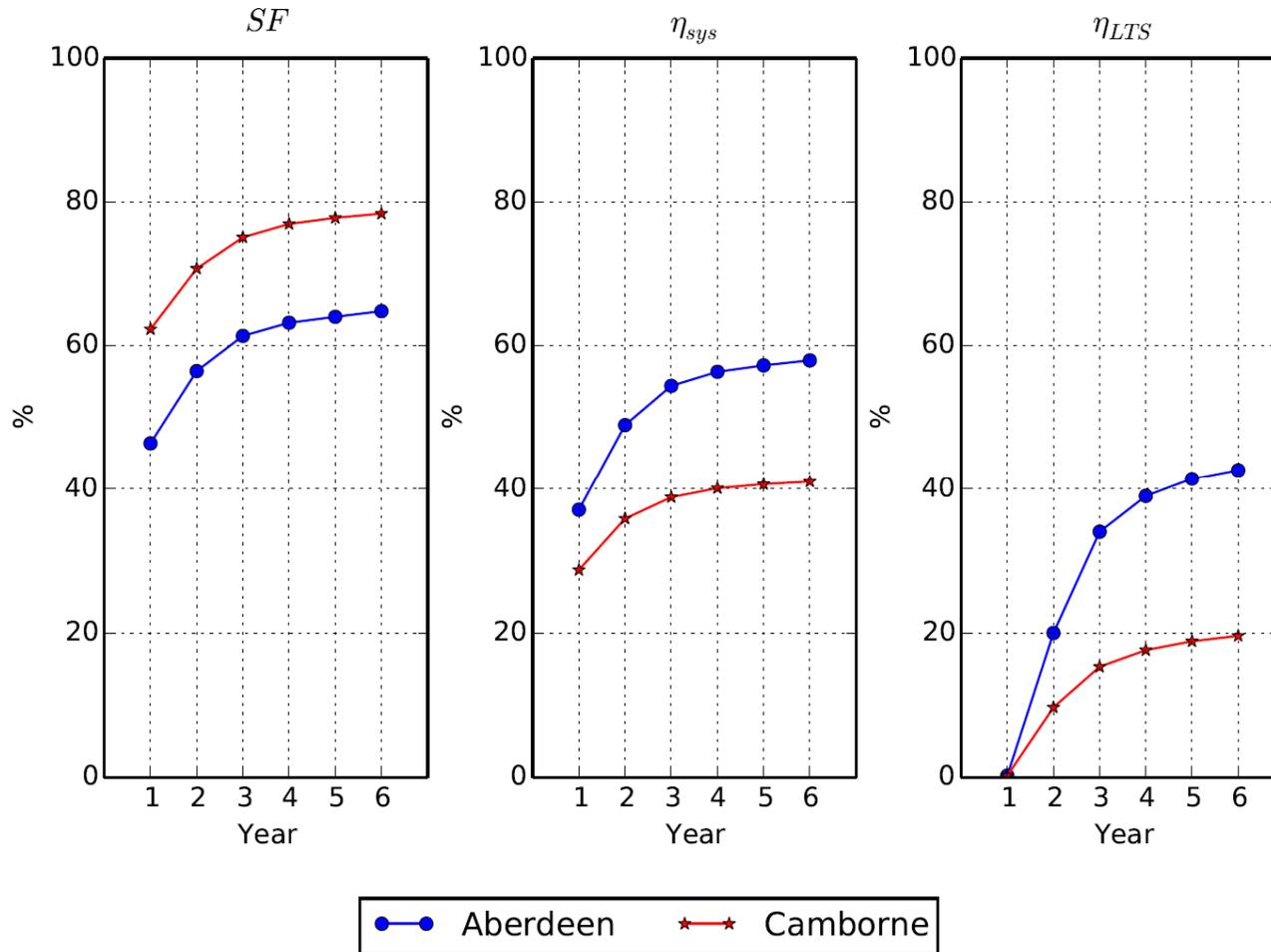
■ DLSC Simulation   
 ■ DLSC Measurement   
 ■ TRNSYS model



