

# **Cost, Price, Markets, & Support Mechanisms**

Lecture 18

MIT Fundamentals of Photovoltaics  
2.626/2.627 – 11/22/2011

Prof. Tonio Buonassisi

# Today's Topics: Cost, Price, and Markets

- What sets price (and profit)
- Energy future and overview of renewable energy sources
- Economics and market dynamics
- Fluctuations in supply and demand, drivers for oversupply/undersupply conditions, and what this means for profits.
- Subsidies: Why subsidize? How much to subsidize? Role of PV in the global energy market.

# PV Cost and Price

# Levers of Cost

**Table 1:** A simple model for module efficiency impacts on module cost.

Wafer Cost (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	Cell Process Cost (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	Module Process Cost (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	Module Efficiency (%)	Module Manufacturing Cost (\$/watt)
$W_{hi}$	$C \times W_{hi}$	$M \times W_{hi}$	$\eta_{hi}$	$W_{hi}(1 + C + M)/1000\eta_{hi}$
$W_{low}$	$C \times W_{hi}$	$M \times W_{hi}$	$\eta_{low}$	$(W_{low} + W_{hi}[C + M])/1000\eta_{low}$
<b>Equating manufacturing costs: <math>W_{low}/W_{hi} = 1 - (1 - \eta_{low}/\eta_{hi})(1 + C + M)</math></b>				

T. Surek et al., Proc. 3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Photovoltaic Energy Conversion, Osaka, Japan (2003)

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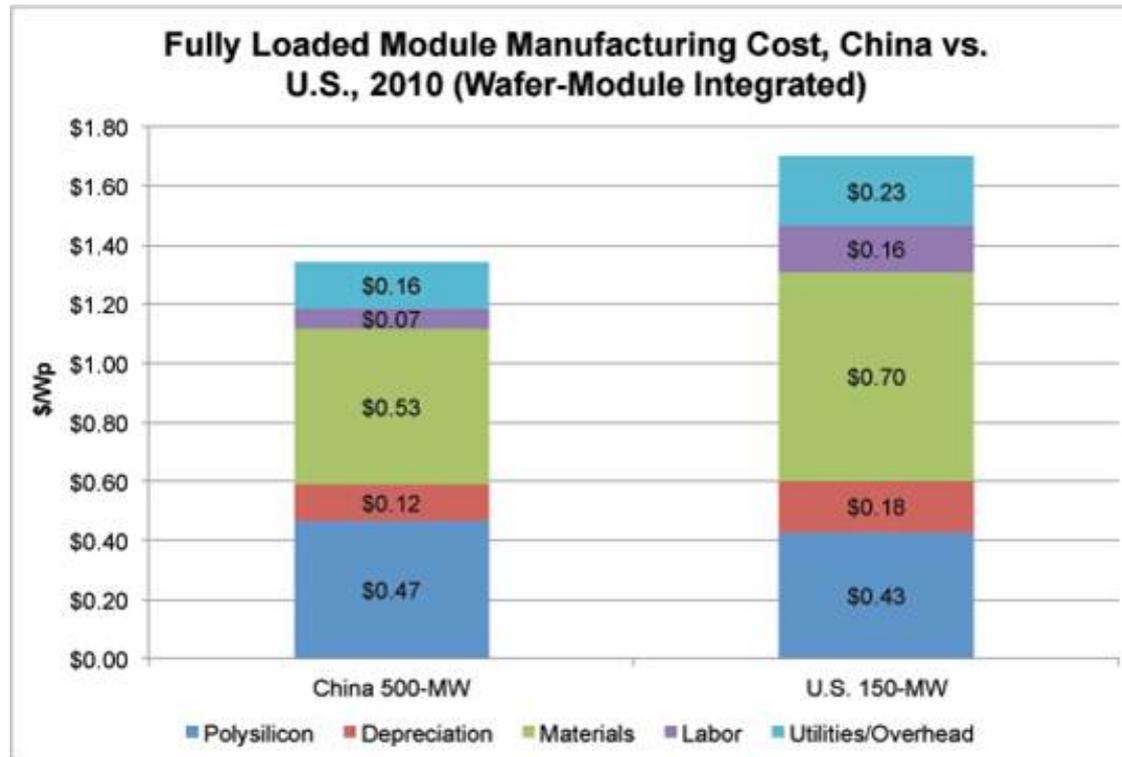
## Cost Levers:

- Efficiency
- Processing Costs (\$/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Manufacturing Yield
- Capital equipment cost
- Overhead...
- Other...

**More on Thursday  
12/1/2011**

# PV Cost Trends

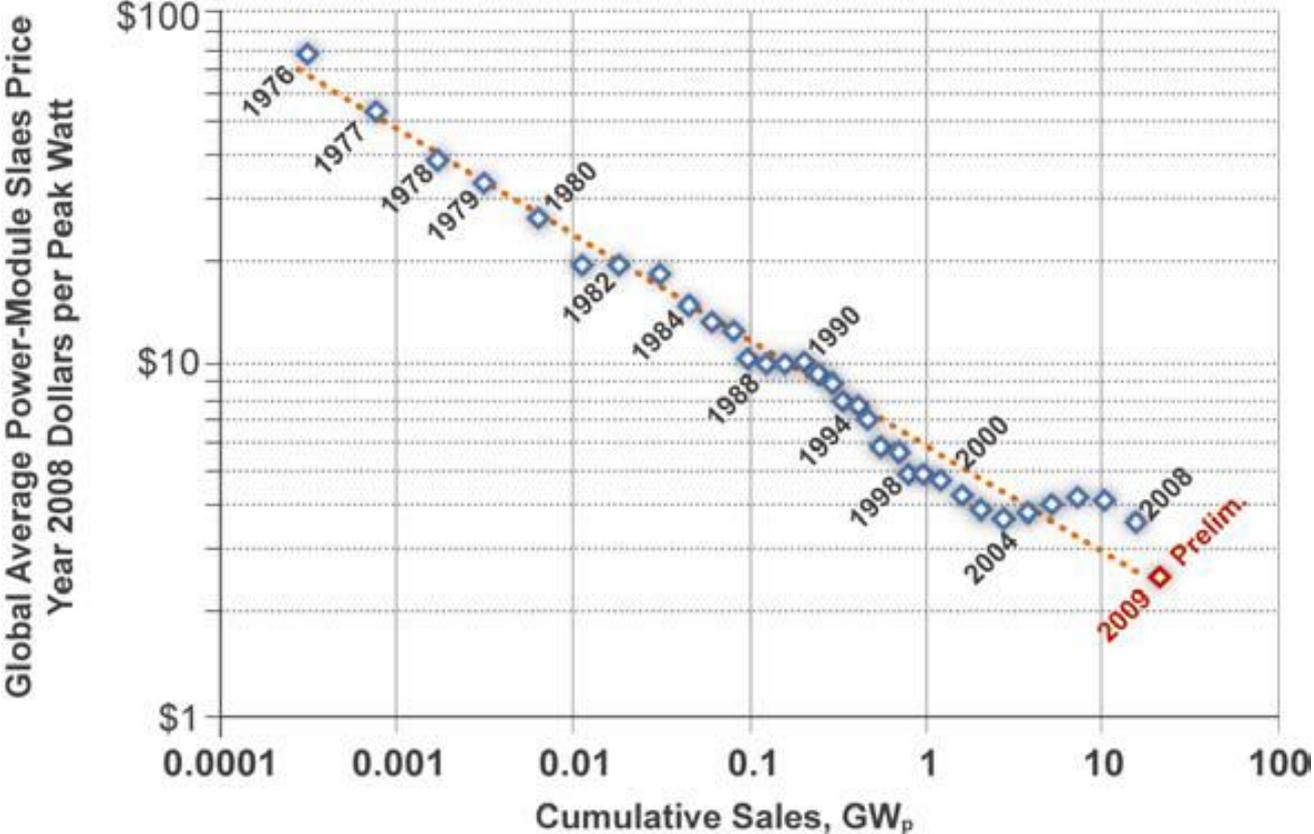
- Available from expensive consultants, or...
  - “Tracking the Sun II: The Installed Cost of Photovoltaics in the U.S. from 1998-2008” Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, October 2009.
  - “Solar Summit 2011: Is U.S. PV Manufacturing Doomed to Failure?” *Greentech Solar*, March 7, 2011.
  - Note caveats!



Courtesy of Greentech Media. Used with permission.

# Price, Experience Learning Curve for PV

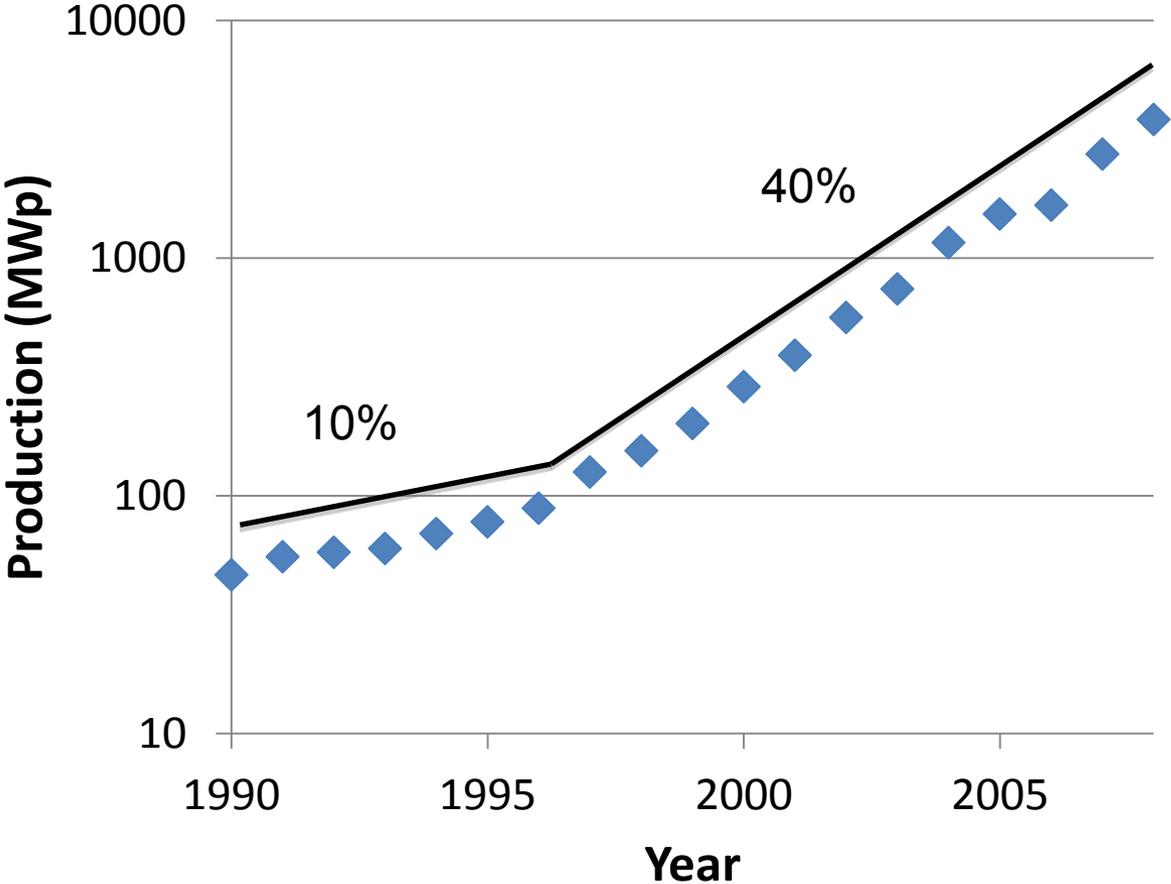
## 2-3X Cost Reduction Required for Grid Parity



