



**XXV CREEM**  
**BRASILIA 2018**  
CONGRESSO NACIONAL DE ESTUDANTES  
DE ENGENHARIA MECÂNICA

# Advancement of microchannels-based heat spreaders and applications in solar/thermal/electric conversion

**Gherhardt Ribatski**

Debora C. Moreira

Departamento de Engenharia Mecânica  
Escola de Engenharia de São Carlos, EESC  
Universidade de São Paulo, USP

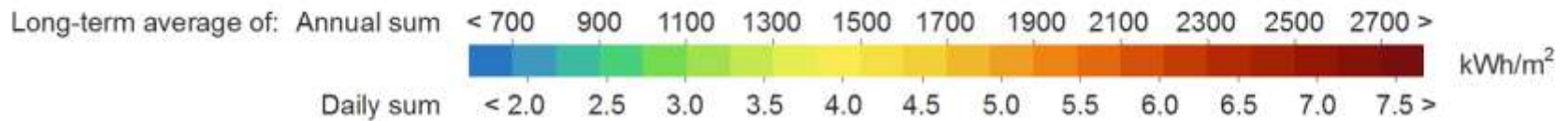
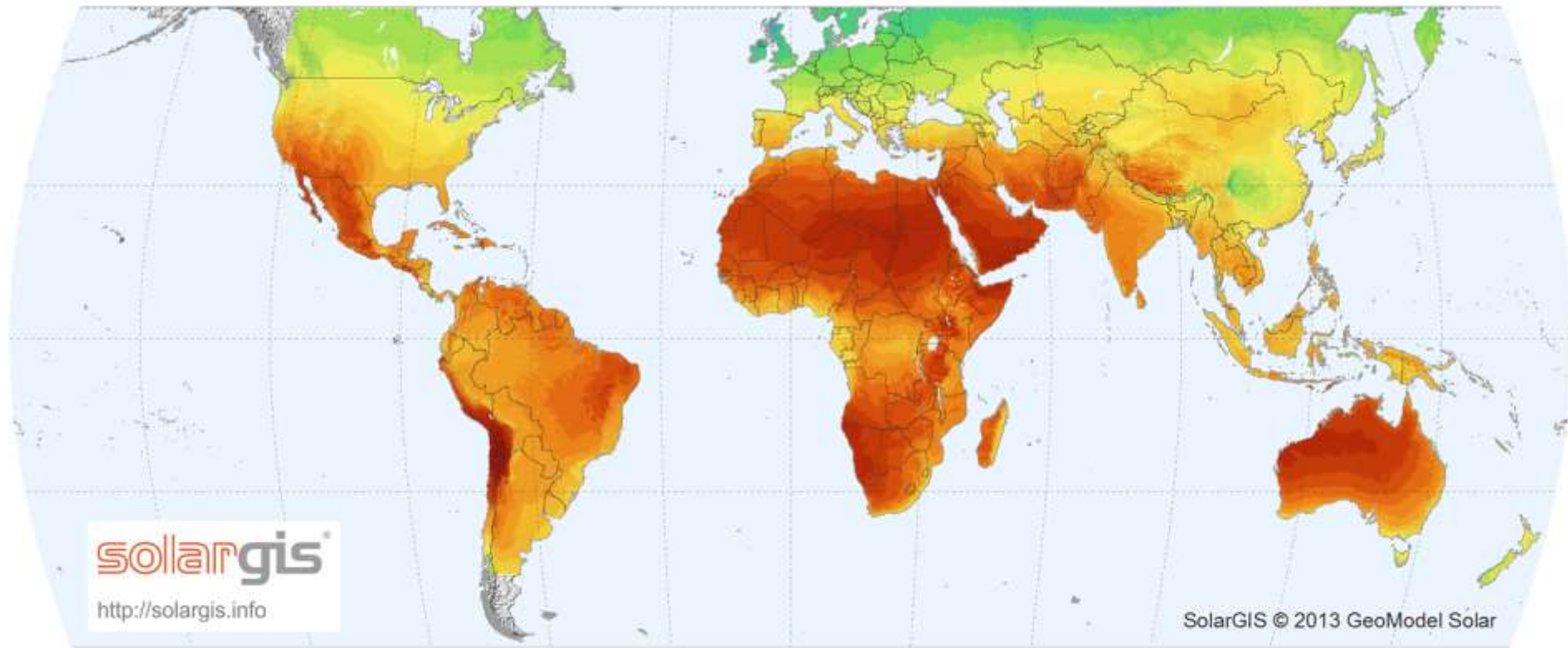


# Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Solar energy technology
  - Photovoltaics
  - Solar collectors (thermal Engineering)
- Microstructured heat sinks
  - Single-phase flow
  - Multiphase flow
  - Waste heat reuse
  - Novel designs
- Concluding remarks

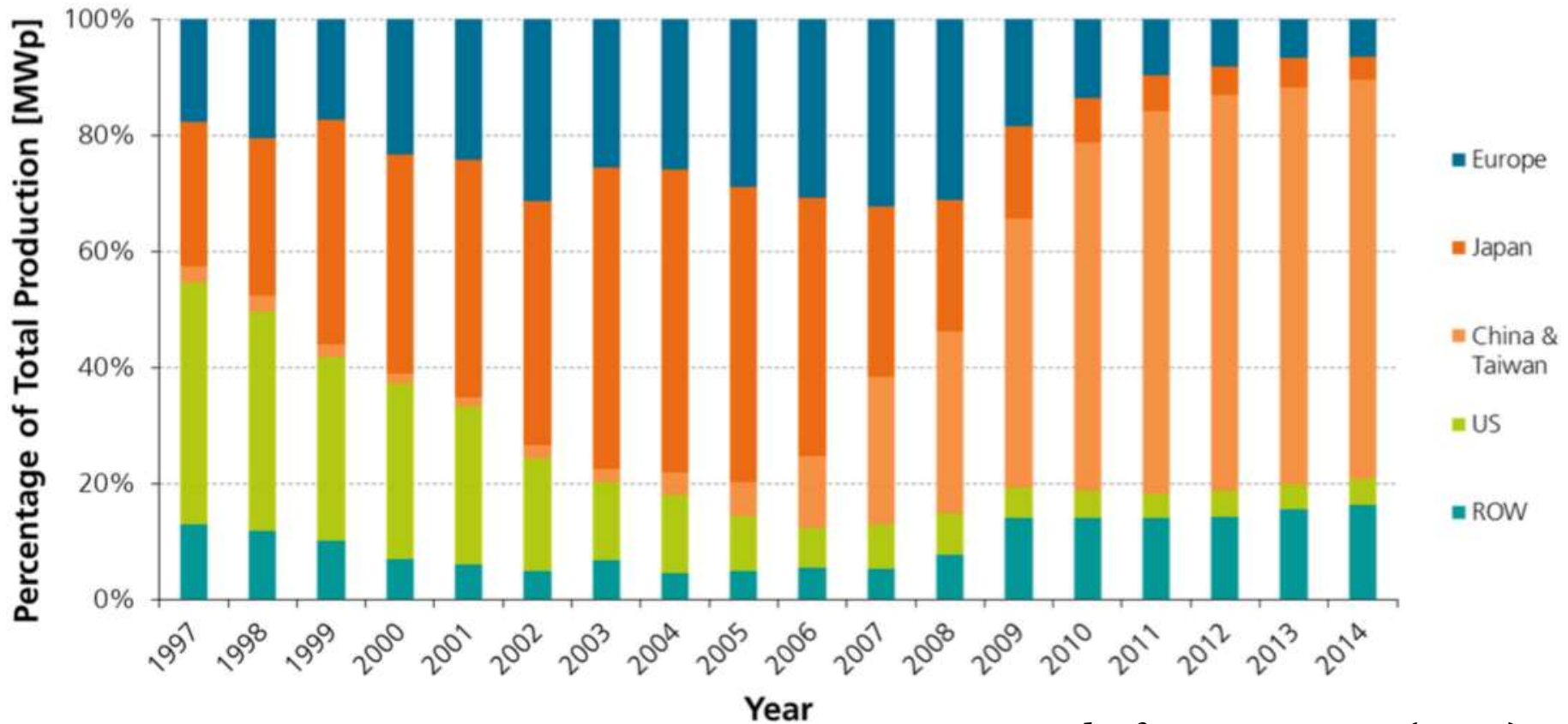
# Introduction

- Solar irradiation



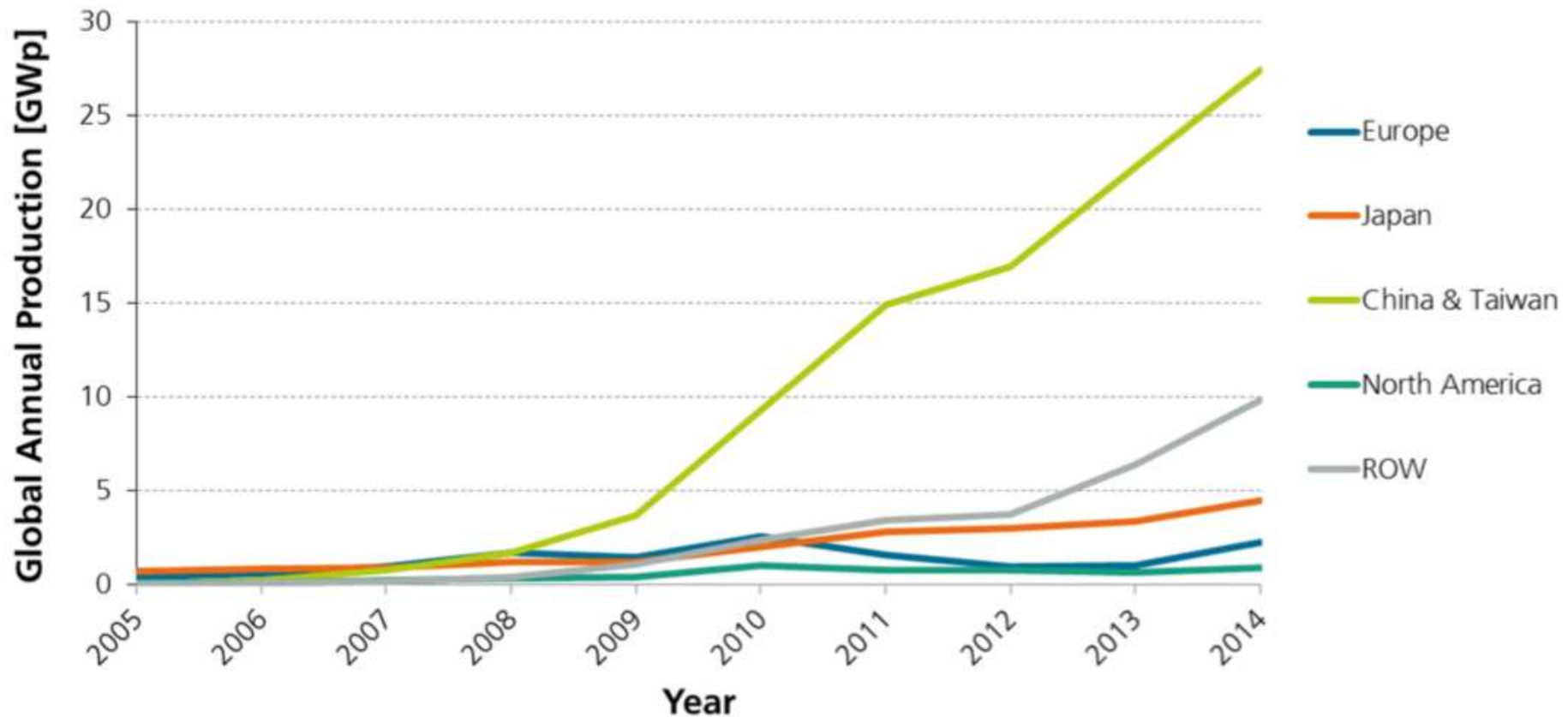
# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:



# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:



# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:

- Europe
- China
- Japan
- United States
- Canada

National Renewable Energy Action Plan:

- 20% of energy consumed in EU will come from renewable sources by 2020.
- The emission of greenhouse gases should be reduced by 20% in 2020, if compared with 1990.