# Results: UK Locations



# Results: Techno-economic metrics



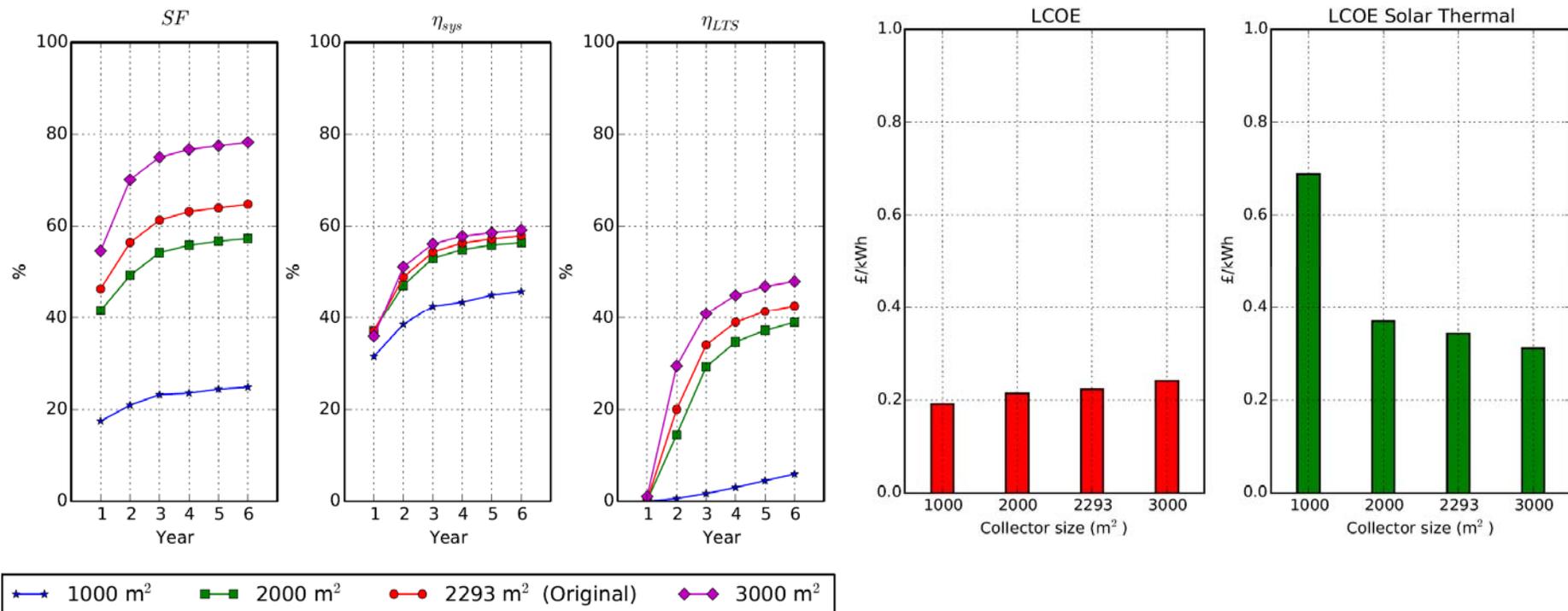
**LCOE (£/kWh)**  
 Aberdeen: 0.22  
 Camborne: 0.30