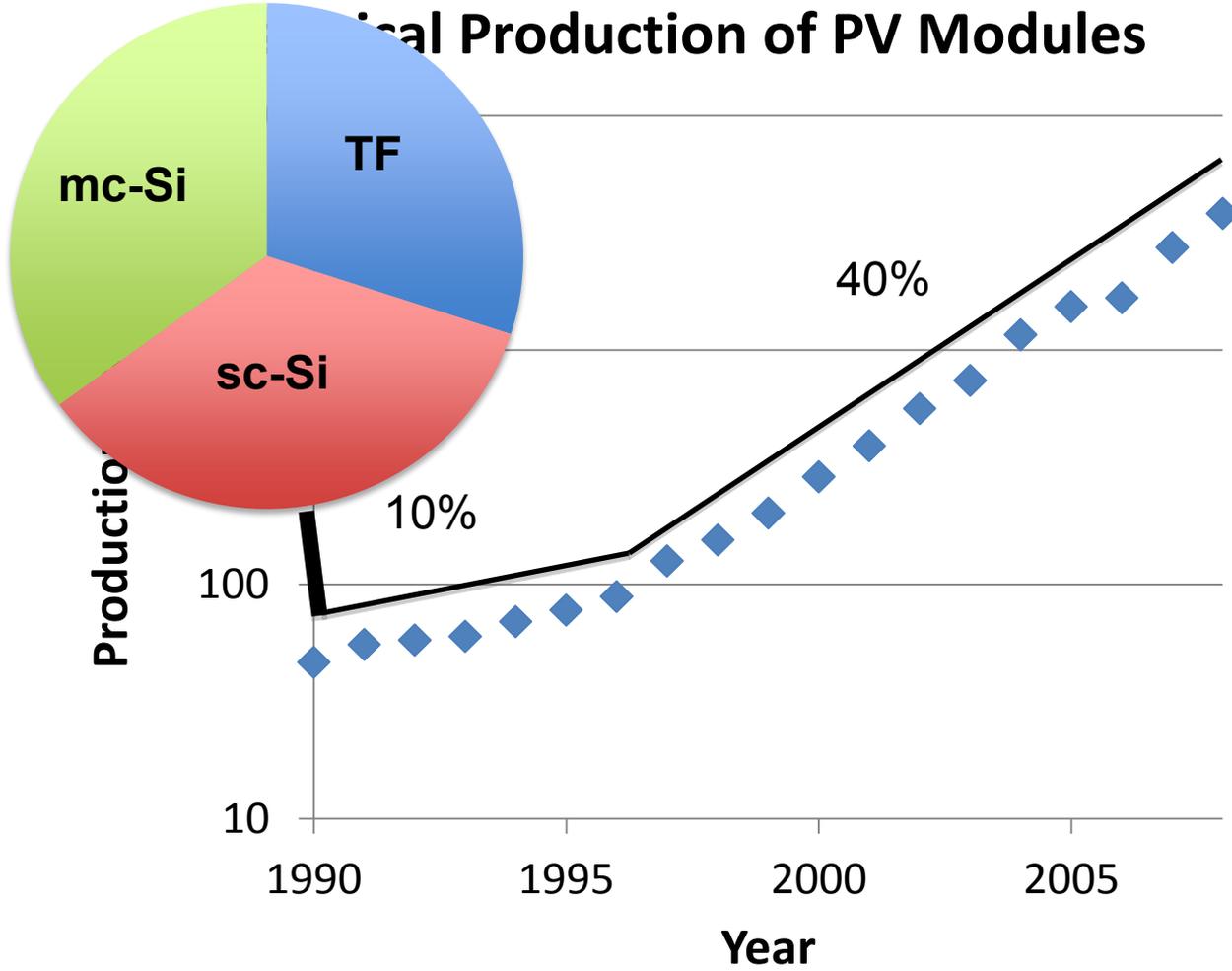
Source: [http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/review\\_meeting/pdfs/prm2010\\_plenary\\_pv%20overview\\_le.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/review_meeting/pdfs/prm2010_plenary_pv%20overview_le.pdf)

# PV: Scale

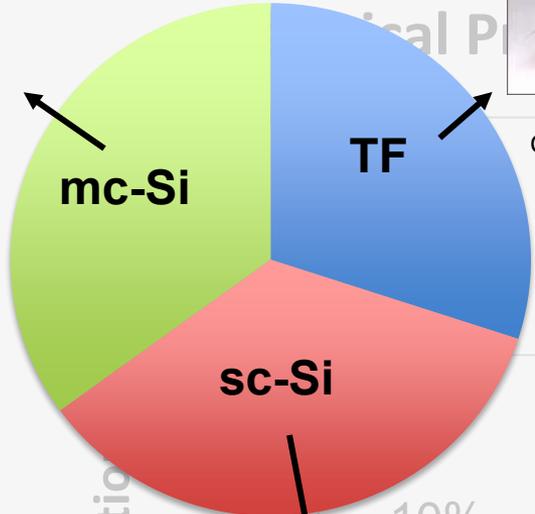
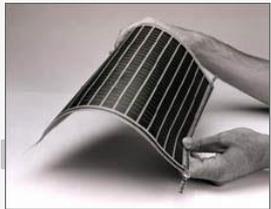
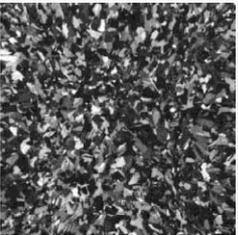
## Historical Production of PV Modules



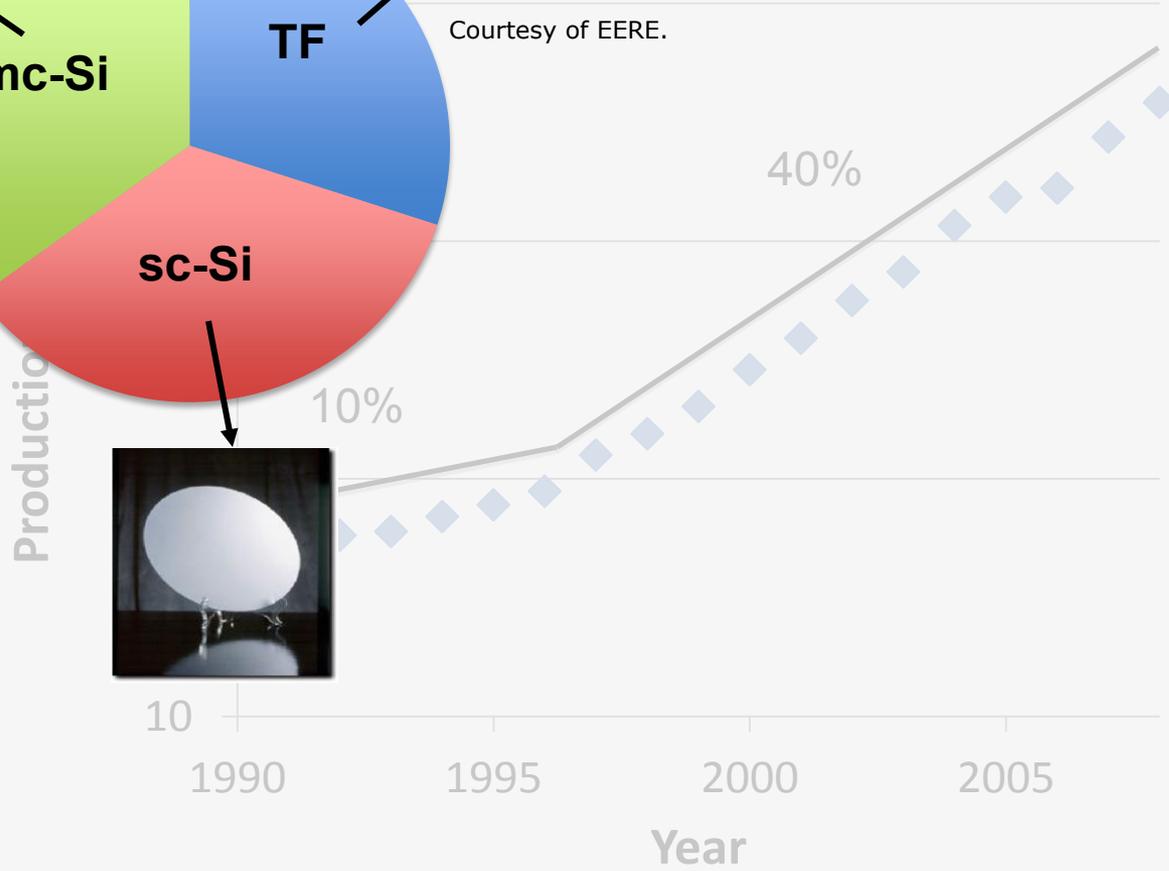
# PV: Scale & Technologies



# Photovoltaics: State-of-the-Art

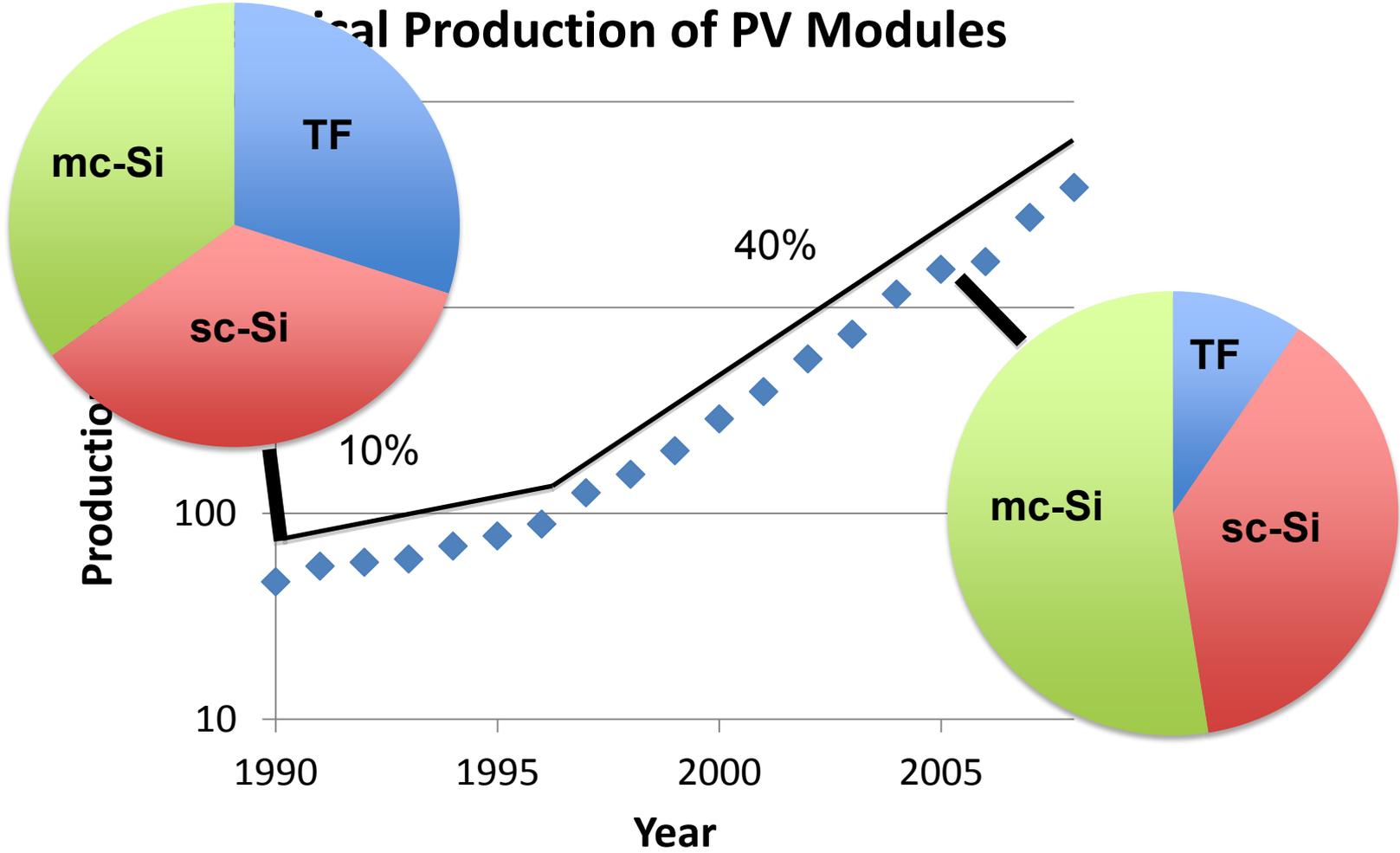


Courtesy of EERE.



