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Thermo-optical performance of a solar funnel cooker

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The study

Funnel solar cookers are simple, effective and have multiple advantages

But there is limited data available in scientific literature about their thermo-optical performance

Study parts:

1-Analyze the optical performance (Antonio Carrillo's presentation)

2-Thermal model (work in progress)

3-Experimental study

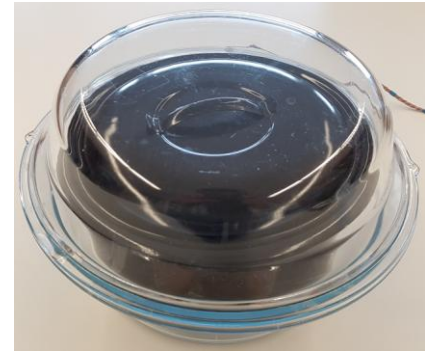
Experimental setup: Funnel solar cooker



3 identical solar cookers



Panels-Funnel

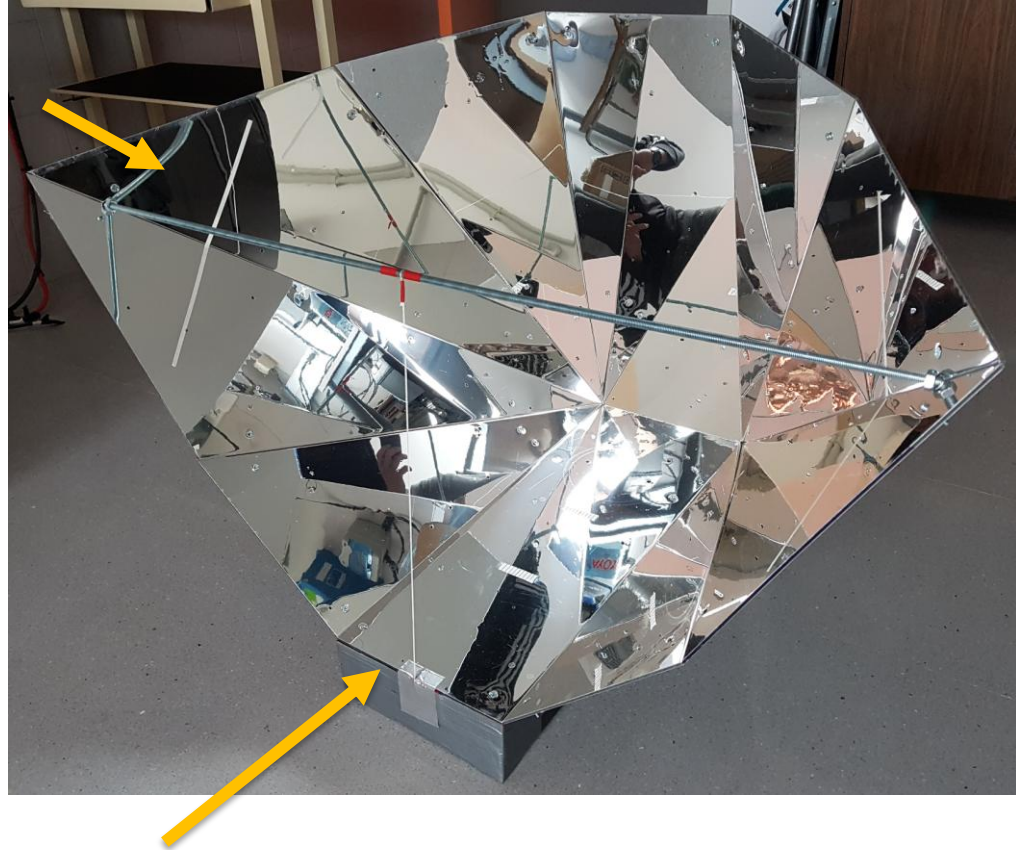


Receiver

Experimental setup: Panels-Funnel

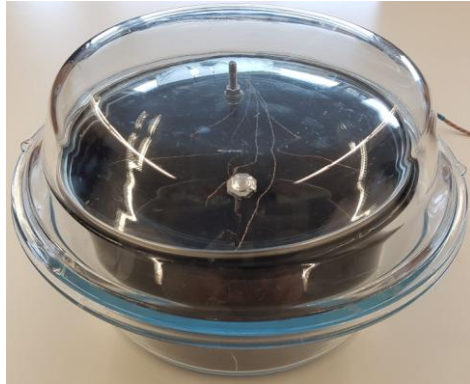
Material:

- Aluminium composite panel
- Reflectance: 0.85



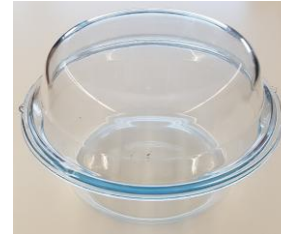
8cm thickness XPS insulator

Experimental setup: Receiver



Optical properties (Work in progress)

- Emissivity
- Absorptivity
- Reflectance
- ...