Germany: 7% of electricity demand was generated by PV in 2014.

Spain has the 6<sup>th</sup> largest operational solar thermal power station.

# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:

- Europe
- China
- Japan
- United States
- Canada

In 2015, China spent 2.5x more on clean energy than EU.

Largest market for photovoltaics and solar thermal collectors since 2015.

70.6% of the world's capacity in solar thermal collectors.

13<sup>th</sup> five year plan:

- Triple solar capacity by 2020.

The largest photovoltaic power station is located in China.

# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:

- Europe
- China
- Japan
- United States
- Canada

Shifting from nuclear power to other forms of energy generation since Fukushima.

In 2015, 3.5% of electric energy consumed in Japan was generated by photovoltaics.

Japan is building the world's largest floating solar power plant (floatovoltaics).



# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:

- Europe

- China

- Japan

- United States

- Canada

4.4% of the world's total solar thermal power capacity is installed in North America.

8 of the 10 largest photovoltaic power stations are located in the US.

Since 2008, solar energy installations have grown from 1.2GW to 30GW.

# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:

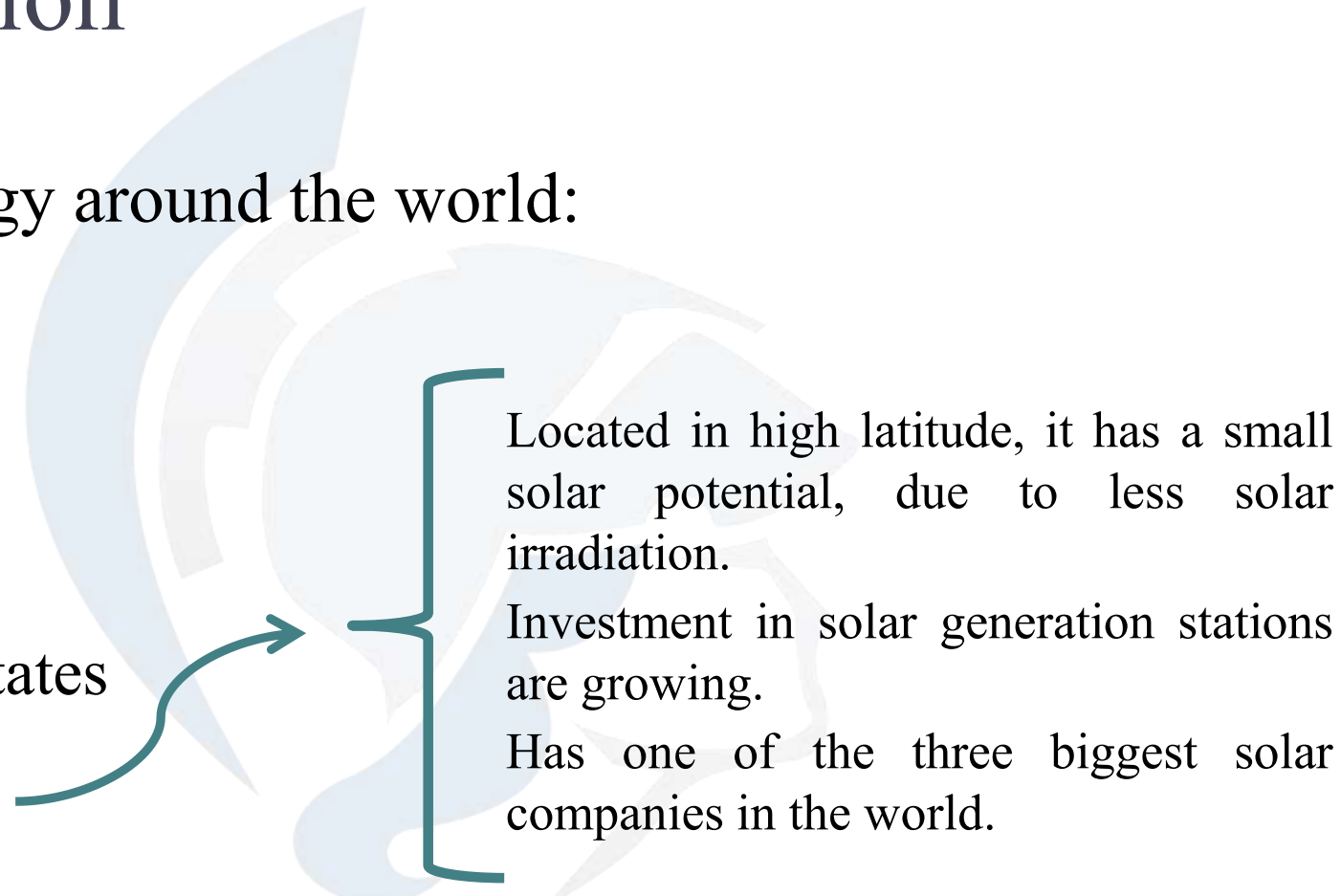
- Europe

- China

- Japan

- United States

- Canada



Located in high latitude, it has a small solar potential, due to less solar irradiation.

Investment in solar generation stations are growing.

Has one of the three biggest solar companies in the world.

# Introduction

- Solar energy around the world:
    - Europe
    - China
    - Japan
    - United States
    - Canada
- + 80% of PV module production