**LCOE<sub>ST</sub> (£/kWh)**  
 Aberdeen: 0.34  
 Camborne: 0.39



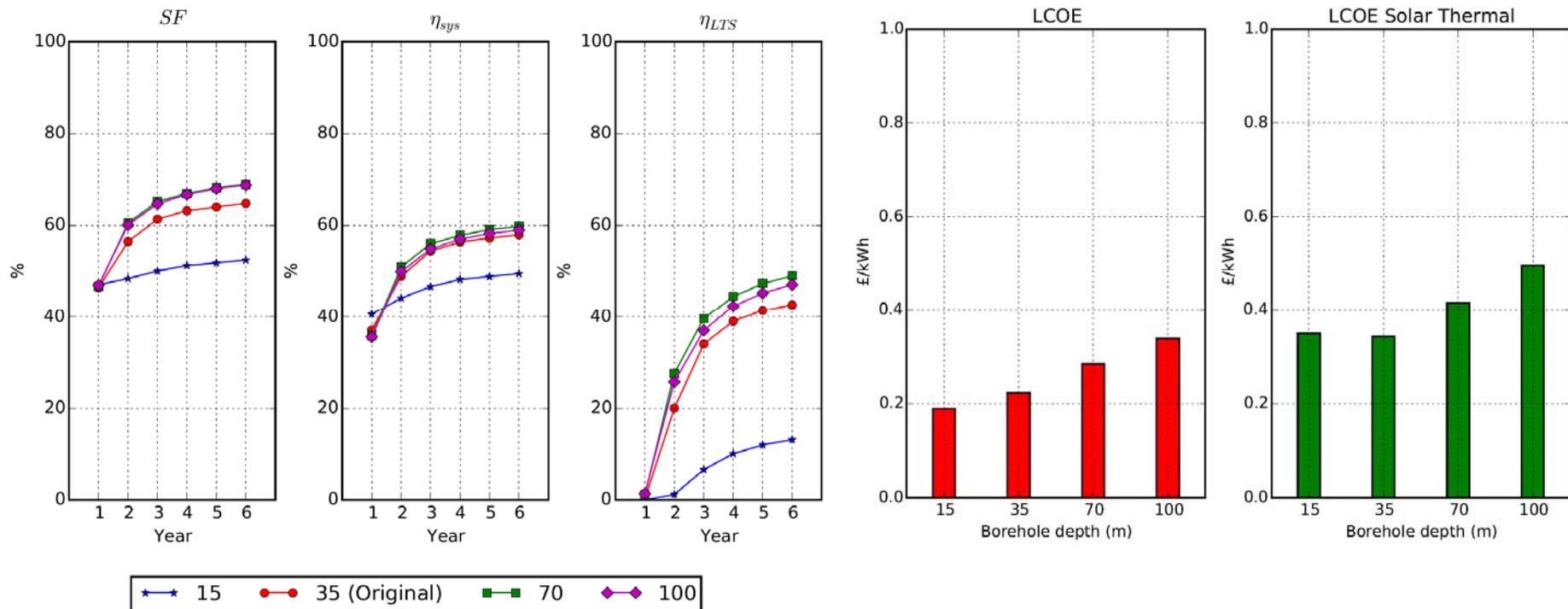
# Parametric Study: Solar Collector

- Collector size: 1000, 2000, and 3000 m<sup>2</sup>



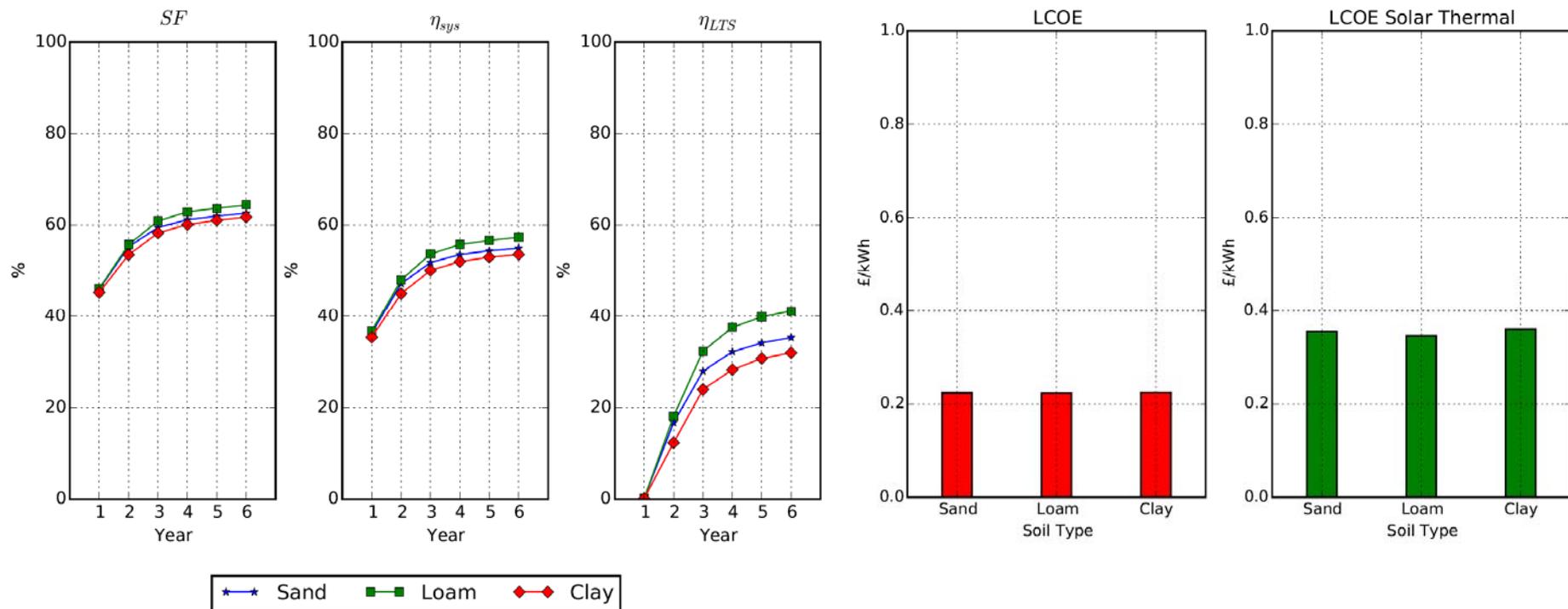
# Parametric Study: Borehole depth

- Depth: 15, 35, 70, and 100 m.



# Parametric Study: Soil Types

- Typical soil type: Sand, loam, and clay (median values).



# Conclusions

- Validated TRNSYS model of DLSC.
- UK installations: Lower solar fraction, high LCOE.
- Aberdeen: ↓ solar fraction, ↑ system efficiency, ↓ LCOE.
- Camborne: ↓ storage efficiency due to high soil thermal diffusivity.
- Parametric studies:
  - Solar collector: Undersizing will grossly increase  $LCOE_{ST}$ .
  - Borehole: Optimal depth exists from LCOE viewpoint.
  - Soil: Loam-type is more suitable for borehole storage.

# Future work

- Techno-economic optimisation.
- Other renewables, e.g. biomass, waste heat, heat pump.
- Potential financial incentives (e.g. Renewable Heat Incentive, District Heating Loan).

# Thank you !

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