

Large-scale heat storage for solar heating plant

Jianhua Fan

Associate Professor

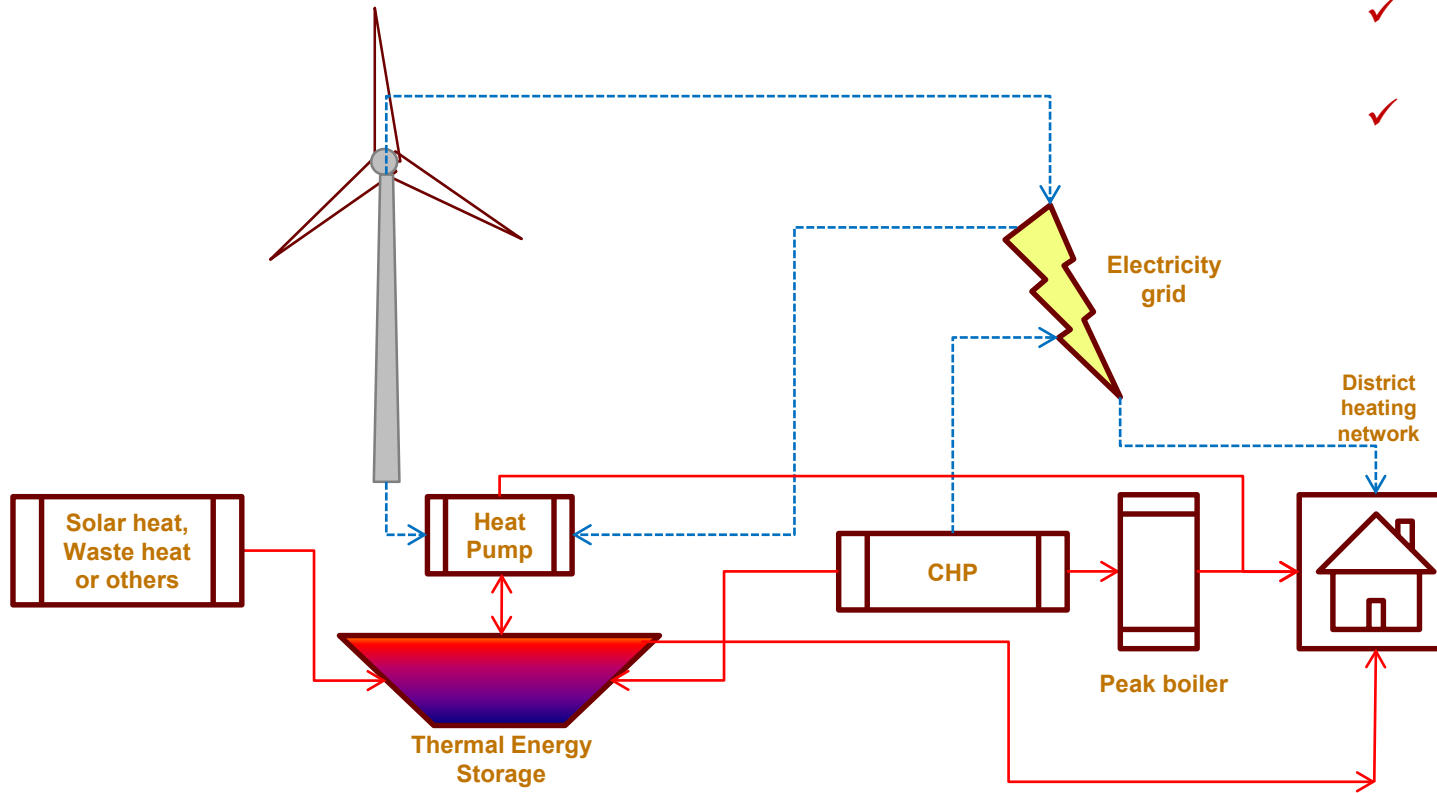
**Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering
Technical University of Denmark**

jifa@dtu.dk

The benefit of a smart heat storage

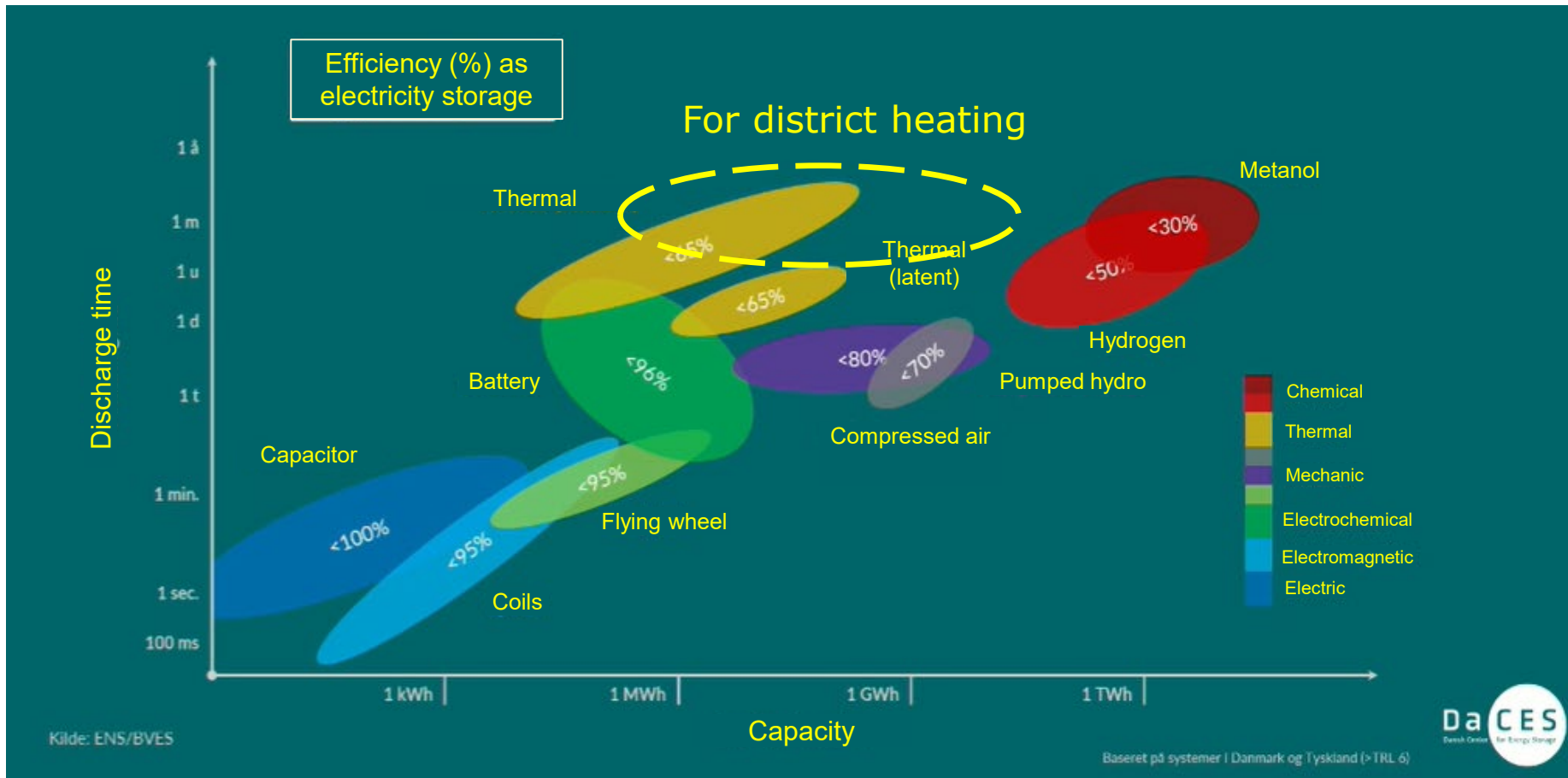
Combined renewable technologies and **smart heat storage** interacting with the electricity grid ...