“Projeto Ituverava”-Bahia  
254MW -2017

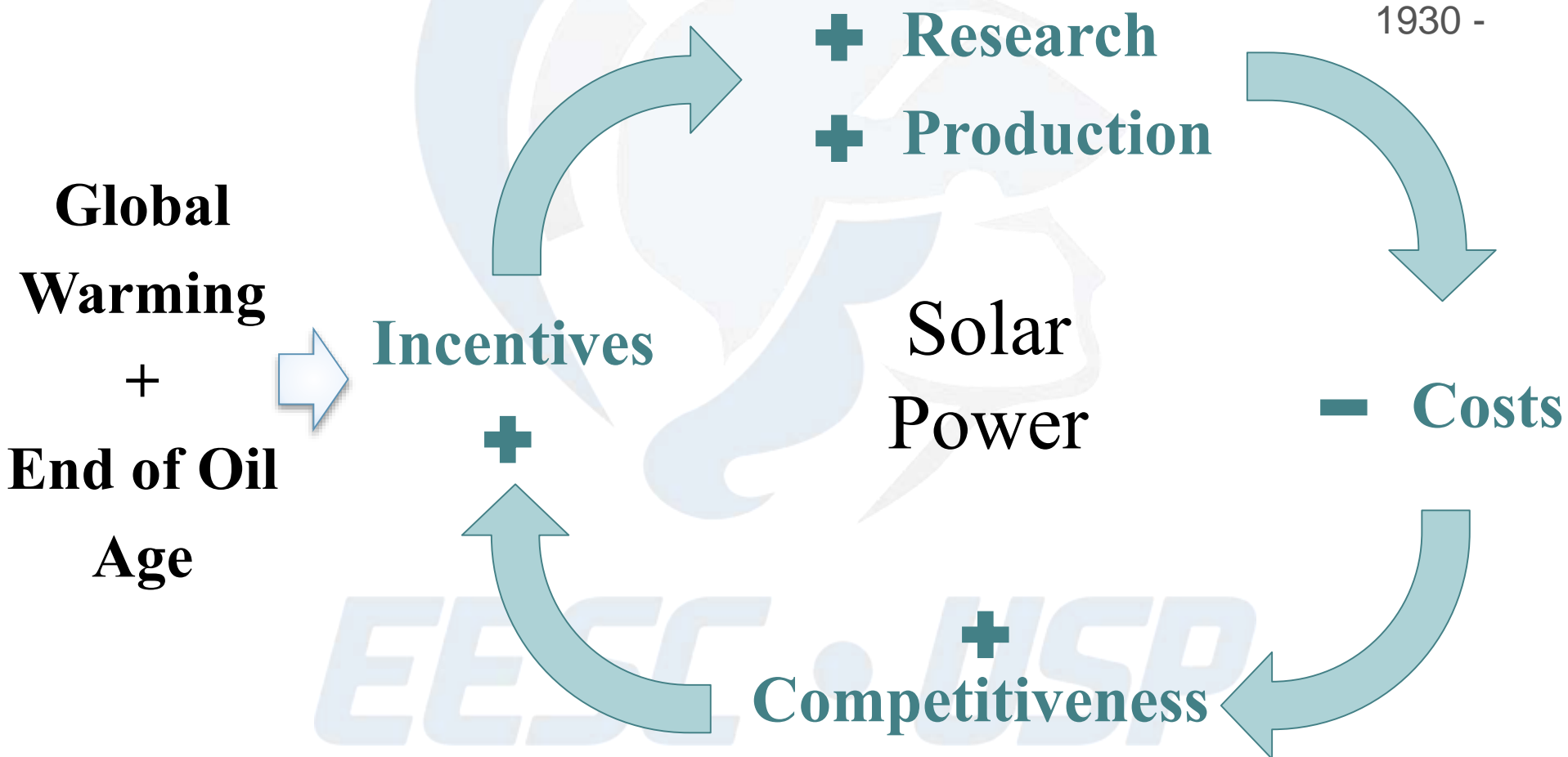
# Introduction

“The Stone Age came to an end not for a lack of stones and the oil age will end, but not for a lack of oil.”