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# PV: Scale & Technologies



# Price, Markets & Subsidies

# Customer Needs

**on-grid**

**off-grid**

**consumer**

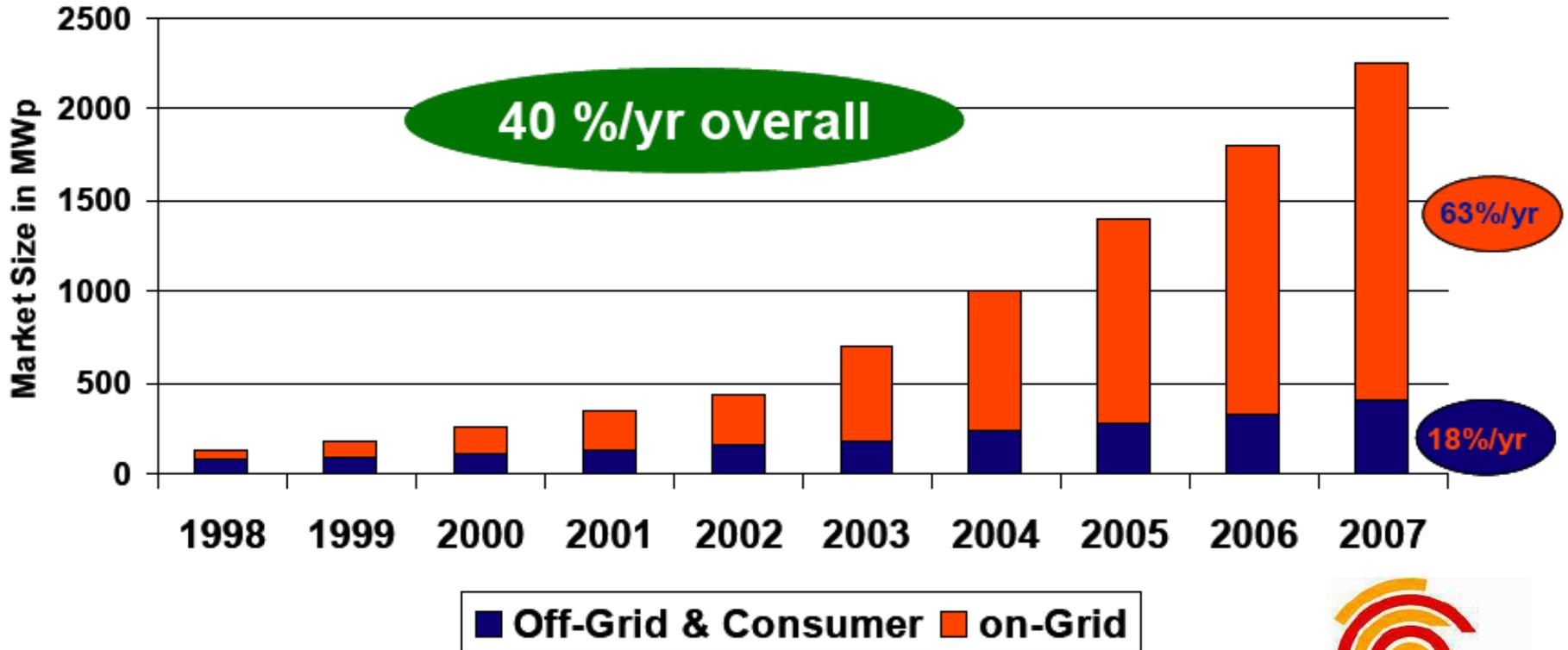
**high efficiency**

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See the lecture 18 video.

# Substitution Economics

- What type(s) of grid electricity will PV substitute?
  - What will this mean for traditional gencos?
- What is a fair selling price for PV electricity?

# Markets

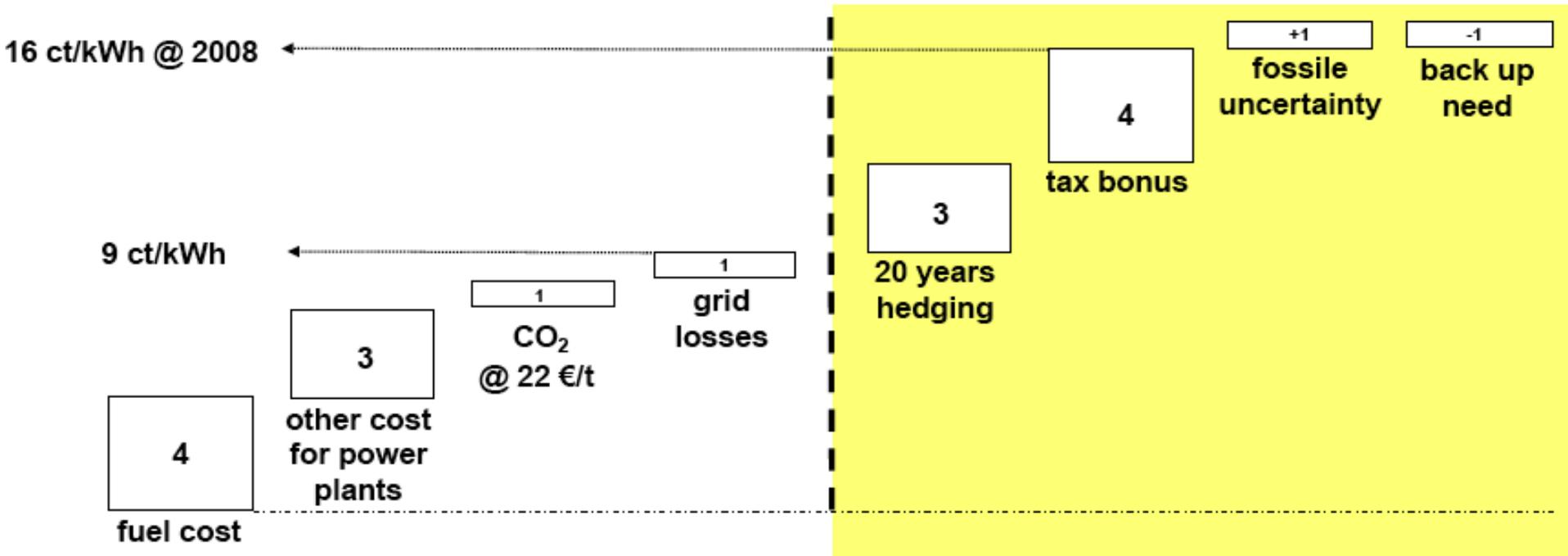


ref: European Photovoltaic Industries Association (EPIA) & Navigant Consulting



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# “Value” of PV Electricity



ref.: ISET Study "Wertigkeit von PV Strom," Staffelstein, March 2008

ref.: LBBW Study, March 2008



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# PV Installations Worldwide: Cumulative

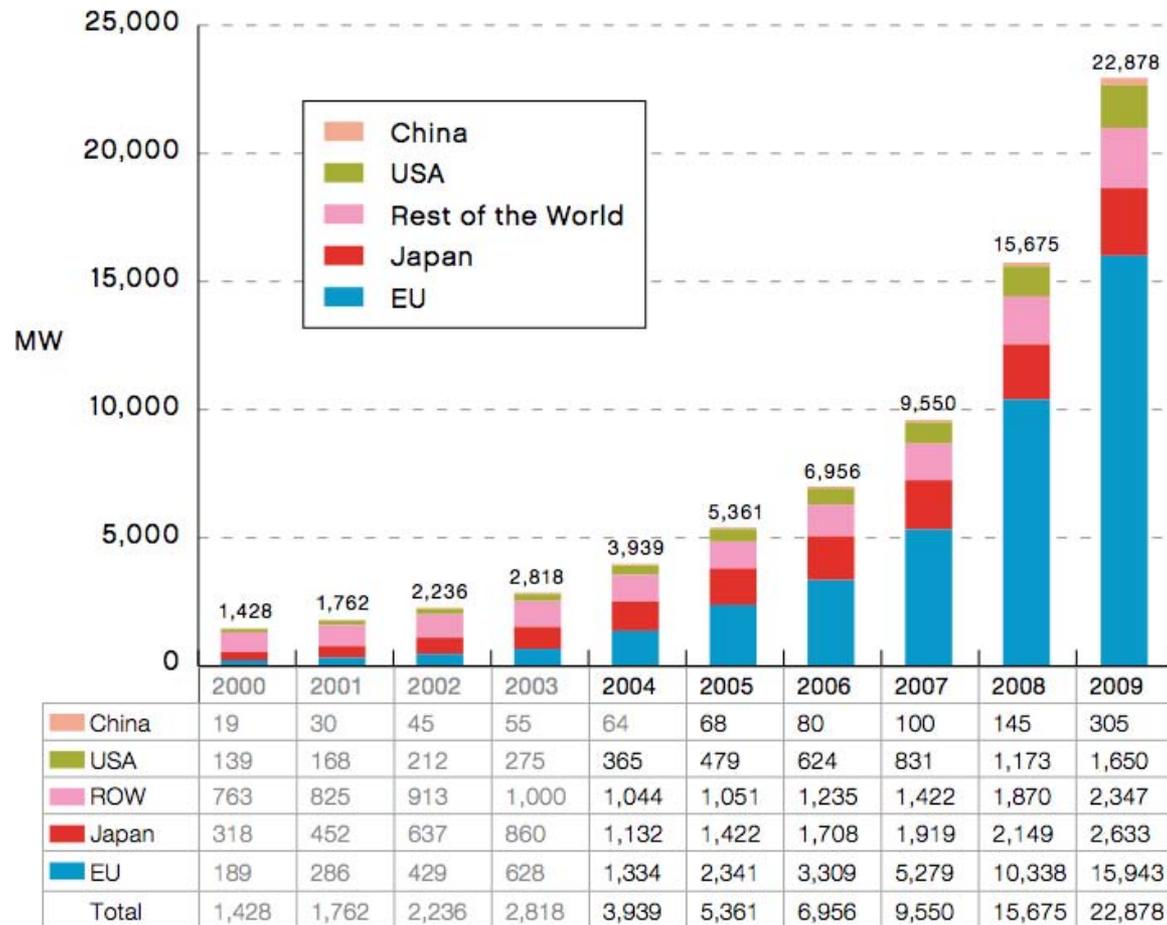


Figure 1 - Historical development of World cumulative PV power installed in main geographies

Source: "Global Market Outlook for Photovoltaics Until 2014." May 2010 update. EPIA. ([PDF](#))

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# PV Installations Worldwide: Annual