- Smart heat storage:**
- ✓ Gives flexibility
 - ✓ Makes combinations of technologies possible
 - ✓ Use cheap electricity



Energy storages

Different energy storage technologies should work together

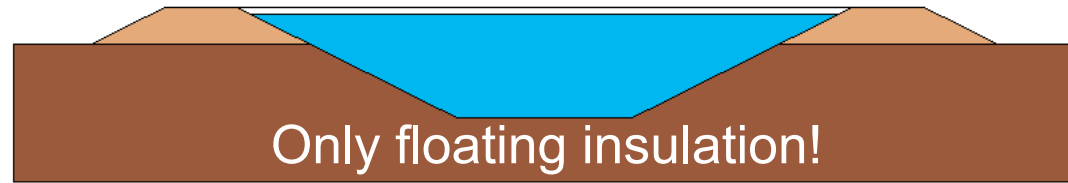


Different types of heat storages for district heating

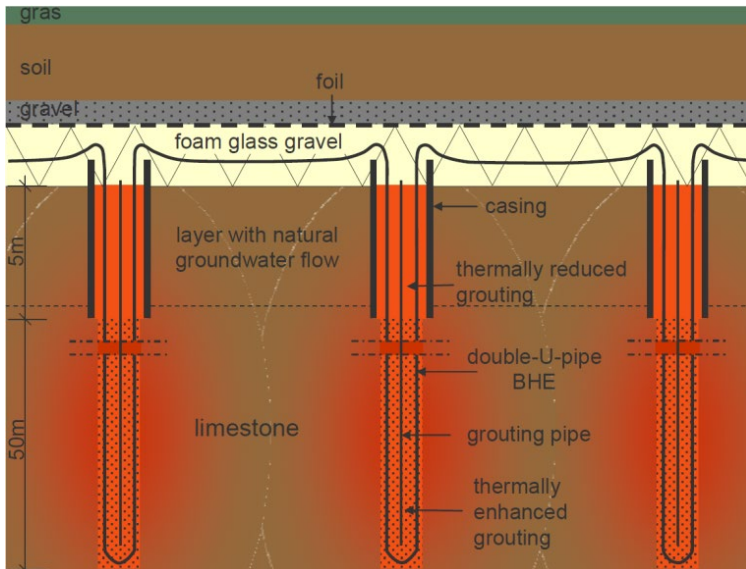
Tank heat storage
(TTES)



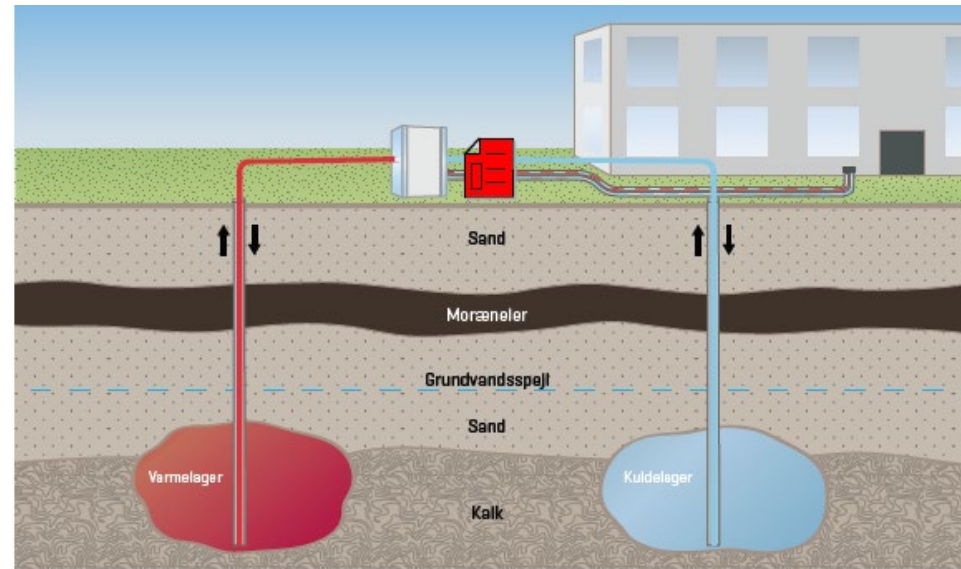
Water pit
(PTES)



Borehole storage
(BTES)

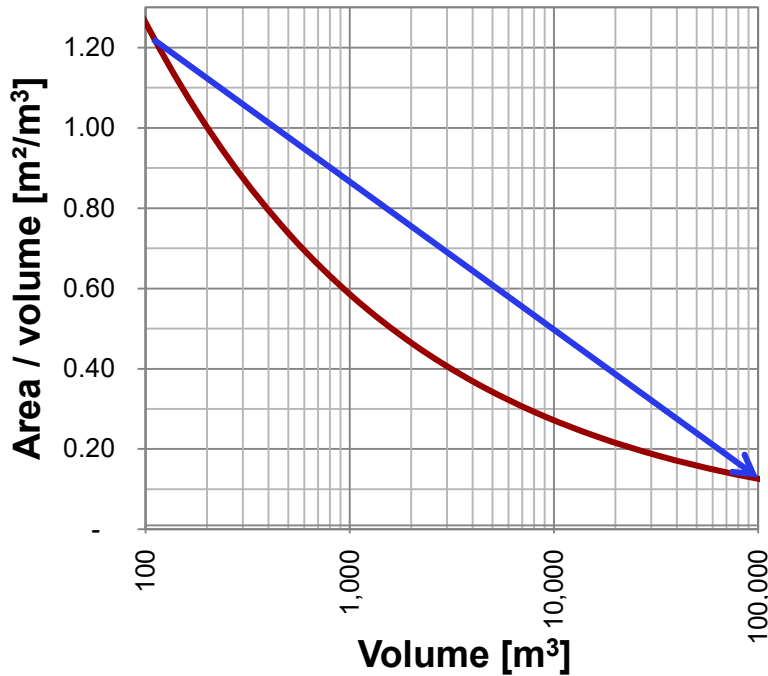


Aquifer storage
(ATES)