Washing machine
door glass
Mass: 2239g



Pot
Mass: 580g
Height:10cm
Diameter:20cm
Capacity:2,5l



Metallic pot cover
Mass: 252g



Glass pot cover
Mass: 372g

Materials and methods: Instrumentation



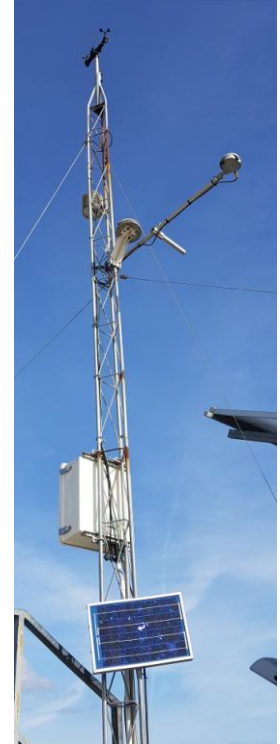
Temperature measurement sensors

- 5 Thermocouples in water
- 1 TC air
- 3 TC pot
- 1 TC pot cover



Local weather station

- Horizontal global radiation pyrometer
- 40° global radiation pyrometer
- Ambient thermometer
- Anemometer



Weather station

Materials and methods: methods

Standard: ASAE S580 (Ref. Funk 2000)