Ahmed Zaki Yamani



1930 -



# Solar energy technology

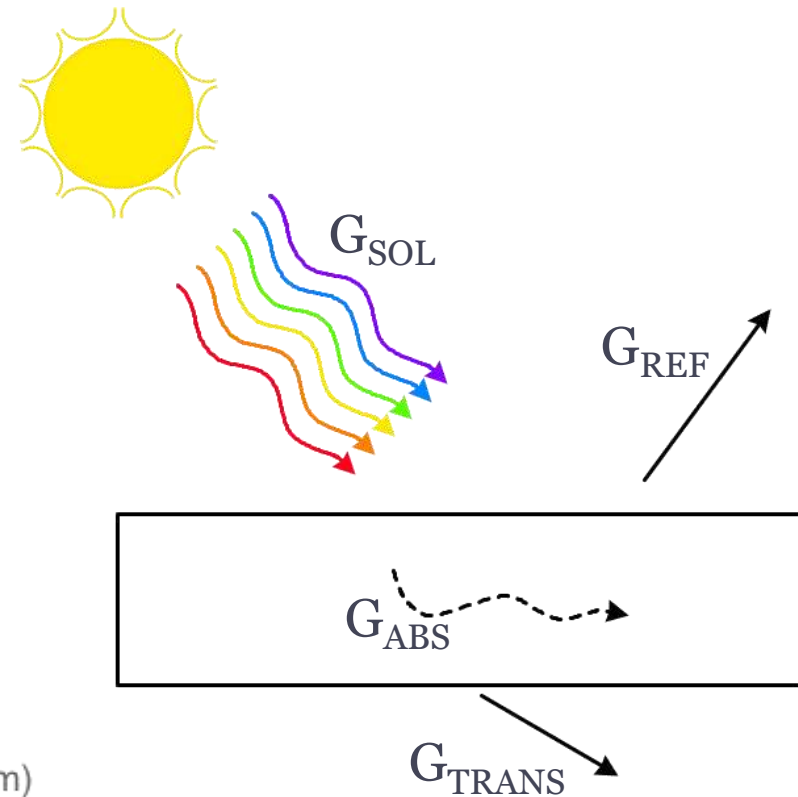
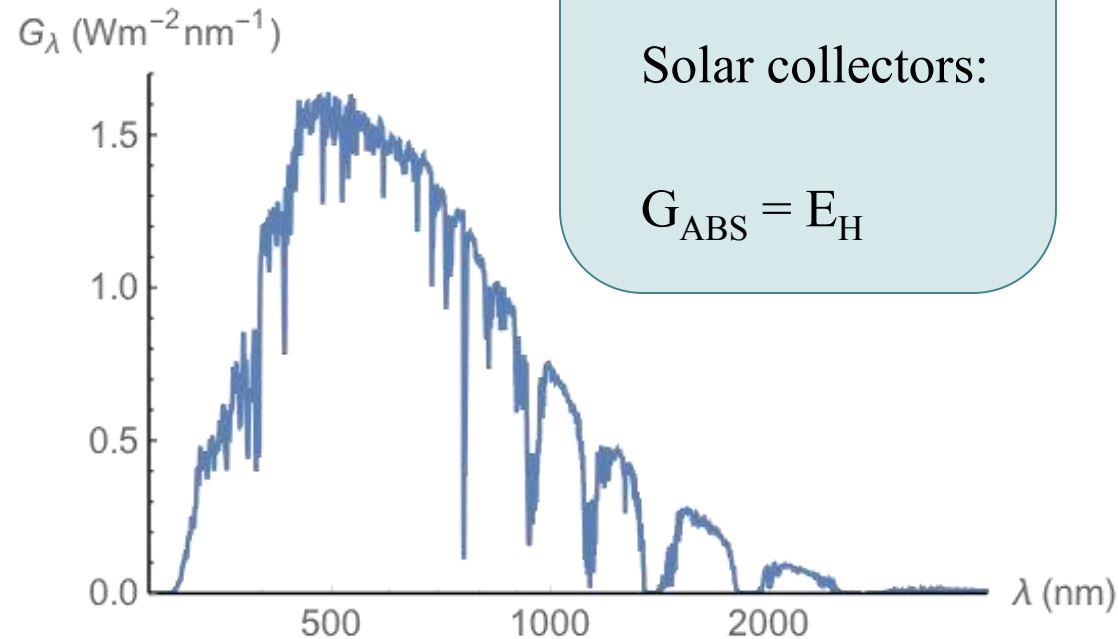
- Photovoltaics x Solar collectors