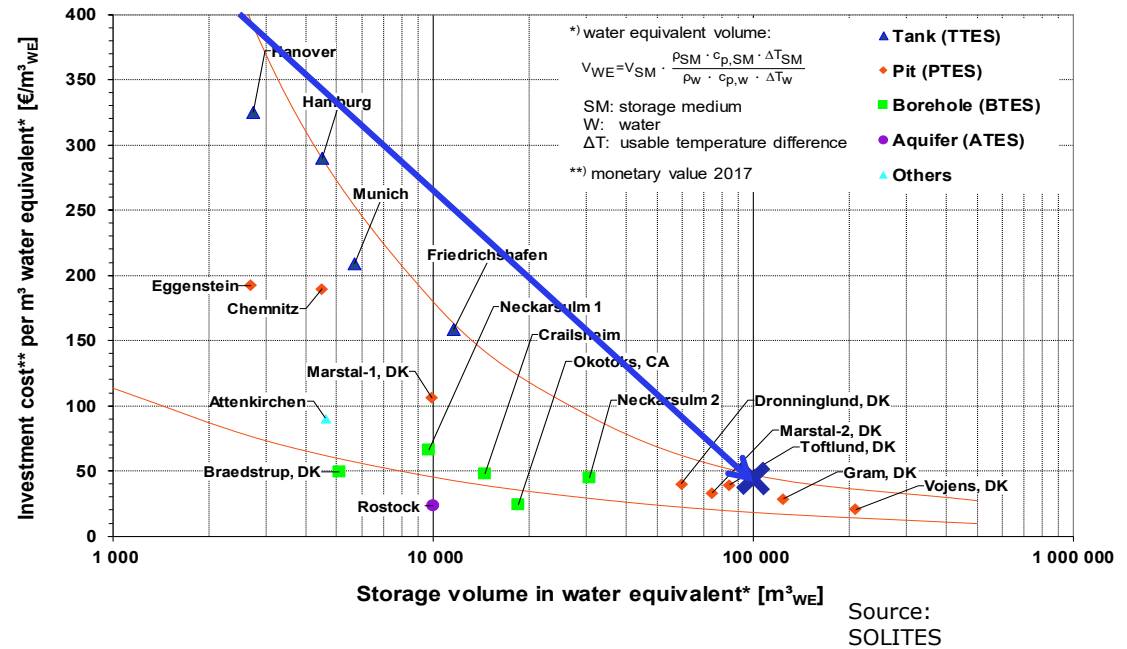
Thermal energy storage: Big is beautiful

Surface area per volume
(Cylinder, Radius = Height)



1.2 → 0.1 → **Factor 12** on surface area/volume (heat loss/storage capacity)

Cost per equivalent m³



400 → 40 → **Factor 10** on costs/volume (cost/storage capacity)

Existing water pit heat storage (PTES) in Denmark

- PTES for district heating:
 - Dronninglund
 - Vojens
 - Gram
 - Toftlund
 - Marstal
 - Høje Taastrup

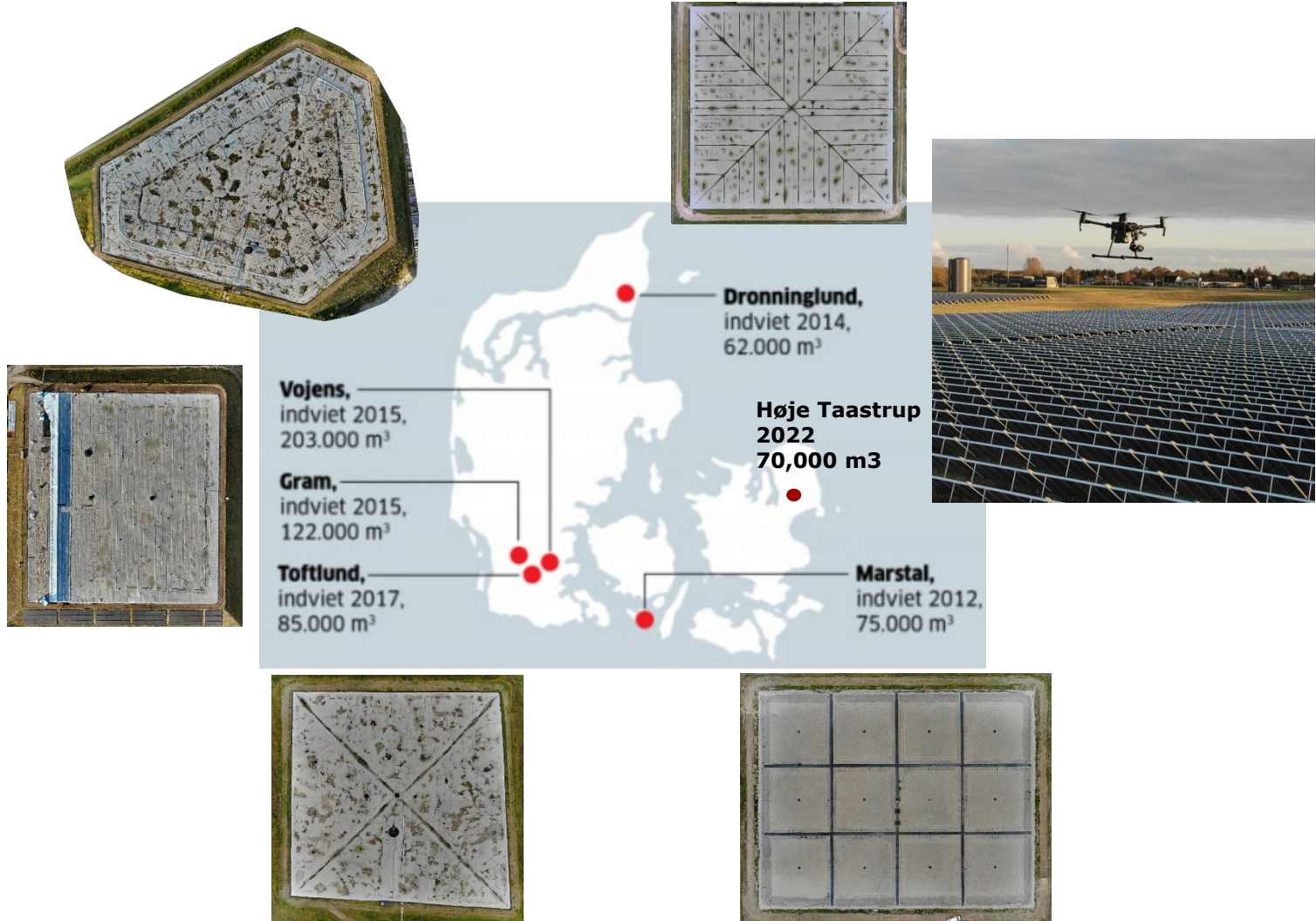


Photo copyright: DTU

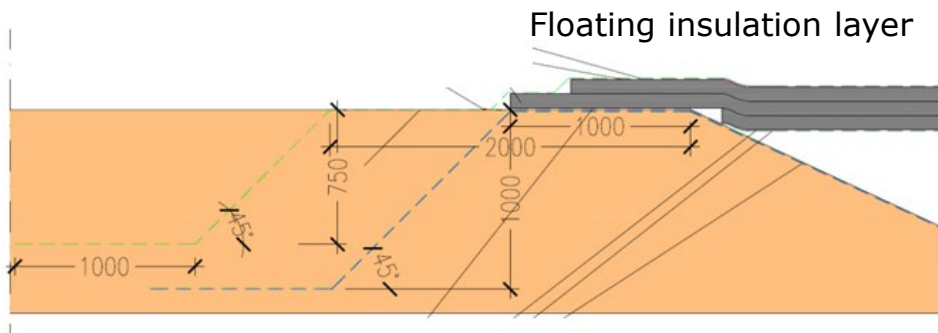
Design type 1: Construction of the PTES in Dronninglund



Design type 1: Floating layer with foam insulation

Cases:

- Marstal
- Dronninglund



Pros:

- Good insulation property
- Water proof, durable
- Can be fixed

Cons:

- Higher installation cost
- Not load bearing

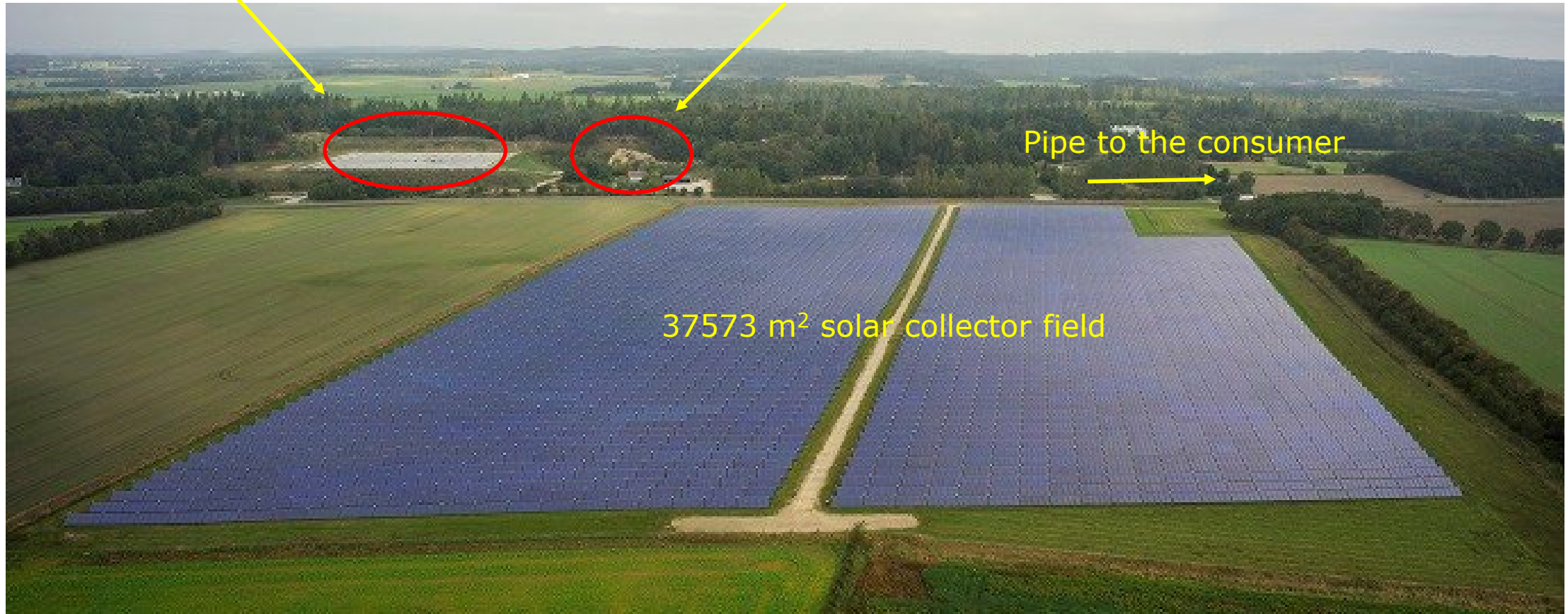
Cost:

- Relative higher cost, 25-35 Euro/m³ storage volume (large scale)

Design type 1 Example: Dronninglund solar heating plant

63000 m³ PTES

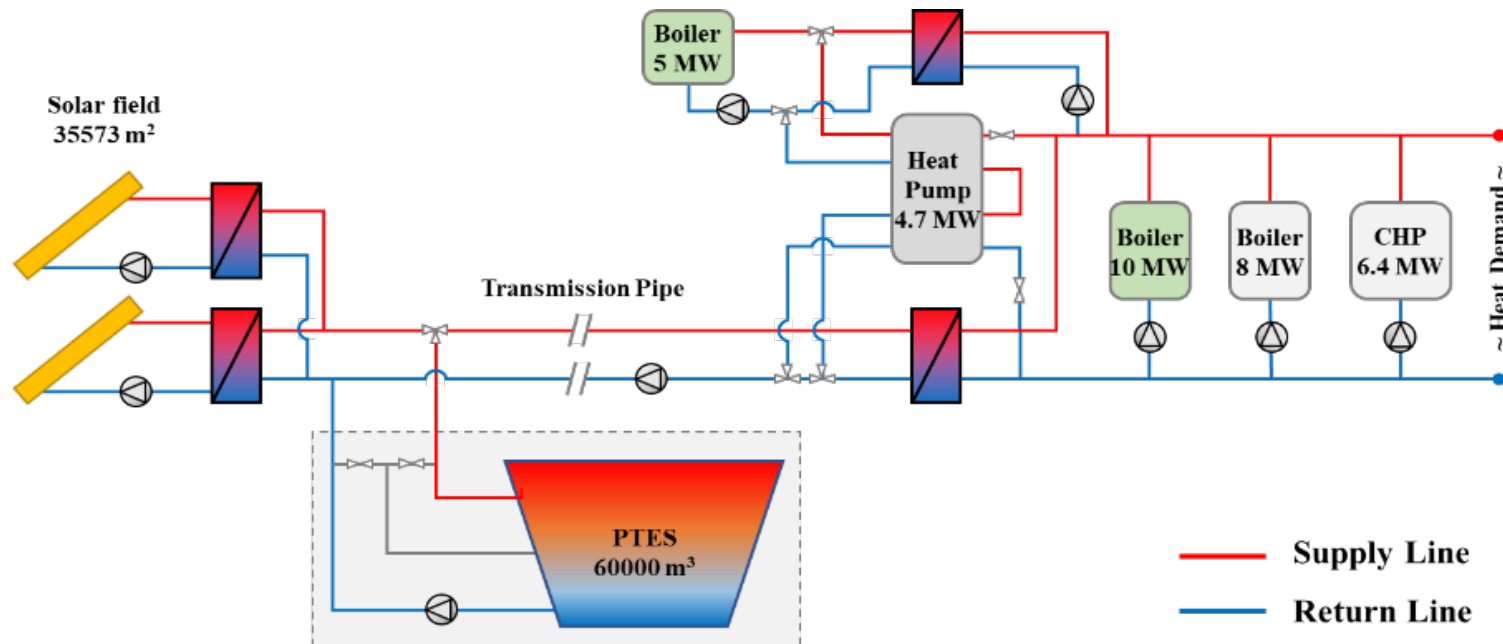
Technical room (heat exchanger, pumps, control room, etc)



There is no short term heat storage tank

Design type 1 application Example: Dronninglund

- Solar collectors: 375730 m² flat plate solar collector
- Pit heat storage: 63000 m³
- Absorption heat pump requires fuels to drive the process

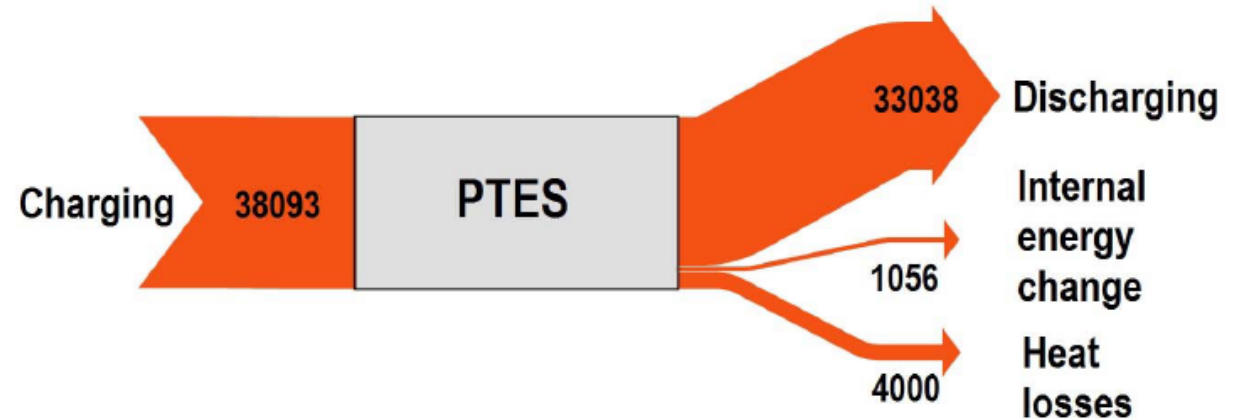


- Project: *Follow up on large scale heat storages in Denmark* funded by the Energy Technology Development and Demonstration Program
- Heat losses, efficiency and feasibility depend highly on the use of the storage
- Preliminary results from this project (source: Solites):