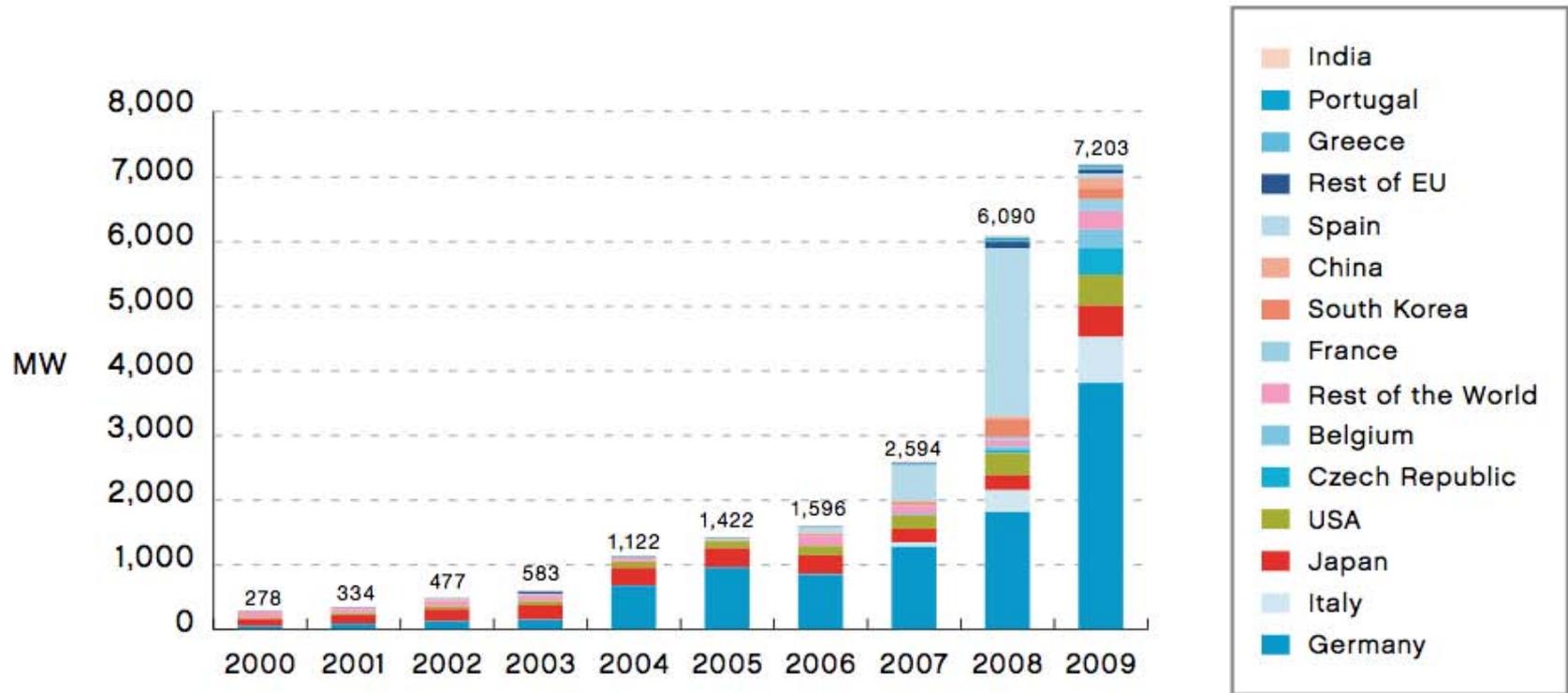
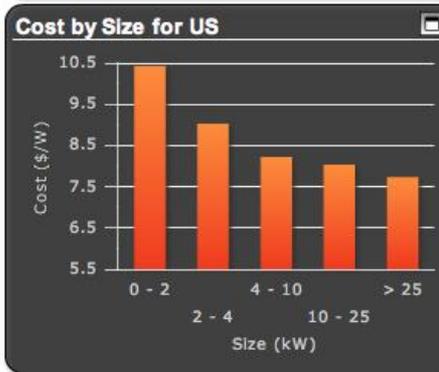
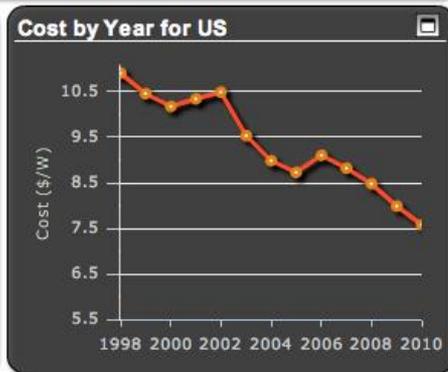
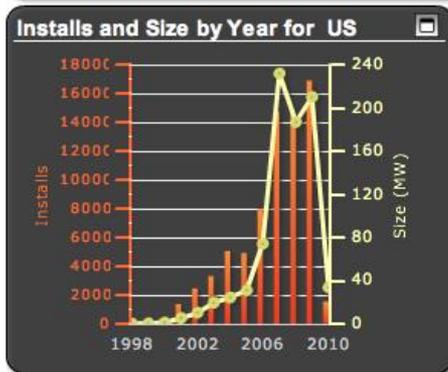
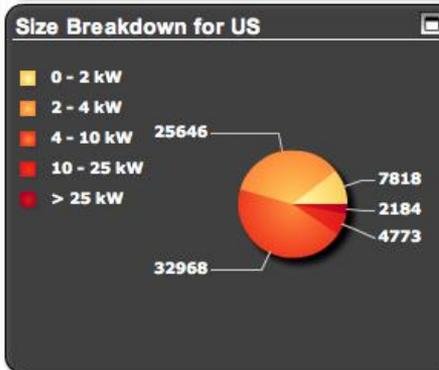
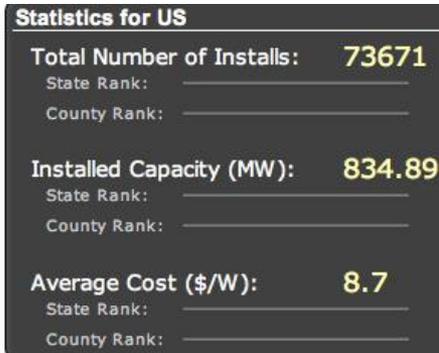
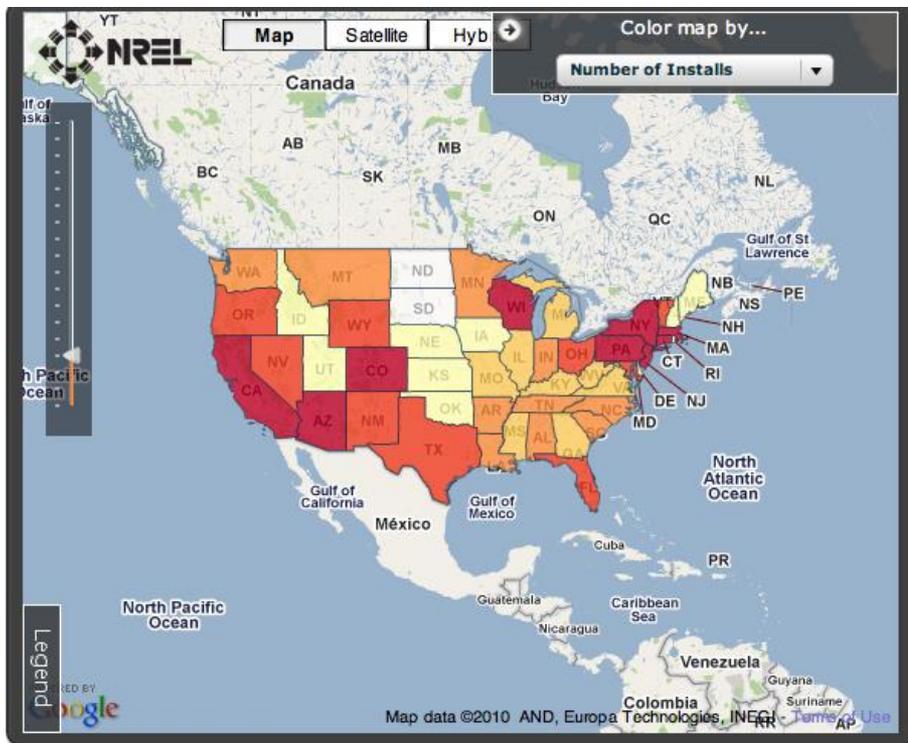


Figure 2 - Evolution of the World annual PV market 2000-2009

Source: "Global Market Outlook for Photovoltaics Until 2014." May 2010 update. EPIA. ([PDF](#))

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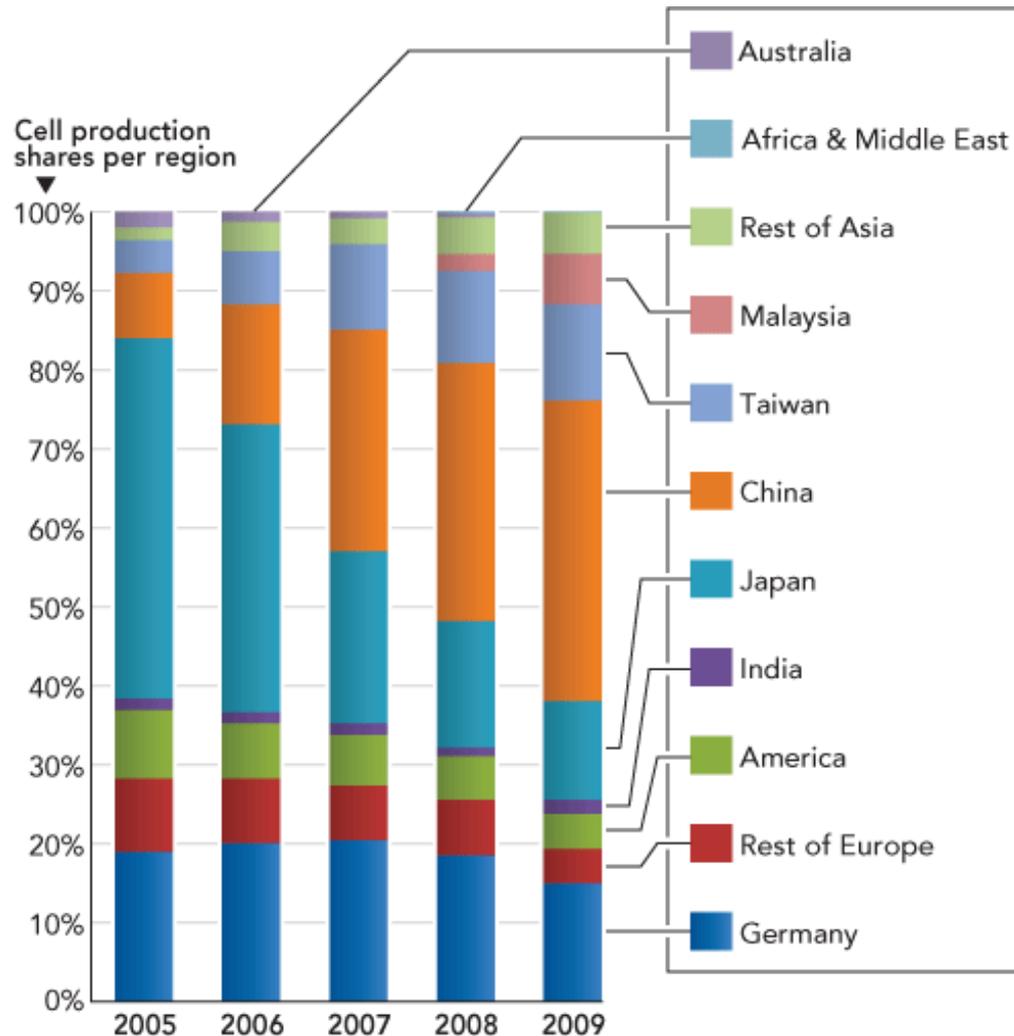
# US Installs: NREL Database



<https://openpv.nrel.gov/gallery>

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# PV Manufacturing Worldwide: Annual