Photovoltaics:

$$G_{ABS} = E_{EL} + E_H$$

Solar collectors:

$$G_{ABS} = E_H$$



# Solar energy technology

- Photovoltaics:

- Direct conversion into electricity;
- Part of the absorbed energy is converted into heat;

- Tracking systems;
- New materials;
- Thin films
- Multi-junctions;



# Solar energy technology

- Cooling challenges:
  - High heat flux removal ( $\sim 1\text{MW}/\text{m}^2$ )
  - Non-uniform heating
  - Temperature variation during operation

**SIMILAR REQUIREMENTS FROM ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY!!!**

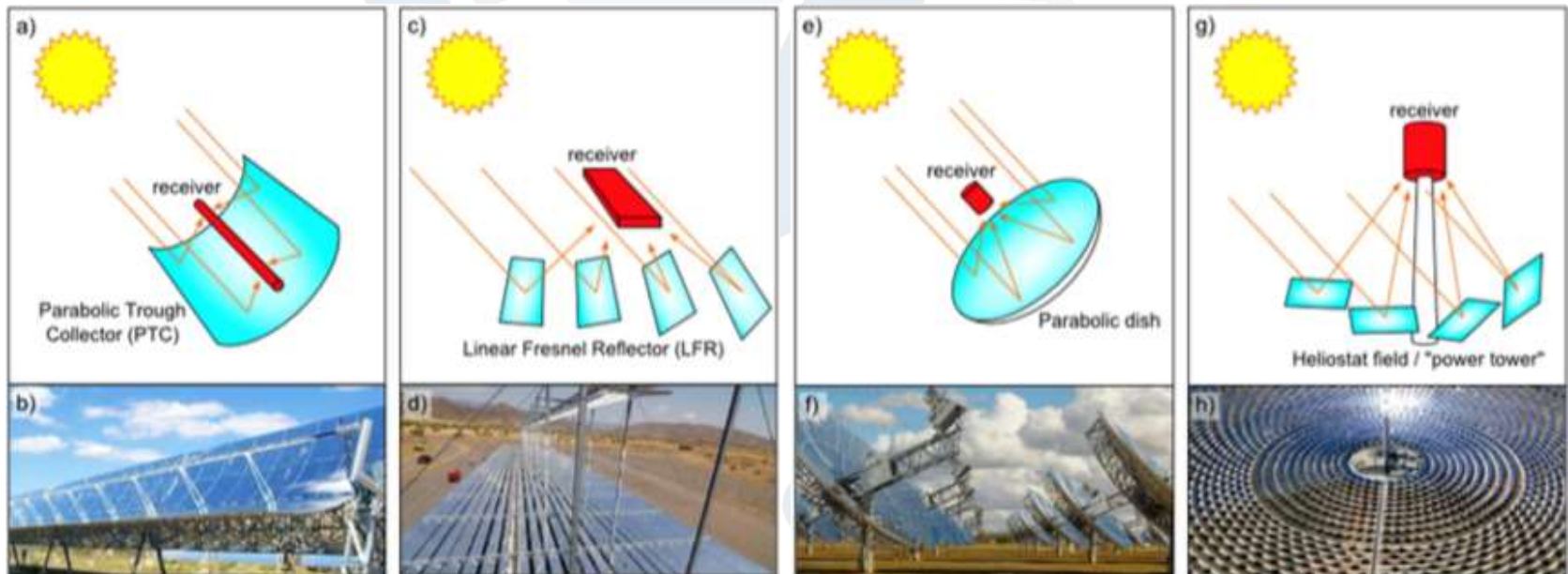