Pit storage | energy flow year 2014 - 2016

Storage efficiency:	90 %	T-max:	89 °C
No. of storage cycles:	6.0	T-min:	12 °C
Heat capacity (80 K):	5 500 MWh		

Seasonal + weekly heat storage

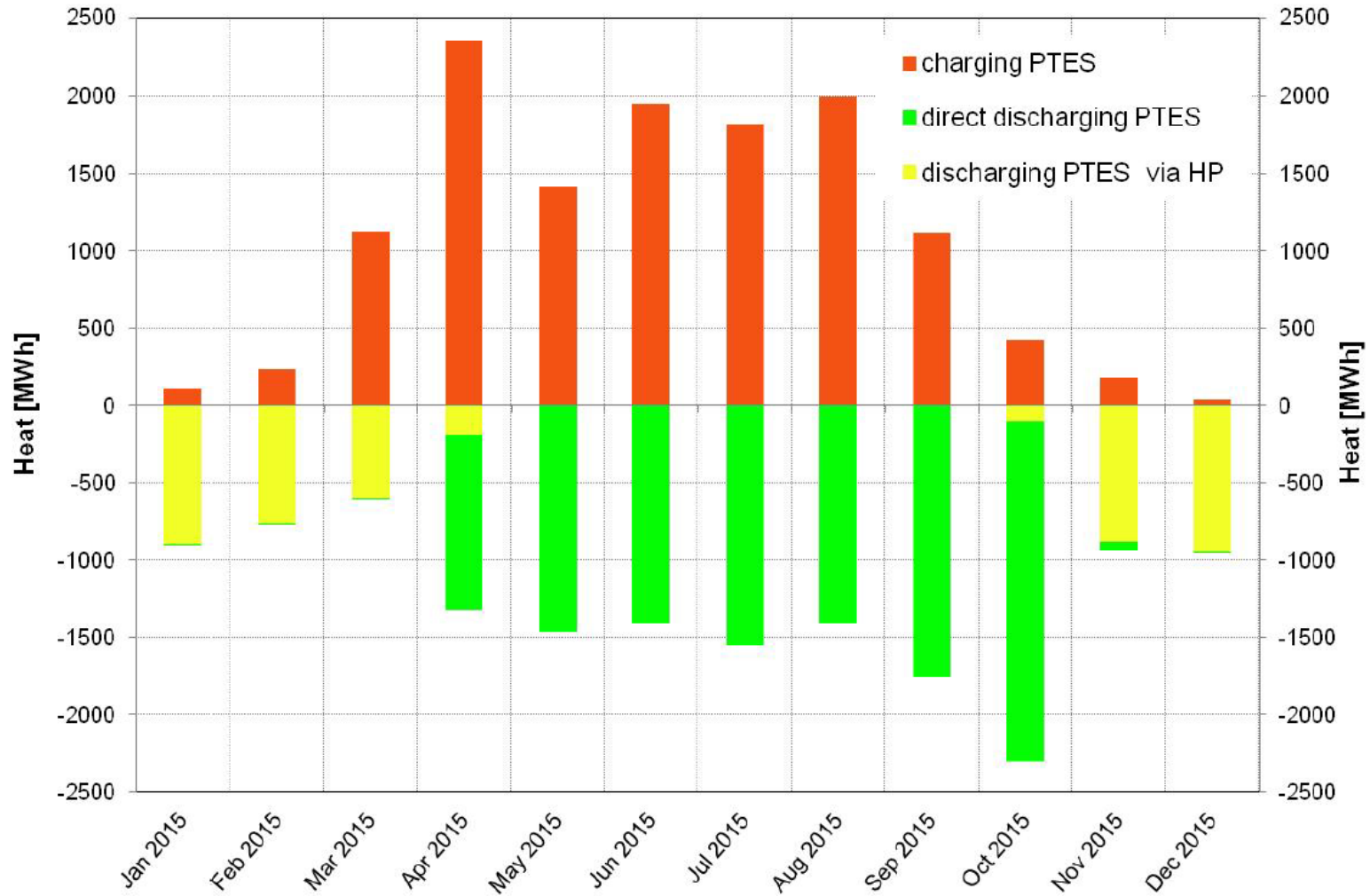


Monitoring results 2014 - 2016, numbers in MWh/a

Note: Number of storage cycles = annual charged heat/ TES capacity

The larger the number of storage cycles,
the larger the storage efficiency

Pit storage | energy balance 2015



Design type 2: Construction of the PTES in Vojens

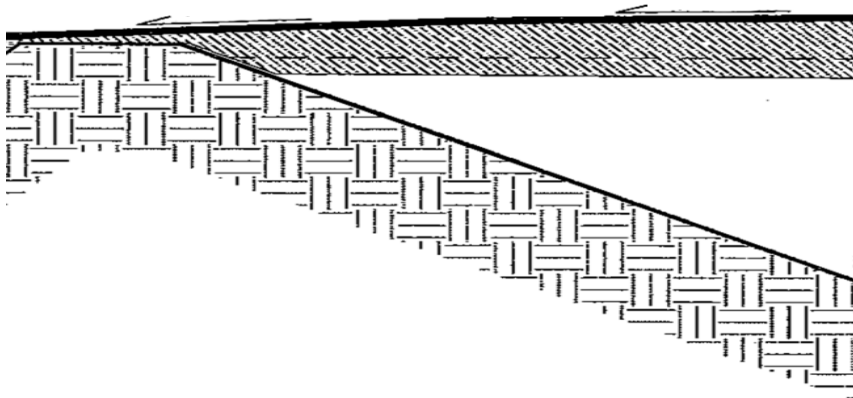


Design type 2: Floating insulation layer with Leca stones

Cases:
 PTES in Vojens
 PTES in Gram
 PTES in Toftlund



Floating insulation layer



Pros:

- Cheap
- Easy installation
- Insulation material easy to transport

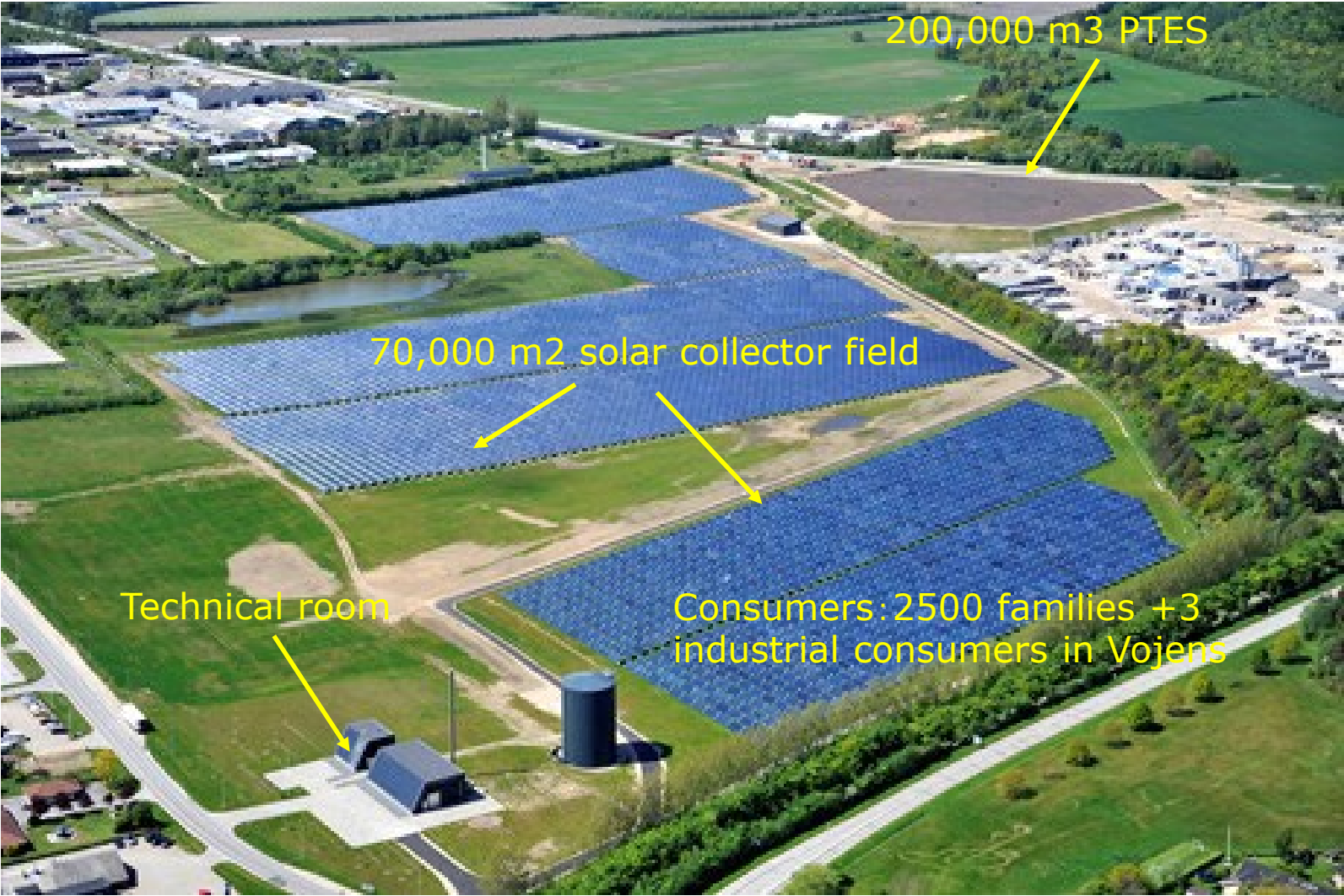
Cons:

- Average insulation property
- Not water proof
- Movement of insulation material

Cost:

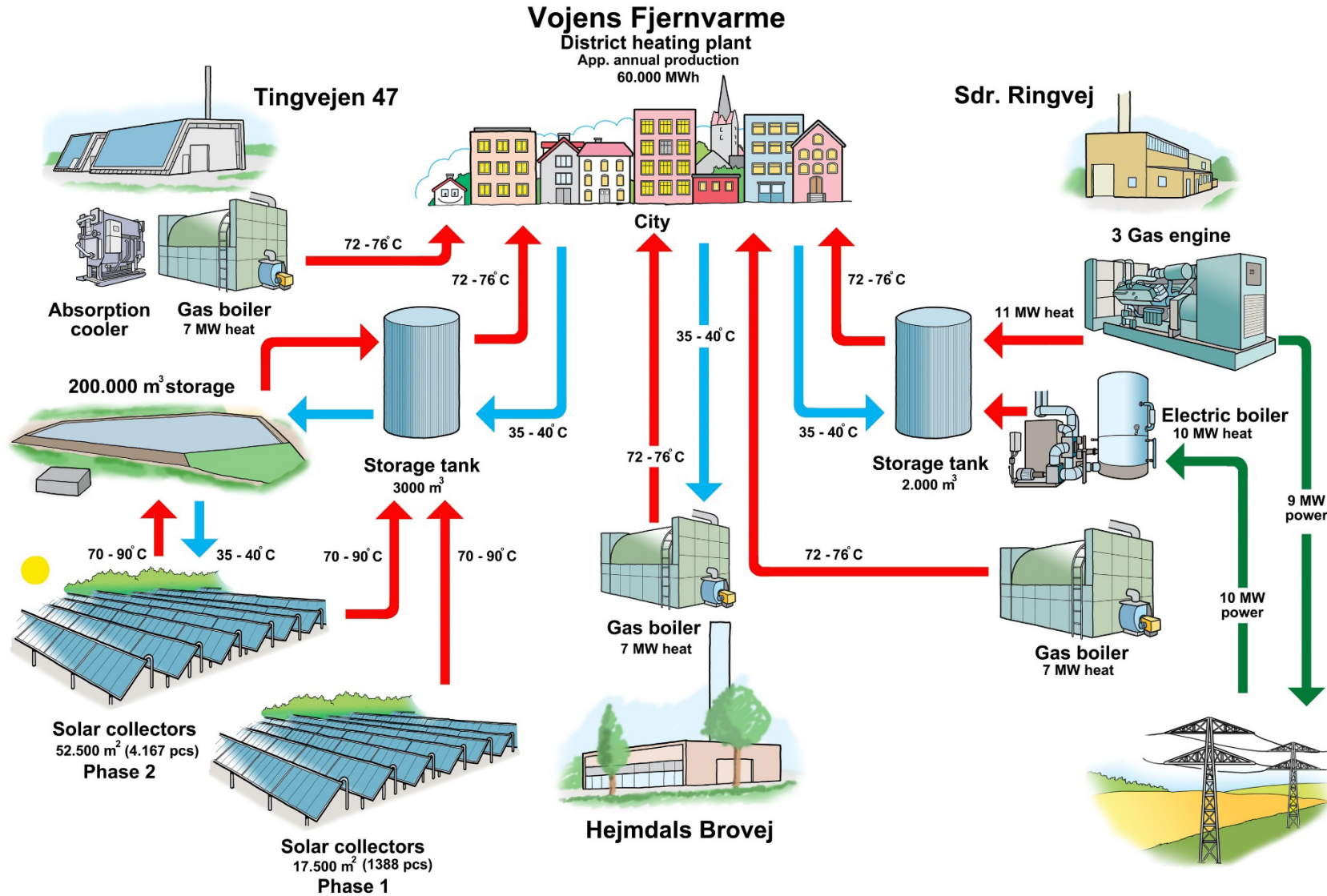
- Relative lower cost, 15-25 Euro/m³ storage volume (large scale)

Design type 2 example: Vojens solar heating plant



The world largest PTES

Design type 2 example: Vojens solar heating plant



Synergy is key

Solar:

- ✓ Produce almost free heat (once installed)

CHP:

- ✓ Produce heat & electricity
- ✓ Fast capacity regulation (production)