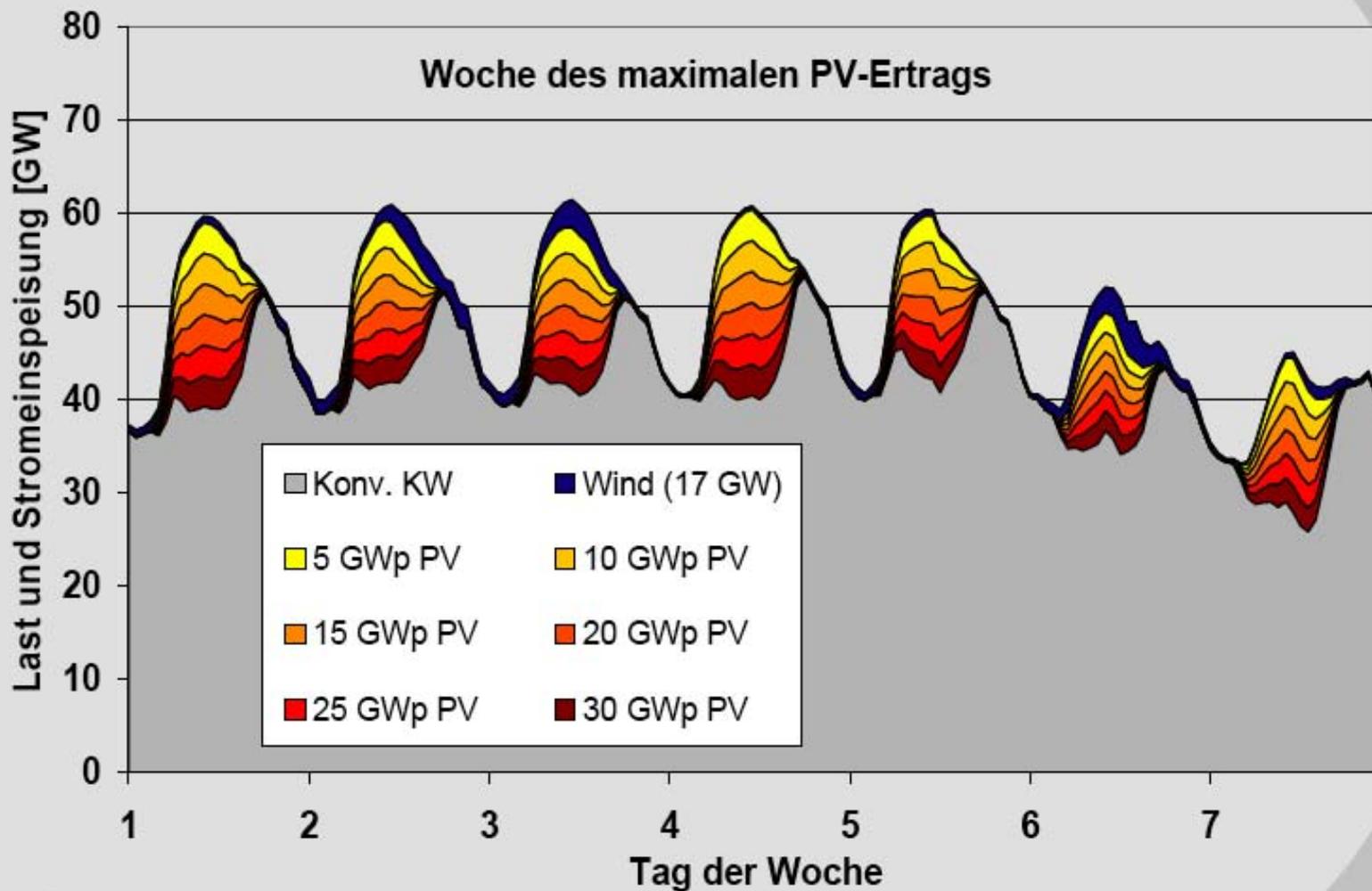


Singer, P. "Inside Taiwan's PV manufacturing push."  
*PV World*, October 28, 2010. Accessed Oct. 17, 2013.

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## 2. Korrelation der PV-Einspeisung mit dem Lastverlauf

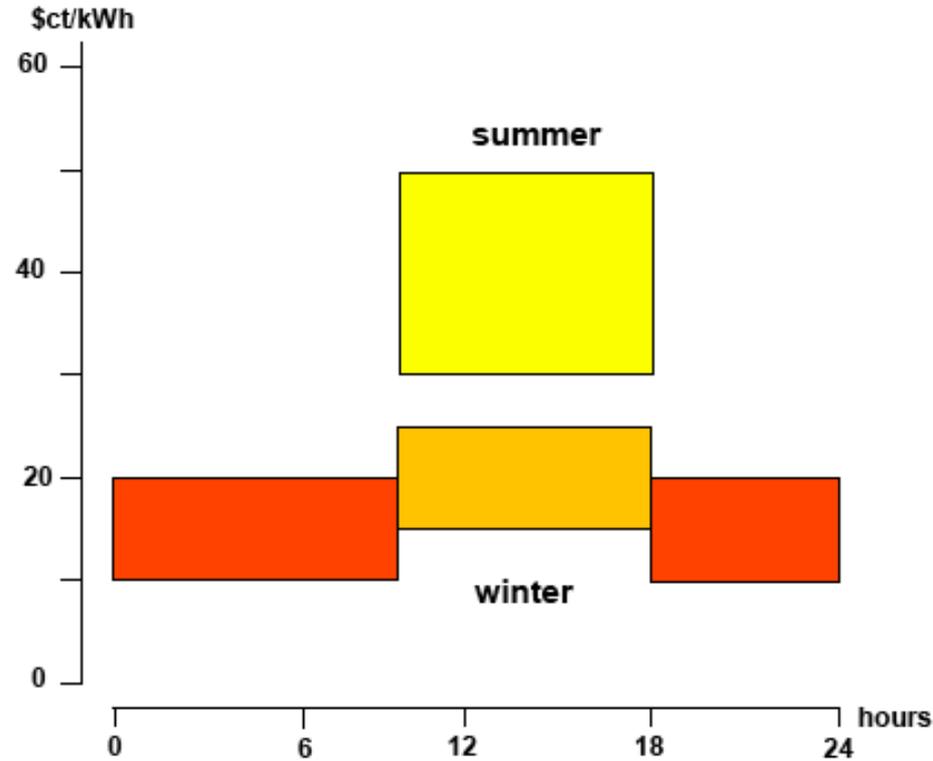
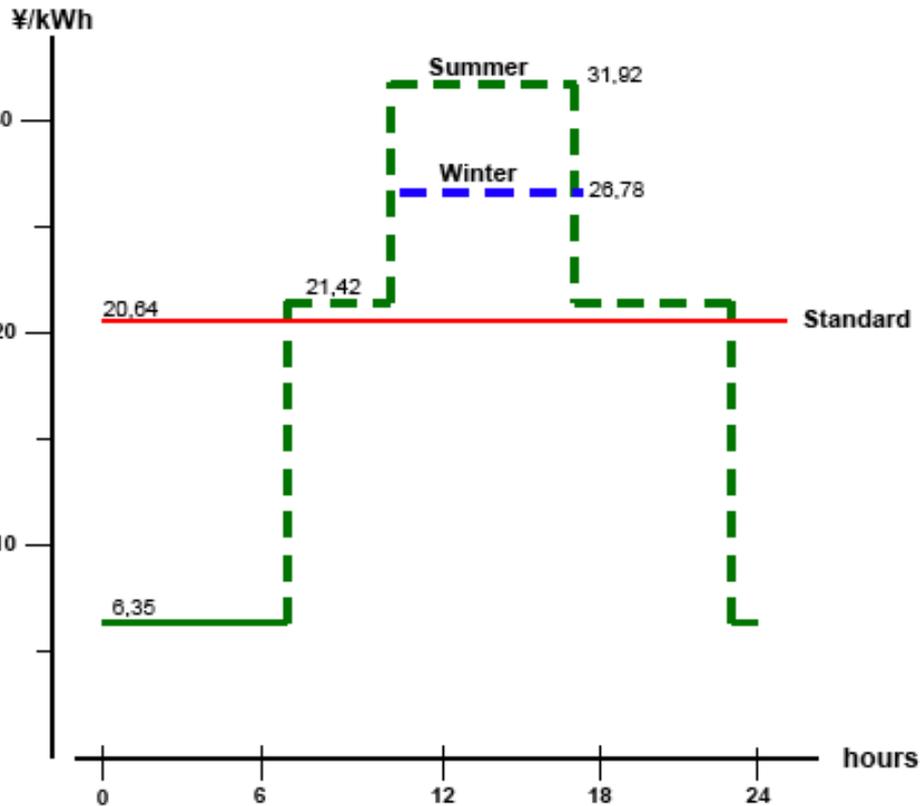
Bis zu 30 GWp PV lassen sich ohne große Anforderungen integrieren!



# Seasonal and Diurnal Electricity Prices

Tokyo Electric Power Cooperation (Jp) Tariff 2005

Range of Electricity Prices in California

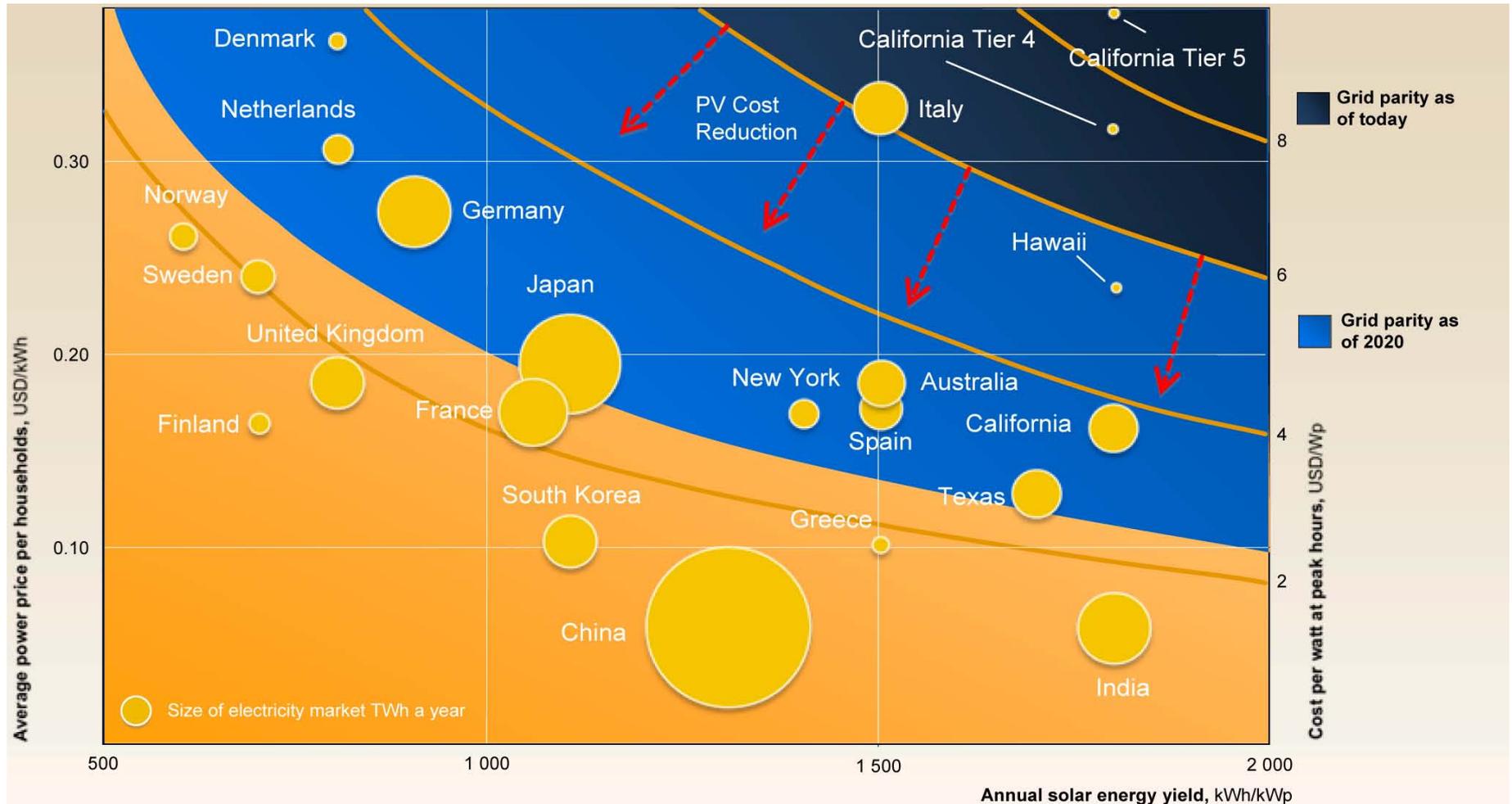


ref: Japan = KEPCO office data ; California = Alison Hyde of BSW

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# Growing Markets: Predicting Where PV Will Go



Source: Eurostat; PV Policy group; PG&E; CIA country files; Public policy Institute New York; McKinsey&Company

From Lorenz, P., D. Pinner, and T. Seitz. "The Economics of Solar Power." *McKinsey Quarterly, Sustainability & Resource Productivity Initiative*. June 2008.