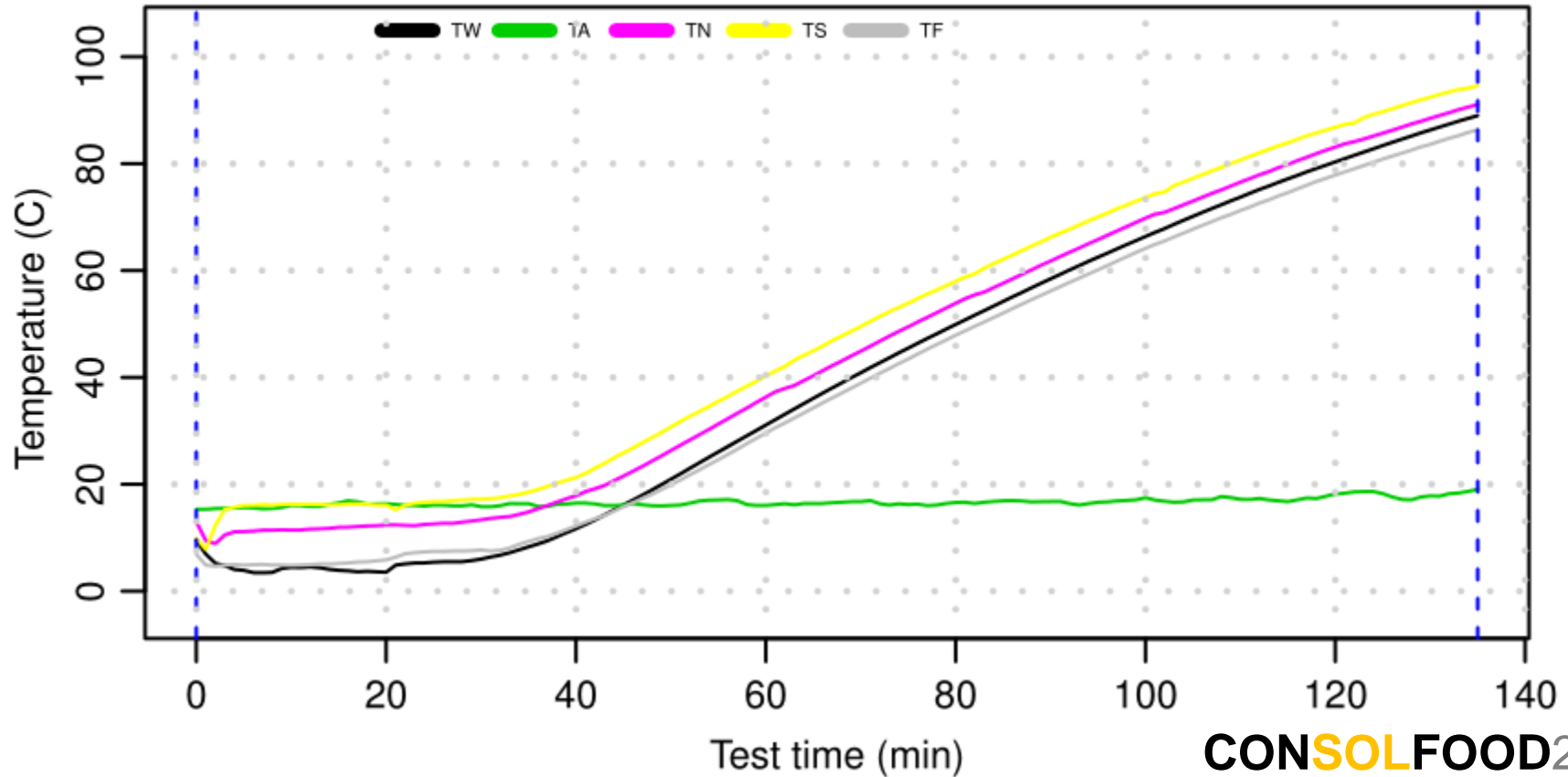
Most Important variables

Uncontrolled (weather) variables

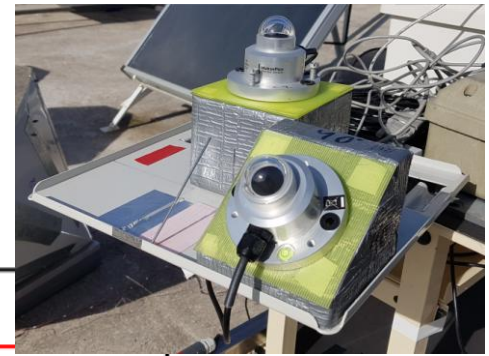
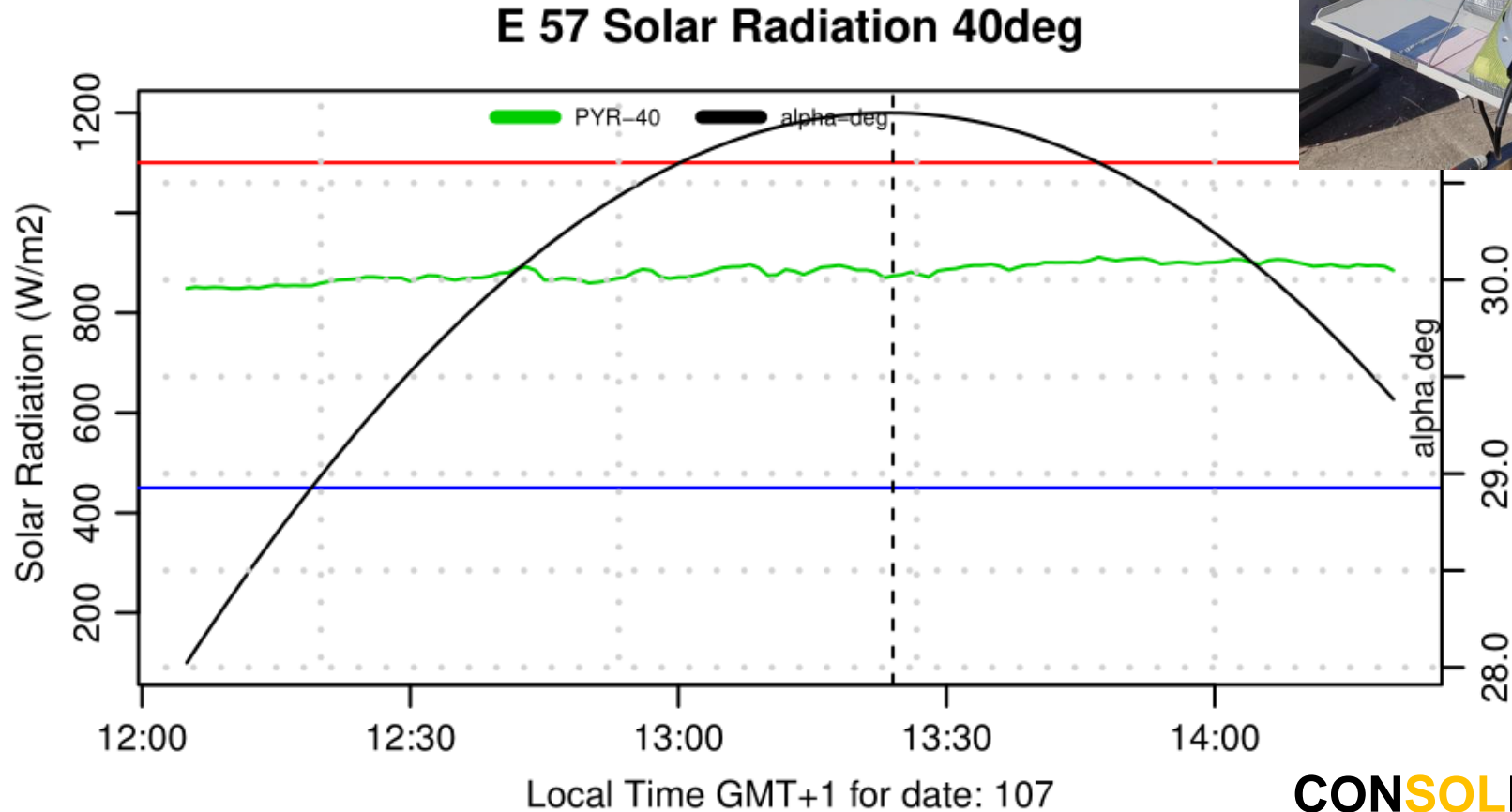
- Wind (avg. less than 1.0m/s & max less than 2.5m/s)
- Insolation (between 450W/m² -1100W/m² & variation less than 100W/m² during a 10-min)
- Solar altitude and azimuth (between 10:00 and 14:00 solar time)