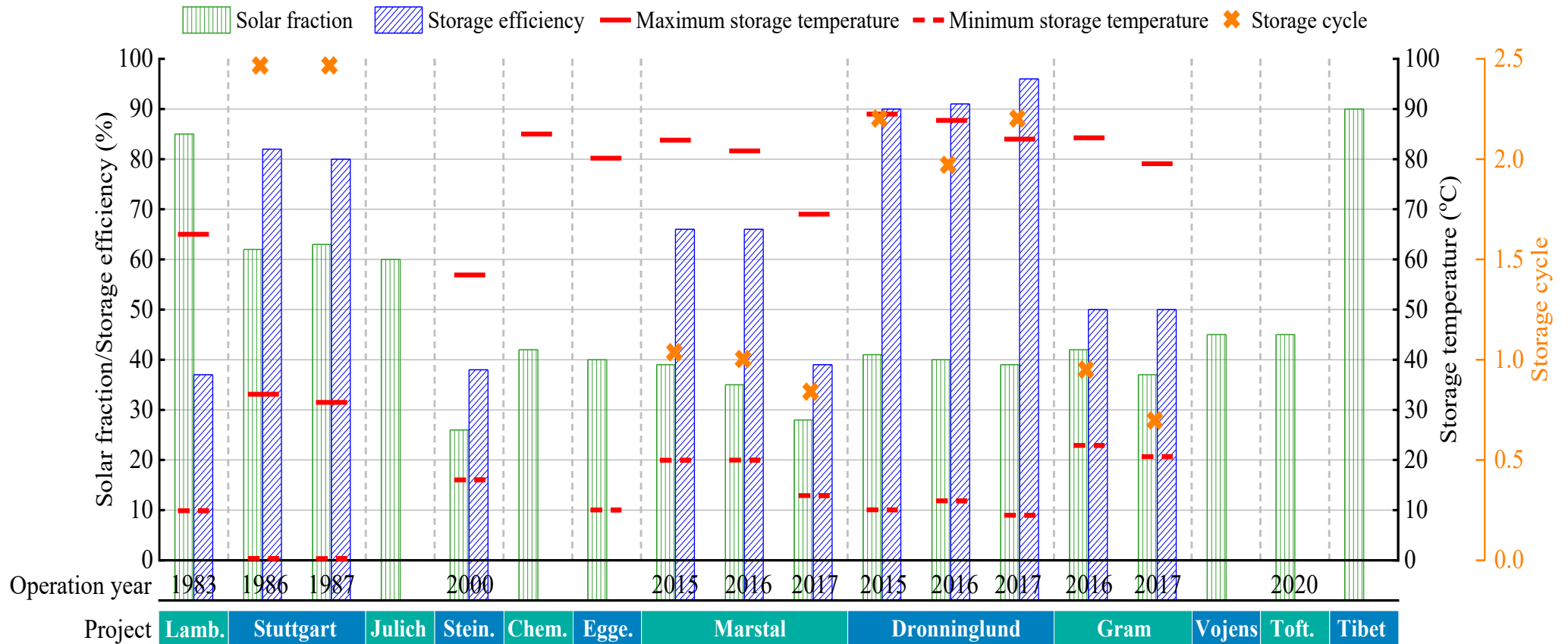
Heat pump:

- ✓ Produce cheap heat
- ✓ Fast capacity regulation (load)
- ✓ Reduce storage volume

Storage:

- ✓ Gives flexibility
- ✓ Makes combinations possible

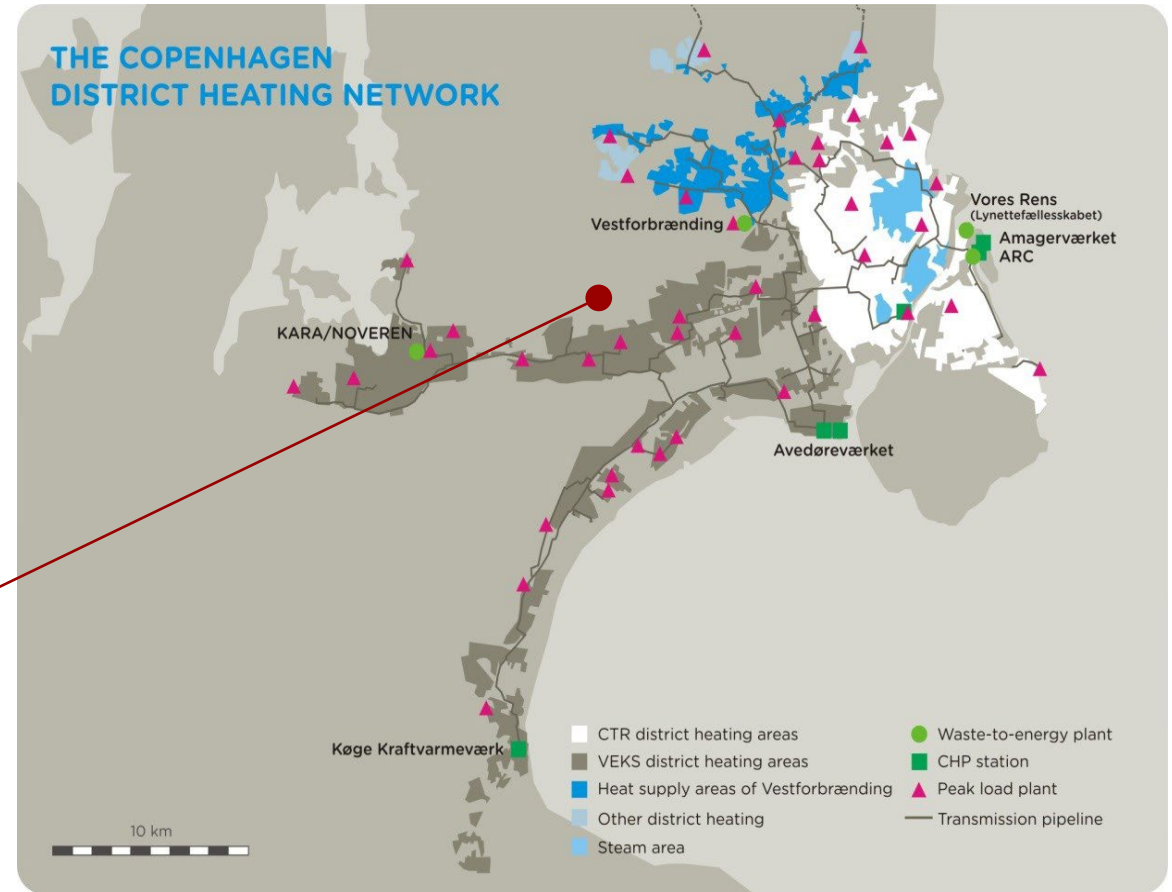
Comparison of solar heating systems with PTES world wide