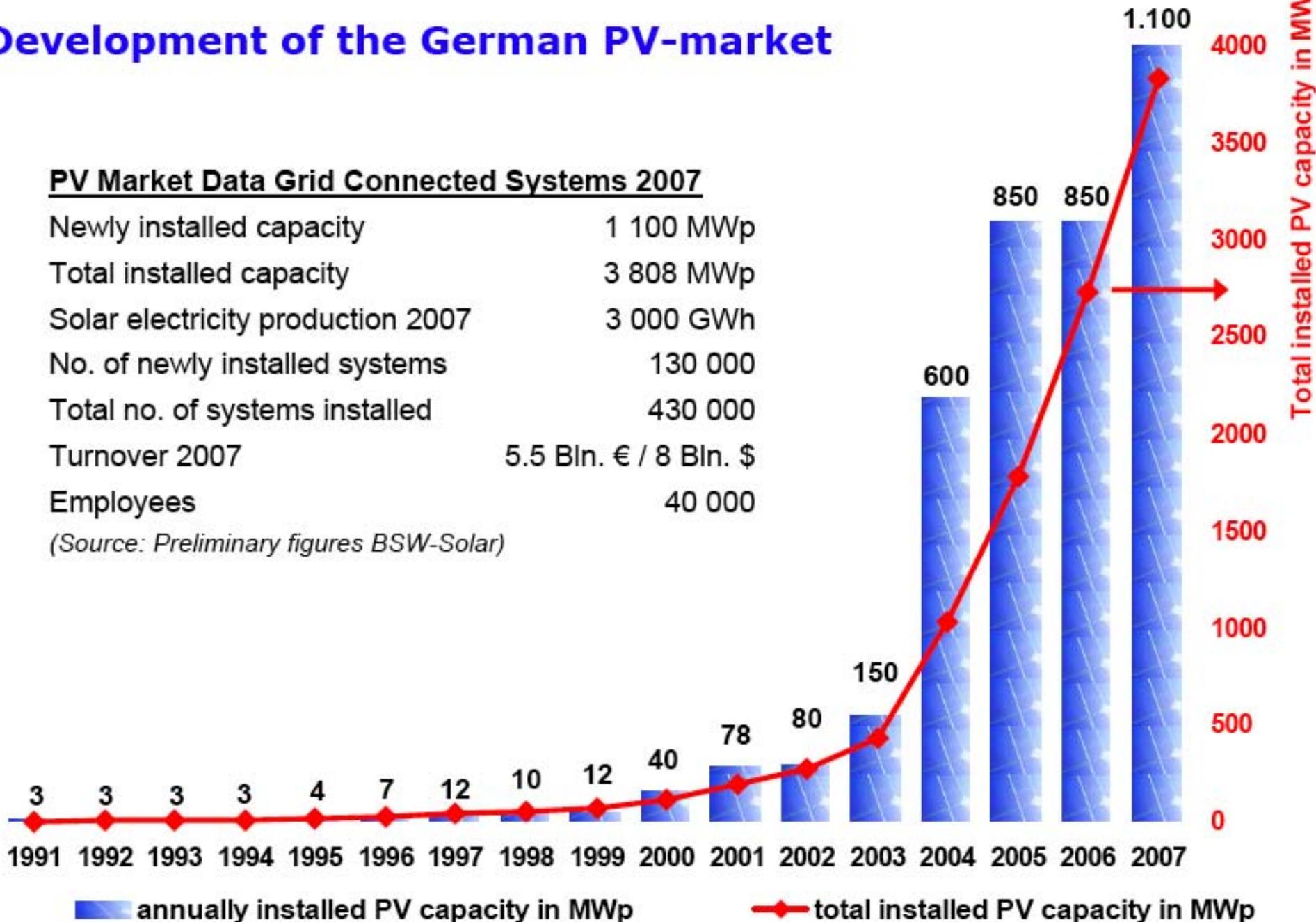
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# Development of the German PV-market

## PV Market Data Grid Connected Systems 2007

Newly installed capacity	1 100 MWp
Total installed capacity	3 808 MWp
Solar electricity production 2007	3 000 GWh
No. of newly installed systems	130 000
Total no. of systems installed	430 000
Turnover 2007	5.5 Bln. € / 8 Bln. \$
Employees	40 000

(Source: Preliminary figures BSW-Solar)



Incentives!

Tax Breaks!

~~Subsidies~~

Support Mechanisms!

# Summary of Support Mechanisms

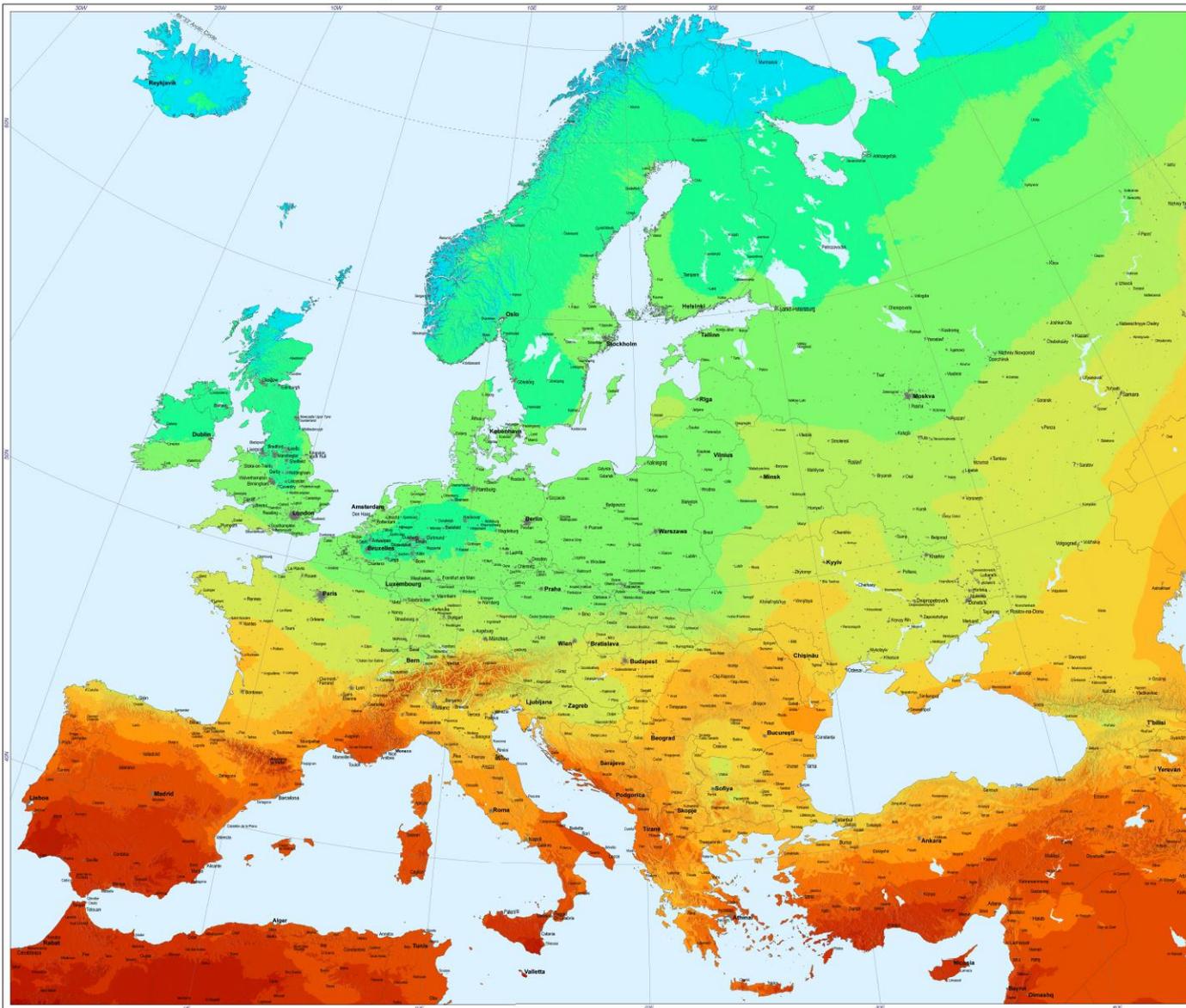
Many forms of support

“best” depends on other policy objectives

	Measure	Advantages	Disadvantages	Examples
<b>Margin enhancement</b>	Feed-in tariff	Stable revenues. Technology specific	Uneconomic deployment	Germany/Spain/USA
	Premium to fossil market	Greater transparency	Greater uncertainty on fossil price	UK
	Tax relief	Simple	Too easily changed by Government	USA
	Grants/soft loans	Simple	Allocation procedure	EU member states, USA
<b>Penalties</b>	Carbon caps	Transparent	Customers pay premium for all generation	European emissions trading
<b>Mixture</b>	Renewable Obligations	Transparent, market driven. Technology independent	Price uncertainty Technology independent	UK

Courtesy of Prof. Daniel M. Kammen, UC Berkeley. Used with permission.

# Photovoltaic Solar Electricity Potential in European Countries



## Optimum inclination of PV modules to maximize yearly energy yield



## Orography and country names with ISO codes



## Data description

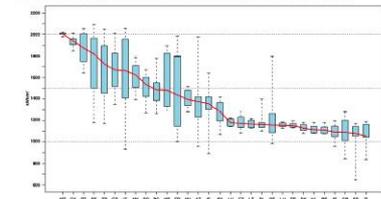
The PVGIS database is developed from measurements at 566 meteorological stations by combination of solar radiation model *raun* and spatial interpolation. It contains monthly and yearly averages representing the period 1981-1992.  
 Grid resolution (enhanced by terrain): 1 km x 1 km  
 Map projection: Lambert azimuthal equal area, WGS 84, lat 48°, lon 18°

## Ancillary data

- GISCO database © Eurostat 2006
- CORINE Land Cover 2000 (<http://nestral.eionet.europa.eu/CLC2000>)
- Global Land Cover 2000 (<http://www.glm.jrc.it/glc2000/>)
- Digital terrain model SRTM30 (<http://seamless.usgs.gov/>)
- City Population © Thomas Brinkhoff 2006 (<http://www.citypopulation.de/>)

Note: The delineation of the international boundaries and geographical names must not be considered authoritative.

## Comparison of yearly global irradiation incident on optimally-inclined photovoltaic modules in 25 European Union member countries and 5 candidate countries



The country averages are connected by the red line. The minimums in each country are shown as dashed lines, while the boxes show the range in which 90% of built-up areas in the country fit.