Materials and methods: test data

E 57 CSR01 Temperature water-air-pot



Materials and methods: test data



Materials and methods: test analysis

Analyze of the results according to the standard (ASAE S580, Ref. Funk 2000)

- Calculating cooking power

$$P_i = \frac{T_2 - T_1}{600} * m * C_{pw}$$

- Standardizing cooking power (to be corrected to standard insolation of 700 W/m²)

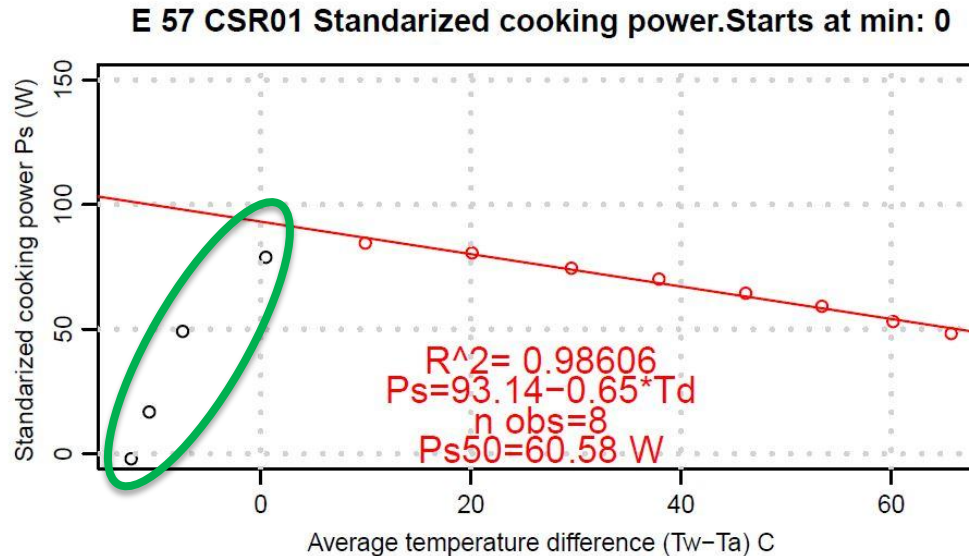
$$P_{si} = P_i * \frac{700}{G_i}$$

G_i : average insolation i ($\frac{W}{m^2}$).

Materials and methods: test analysis

Protocol: ASAE S580 (Ref. Funk 2000)