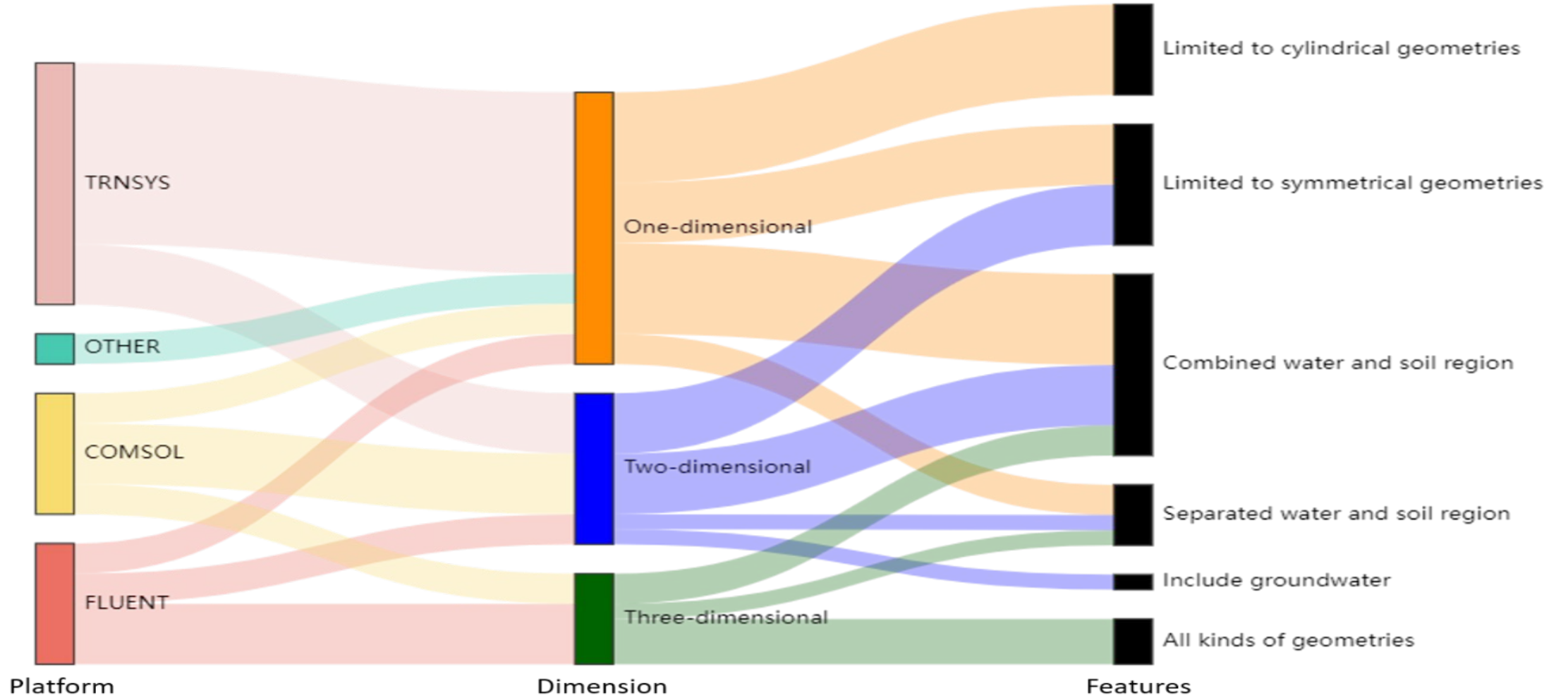
Høje Taastrup PTES for Copenhagen district heating

70,000 m³ water pit heat storage for waste heat

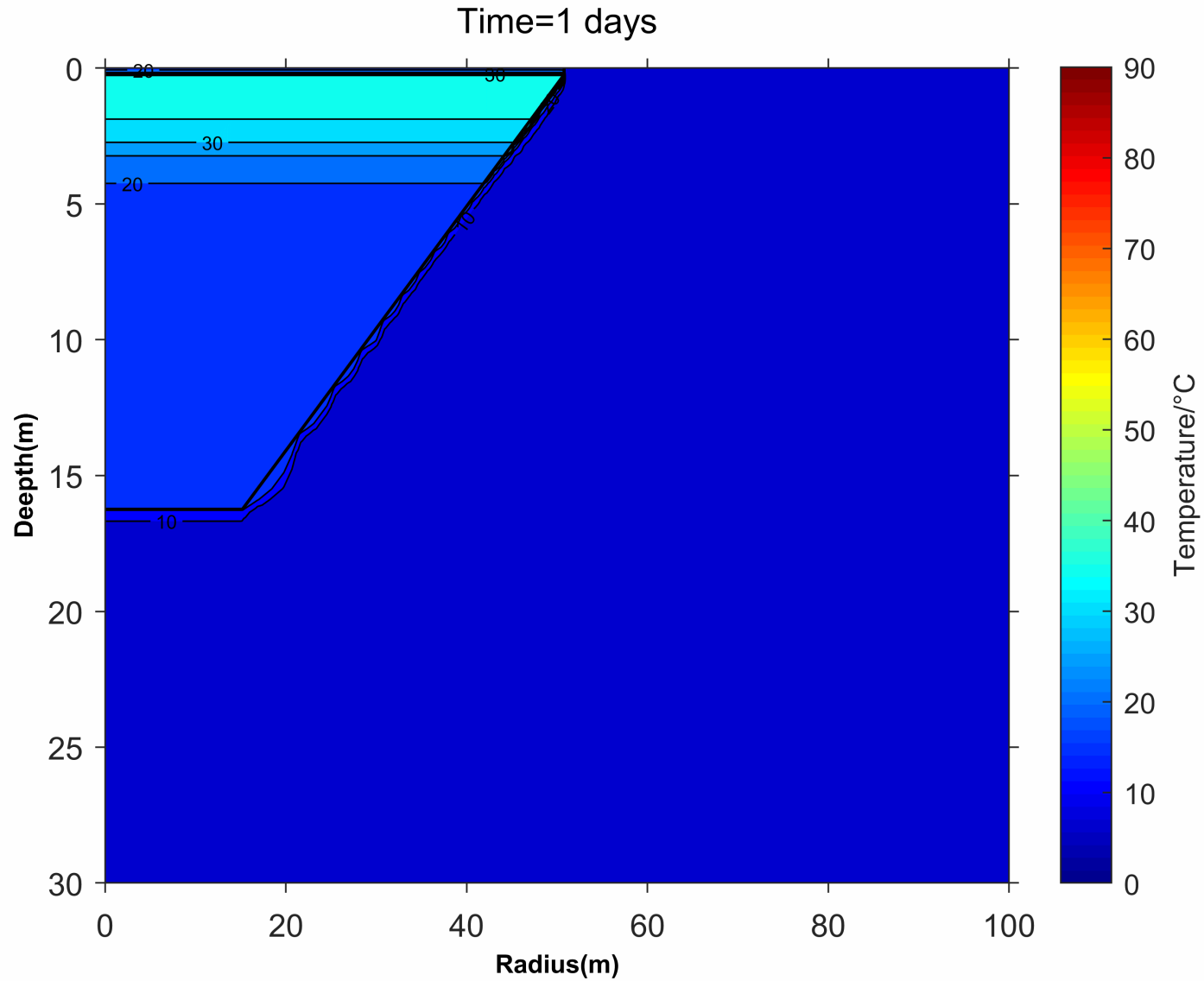
- 19 cities
- 4 district energy systems
- 160 km. heating pipe
- 25 district heating companies
- 500,000 consumers
- 34,500 TJ (9,600 GWh)
- 20% of Danish heat consumption



Numerical investigations of PTES



Temperatures in and around the PTES in a year calculated using TRNSYS



IEA ES TCP Task 41 Economics of energy storage

Subtask 1
Methods to evaluate energy storage economics

Subtask 2
Acceptable energy storage costs from application perspective

Subtask 3
Success stories and difficult cases of energy storage systems

Subtask 4
Energy storage valuation framework

What is to be done?	Subtask Lead
Collect and classify methods to evaluate storage economics	KTH, Sweden Felipe Gallardo
Extend top-down approach to all types of energy storage (both capacity and power)	ZAE, Germany Christoph Rathgeber
Collect and analyse economically viable and non-viable examples	DTU, Denmark Jianhua Fan
Elaborate a method to develop business cases for energy storage systems	TNO, The Netherlands Joris Koornneef



Duration of the project:
10.2022-09.2025

Kick-off meeting:
Berlin, September 14-16, 2022

Danish partners:
PlanEnergi
Aalborg CSP

A wide-angle photograph of a solar farm. In the foreground, there are rows of solar panels tilted towards the camera. The middle ground shows a vast field of solar panels stretching towards the horizon. In the background, there are trees, a small building, and a tall chimney stack. The sky is filled with large, grey clouds.

Thank you

jifa@dtu.dk