## Authors

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 Renewable Energies Unit, TP 450, I-21020 Ispra (VA), Italy  
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<http://sunbird.jrc.it/pvgis/countries/countries-europe.htm>

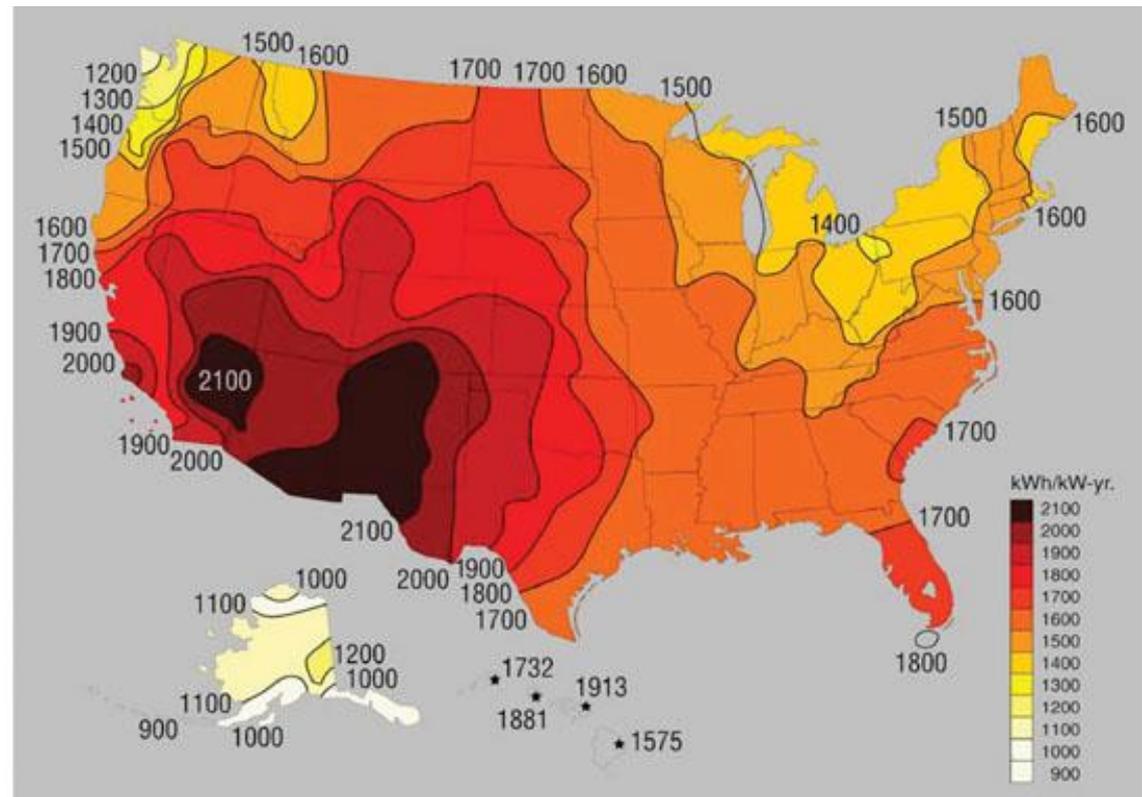
Source: PVGIS © European Communities, 2001-2007. Used with permission.

Reference: Sári M., Huld T. A., Dunlop E. D. Ossenbrink H. A. "Potential of solar electricity generation in the European

Union member states and candidate countries." *Solar Energy* 81 (2007): 1295-1305, <http://re.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pvgis/>.

Buonassisi (MIT) 2011

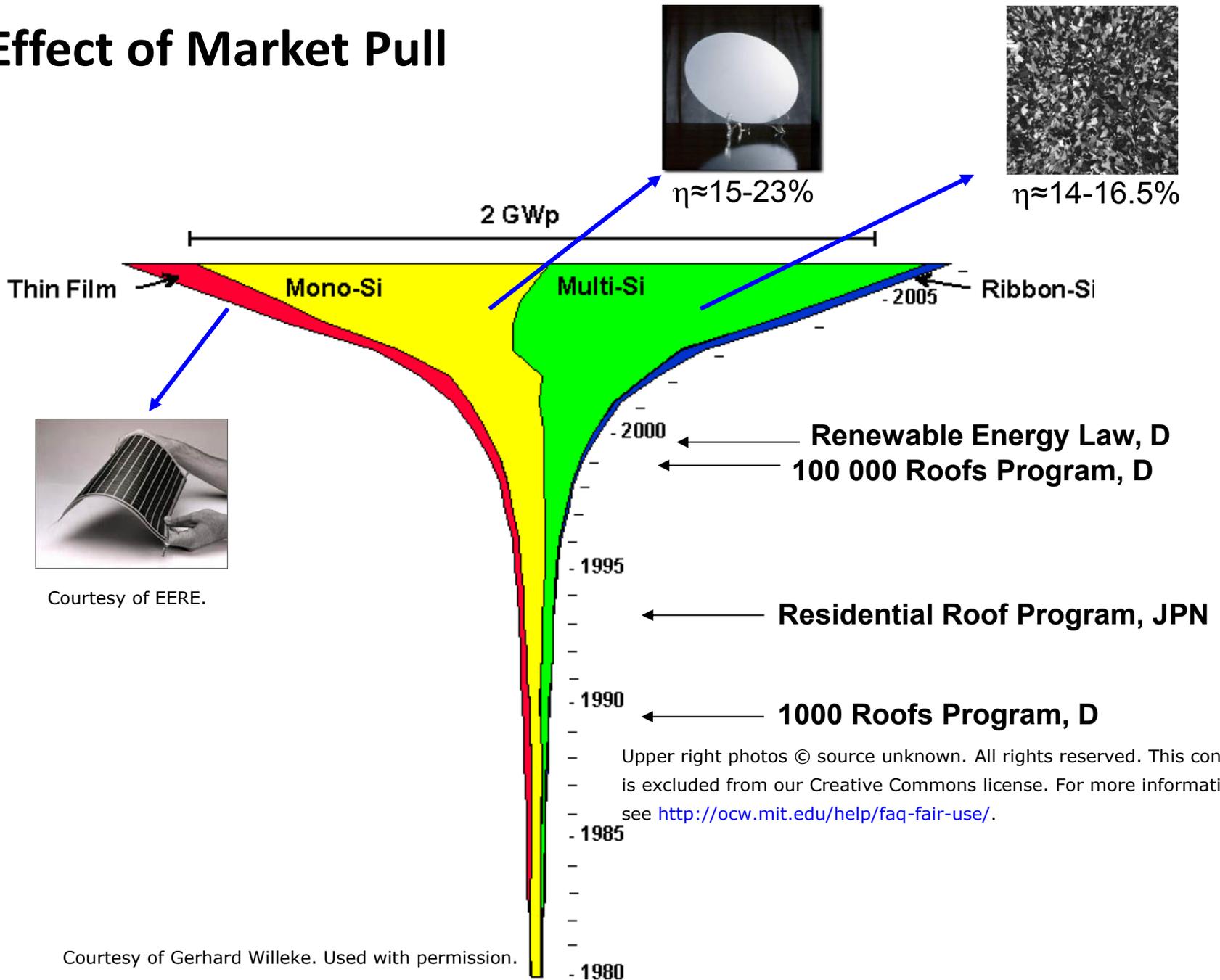
# Germany & U.S. : A quick comparison



About half of all  
modules installed last  
year were installed in  
Germany...

Source: Cembalest, M. "Sue OPEC? Congress Should Sue Itself." *Forbes*, July 9, 2008. © Forbes.com LLC. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <http://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.

# PV: Effect of Market Pull



Courtesy of EERE.

Courtesy of Gerhard Willeke. Used with permission.

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# United States

## Summary Maps

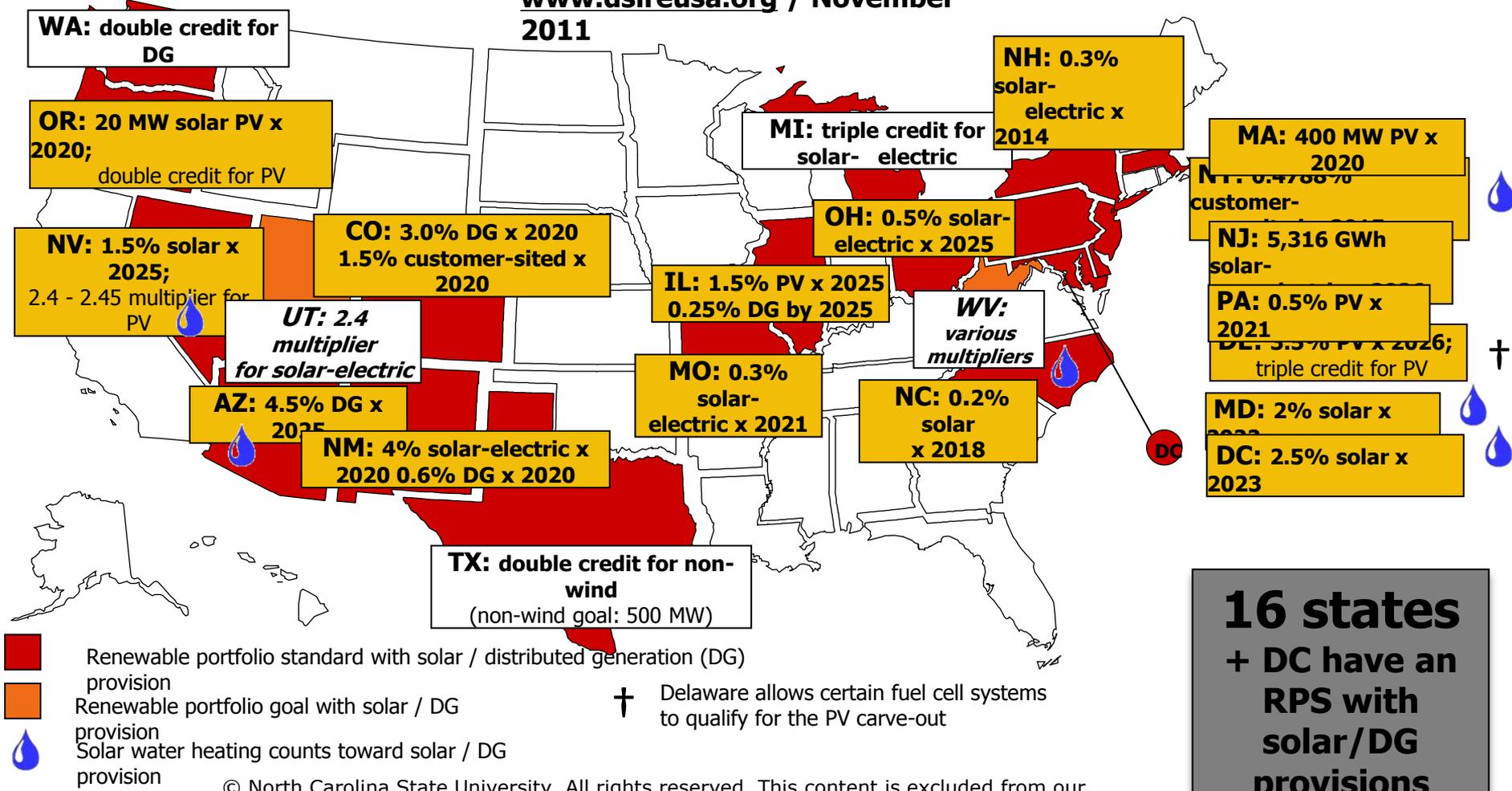
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- (Historical) lack of federal leadership led to fractionalized energy policy.
  - Huge state-to-state variation.
  - Website compiling all state-specific information:  
<http://www.dsireusa.org/>

-  3rd-Party Solar PPA Policies
-  Grant Programs for Renewables
-  Interconnection Standards
-  Loan Programs for Renewables
-  Net Metering Policies
-  PACE Financing Policies
-  Property Tax Incentives for Renewables
-  Public Benefits Funds for Renewables
-  Rebate Programs for Renewables
-  RPS Policies
-  RPS Policies with Solar/DG Provisions
-  Sales Tax Incentives for Renewables
-  Tax Credits for Renewables