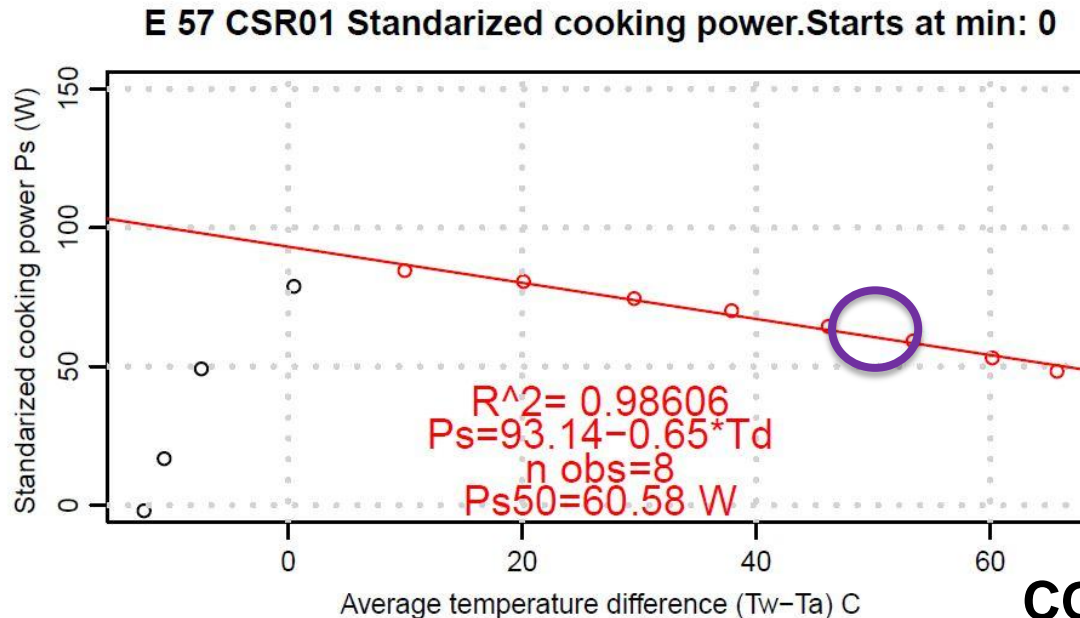
- Plotting (The standardized cooking power (W) is to be plotted against the temperature difference ($^{\circ}\text{C}$))
- - A linear regression



Materials and methods: test analysis

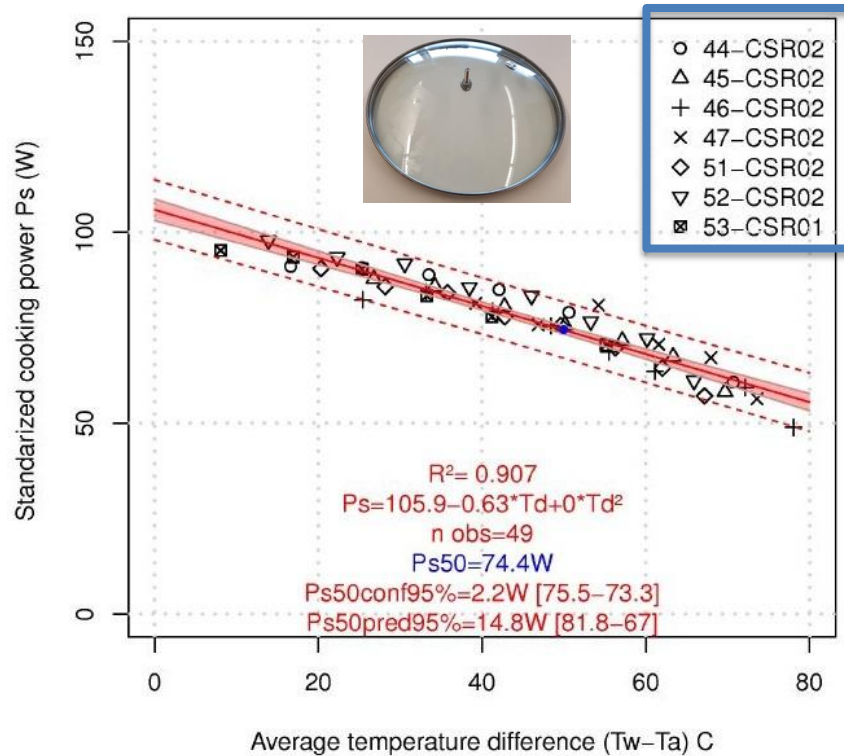
Protocol: ASAE S580 (Ref. Funk 2000)

- Single measure of performance (The value for standardized cooking power (W) is to be computed for a temperature difference of 50°C)

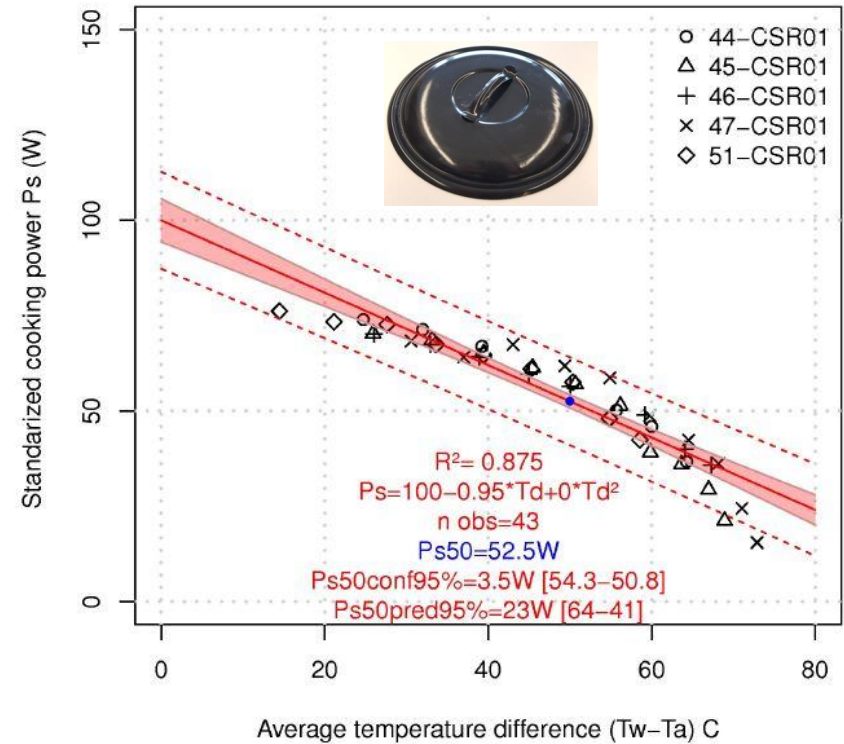


Experimental Results

Standardized cooking power Glass e=0cm

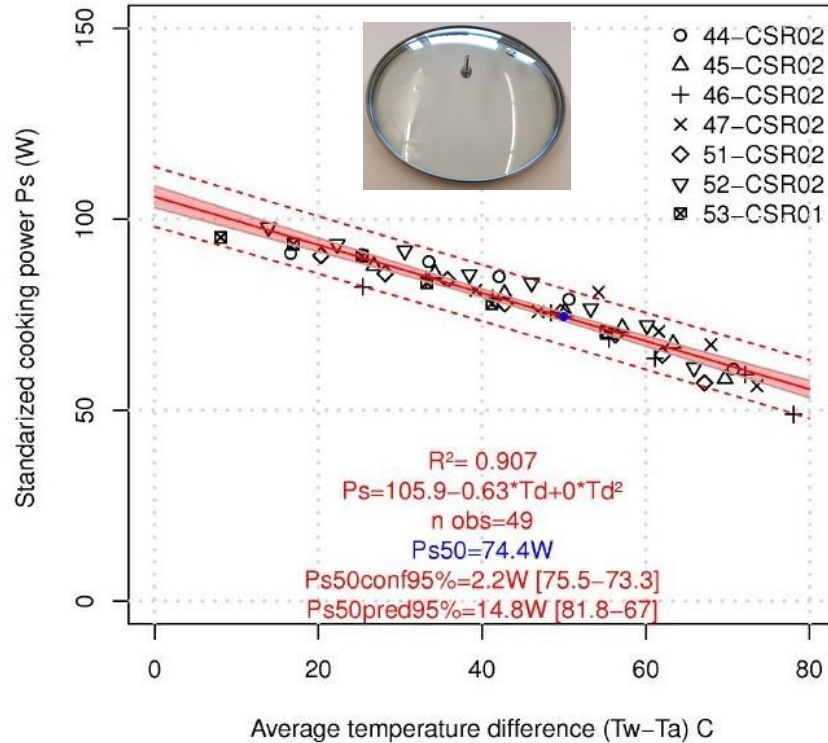


Standardized cooking power Black metal e=0cm

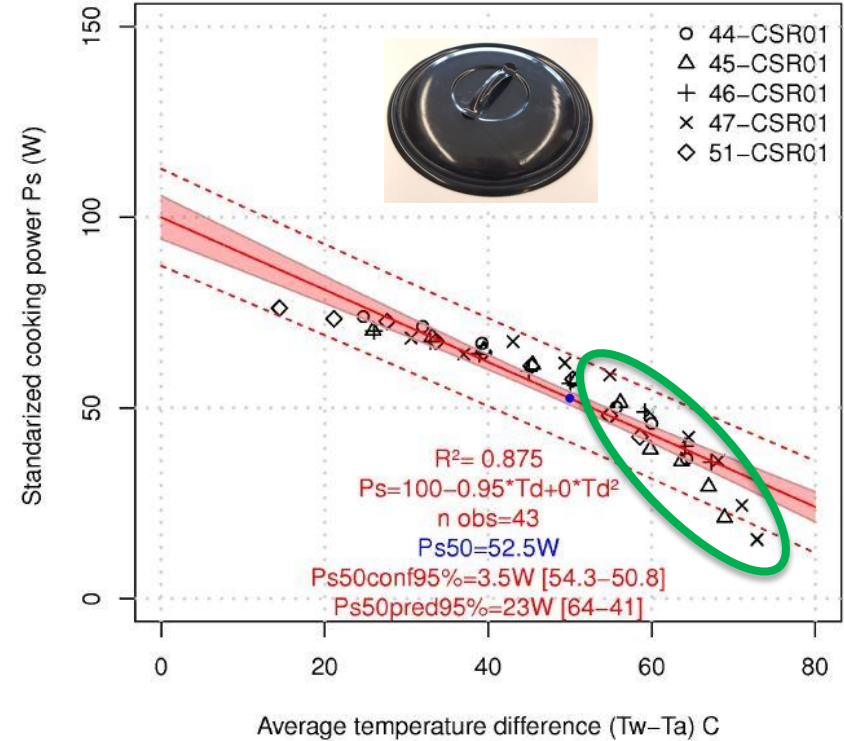


Experimental Results

Standardized cooking power Glass e=0cm

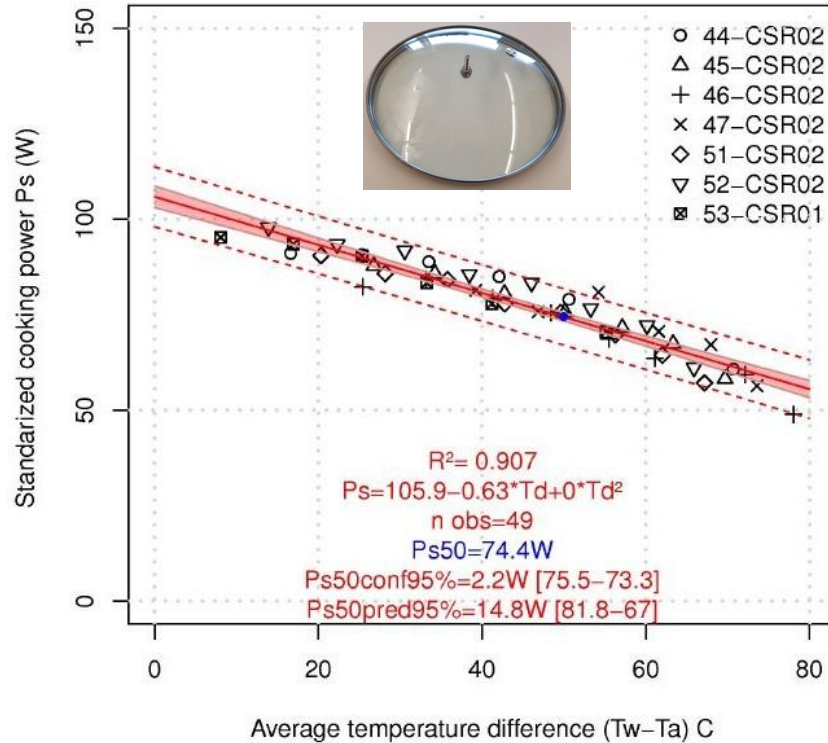


Standardized cooking power Black metal e=0cm

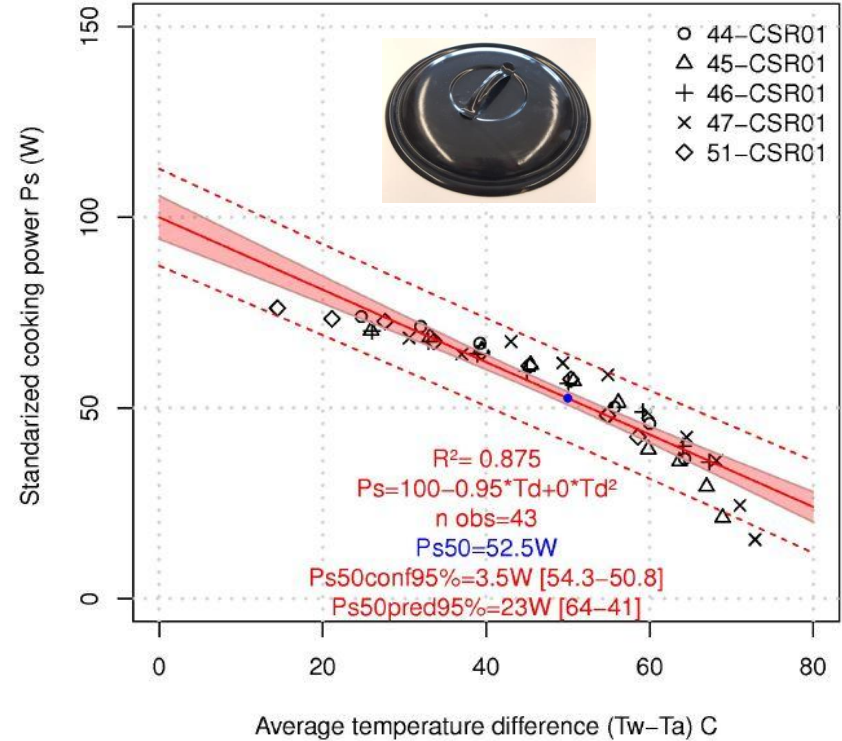


Experimental Results