## RPS Policies with Solar/DG Provisions

www.dsireusa.org / November 2011



**16 states + DC have an RPS with solar/DG provisions**

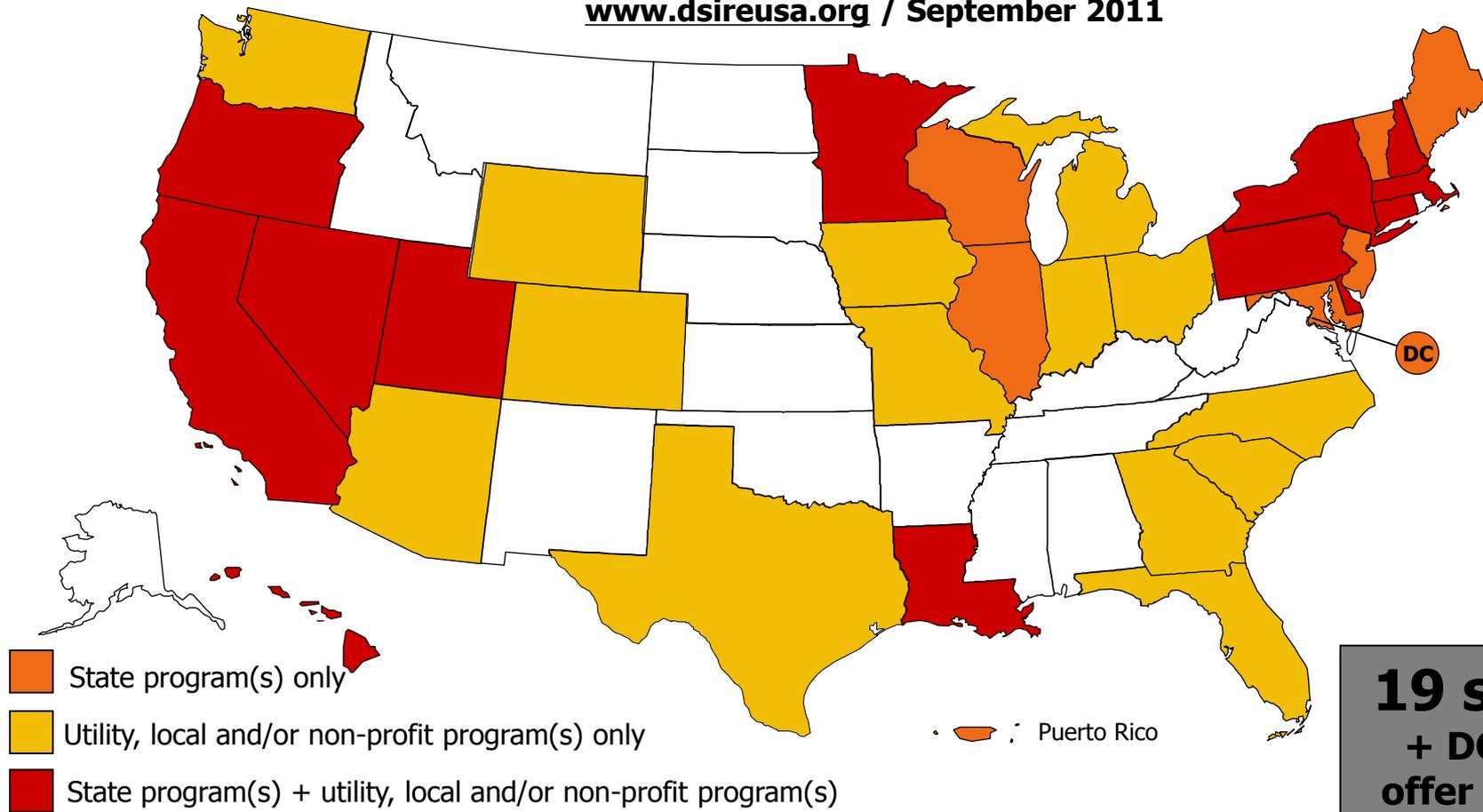
- Renewable portfolio standard with solar / distributed generation (DG) provision
- Renewable portfolio goal with solar / DG provision
- Solar water heating counts toward solar / DG provision

+ Delaware allows certain fuel cell systems to qualify for the PV carve-out

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## Rebate Programs for Renewables

[www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) / September 2011



**19 states  
+ DC & PR  
offer rebates  
for renewables**

Notes: This map does not include rebates for geothermal heat pumps, daylighting or other energy efficiency technologies. The Virgin Islands also offers rebates for certain renewable energy technologies.

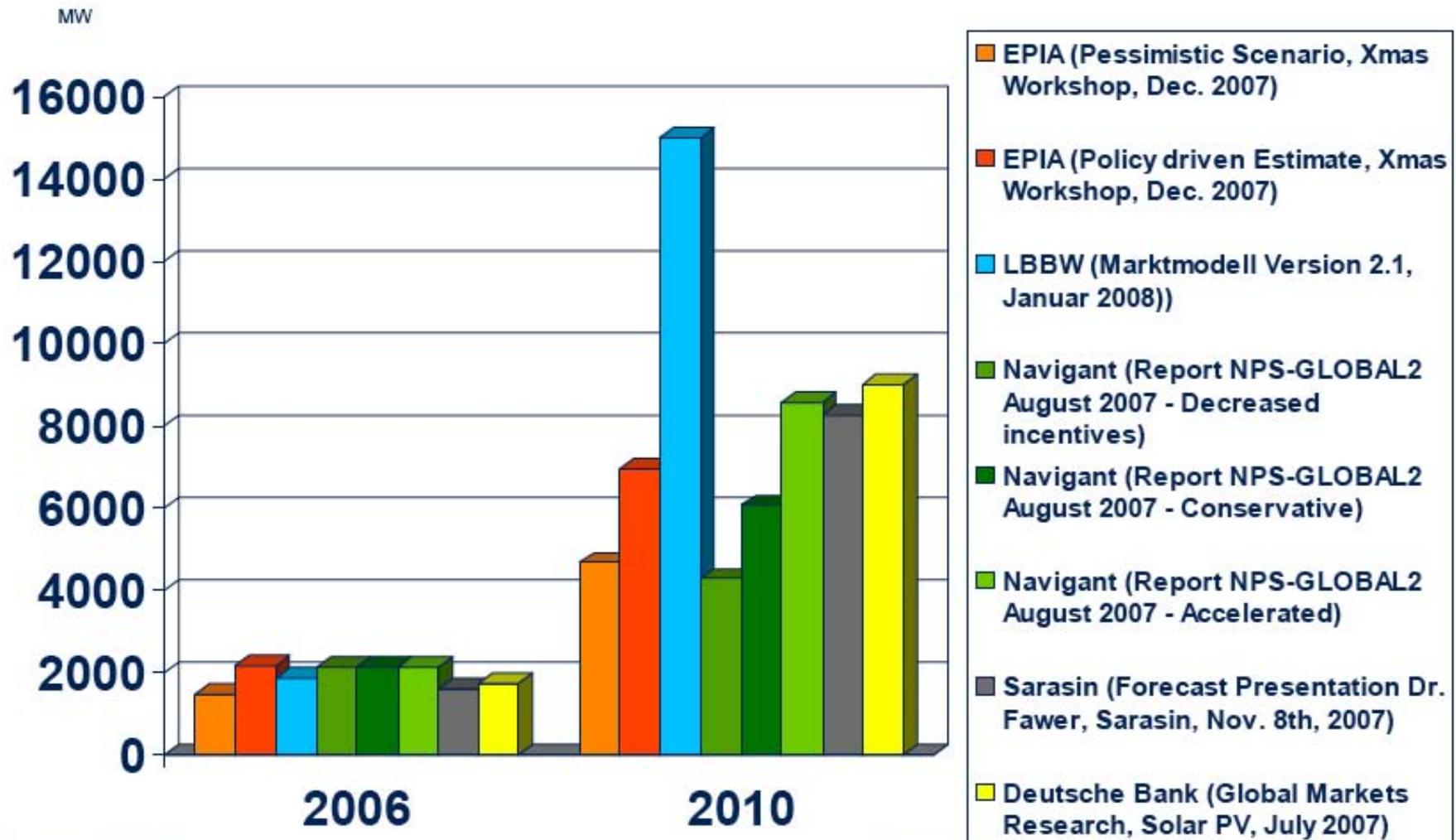
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# Projections

# Projections Are Historically Innaccurate



28.8 GW Photon Consulting



Status: March 3, 2007

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# PV Growth Projections, Various Scenarios

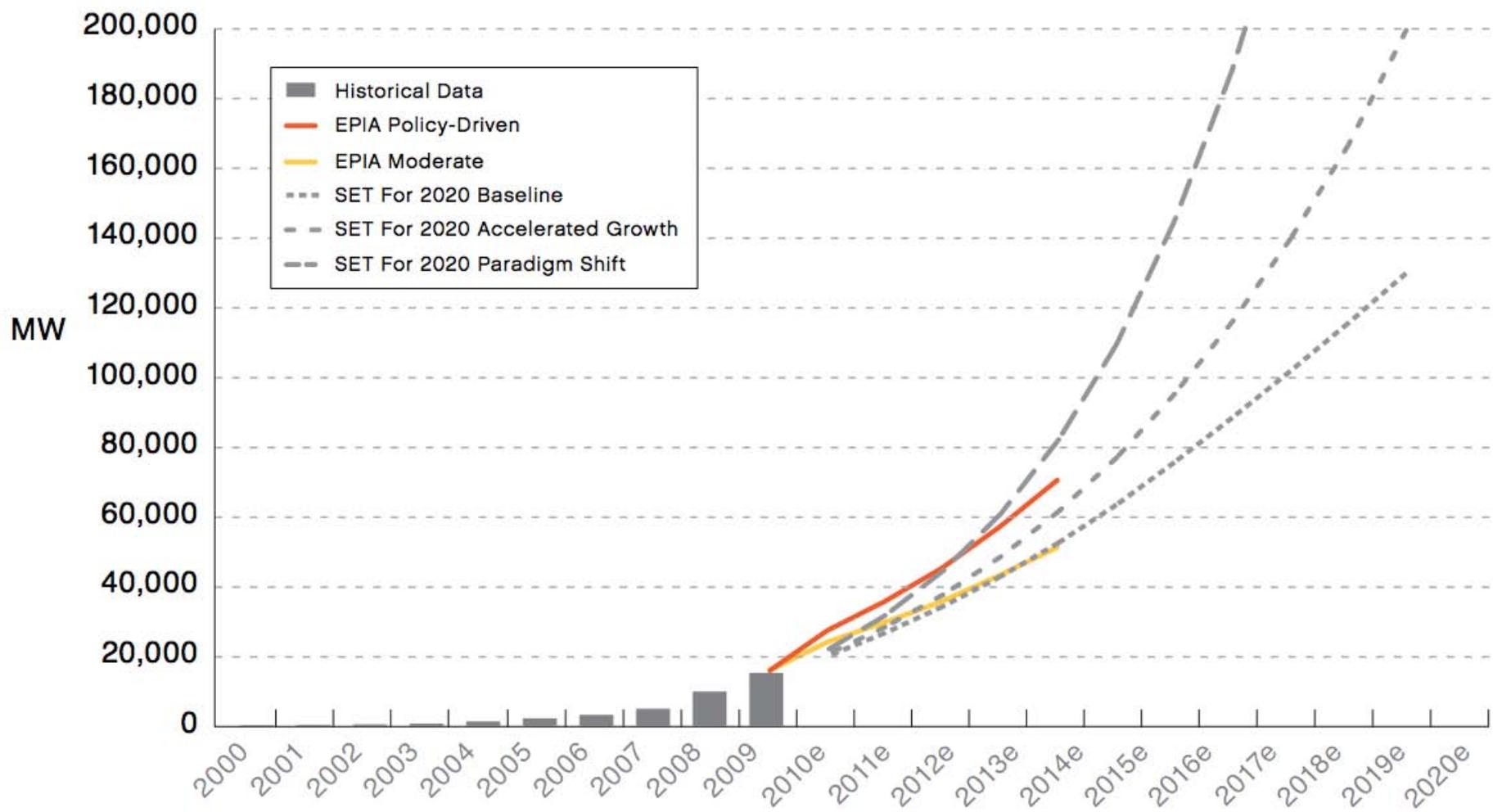


Figure 18 - Market forecasts compared to “SET For 2020” targets

Source: “Global Market Outlook for Photovoltaics Until 2014.” May 2010 update. EPIA. (PDF)

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