Standardized cooking power Glass e=0cm



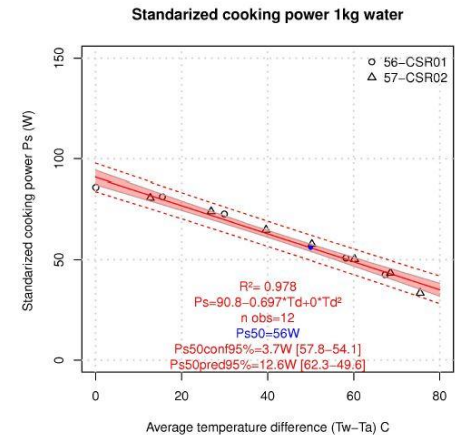
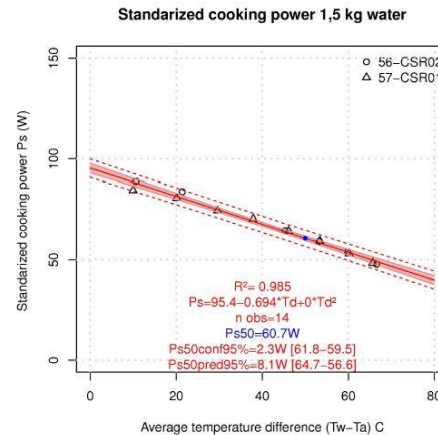
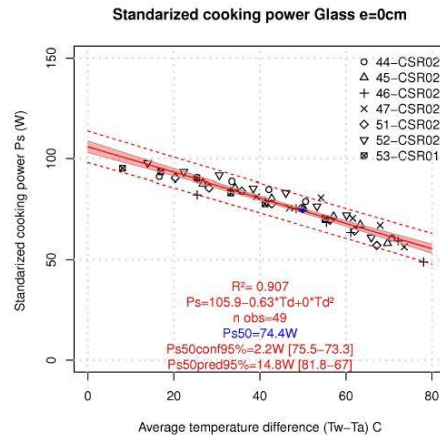
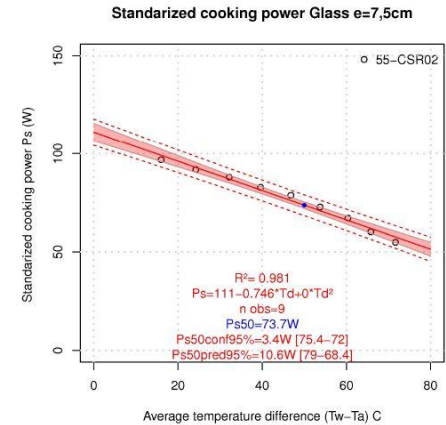
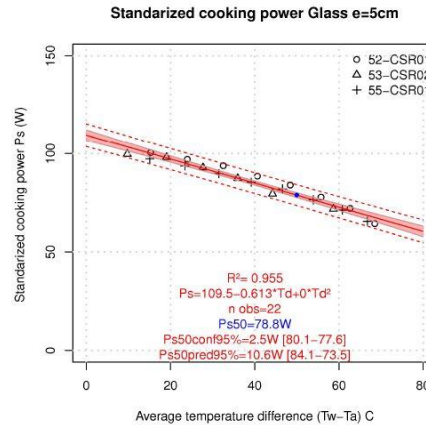
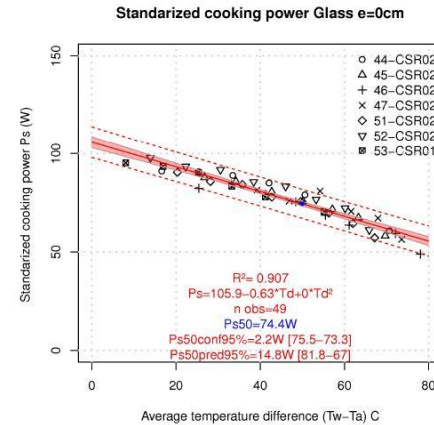
Standardized cooking power Black metal e=0cm



Experimental Results

Receiver s have
been raised

Different water
loads



Conclusions and perspectives

- Thermal performance parameters for several configurations of a typical solar funnel cooker have been determined following standard ASAE S580.
- Results are robust and repeatable
- Configuration with glass cover and elevated receiver performs better
- Thermal performance is better with high water load
- Future work: characterize other configurations such as summer configuration, different fluids, receivers, reflector area, materials, etc.