# Solar energy technology

- Concentrating photovoltaics cooling techniques:
  - Heat pipe cooling
  - Jet impingement
  - Liquid immersion
  - Phase change material
  - **Microchannel heat sinks**



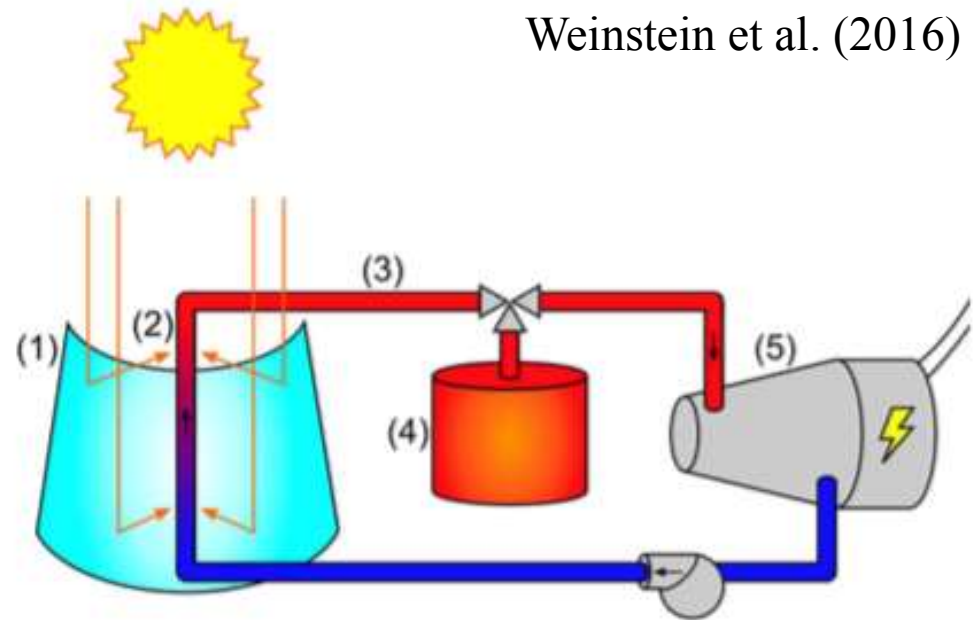
# Solar energy technology

- Solar collectors:
  - Conversion into heat;
  - Low-cost;
  - Benefit from advances in photovoltaic technology.



# Solar energy technology

- Solar collectors:
  - Applications:
    - Power cycles
    - Hydrogen production
    - Water desalination
    - Water heating
    - Photocatalysis



# Microstructured heat sinks

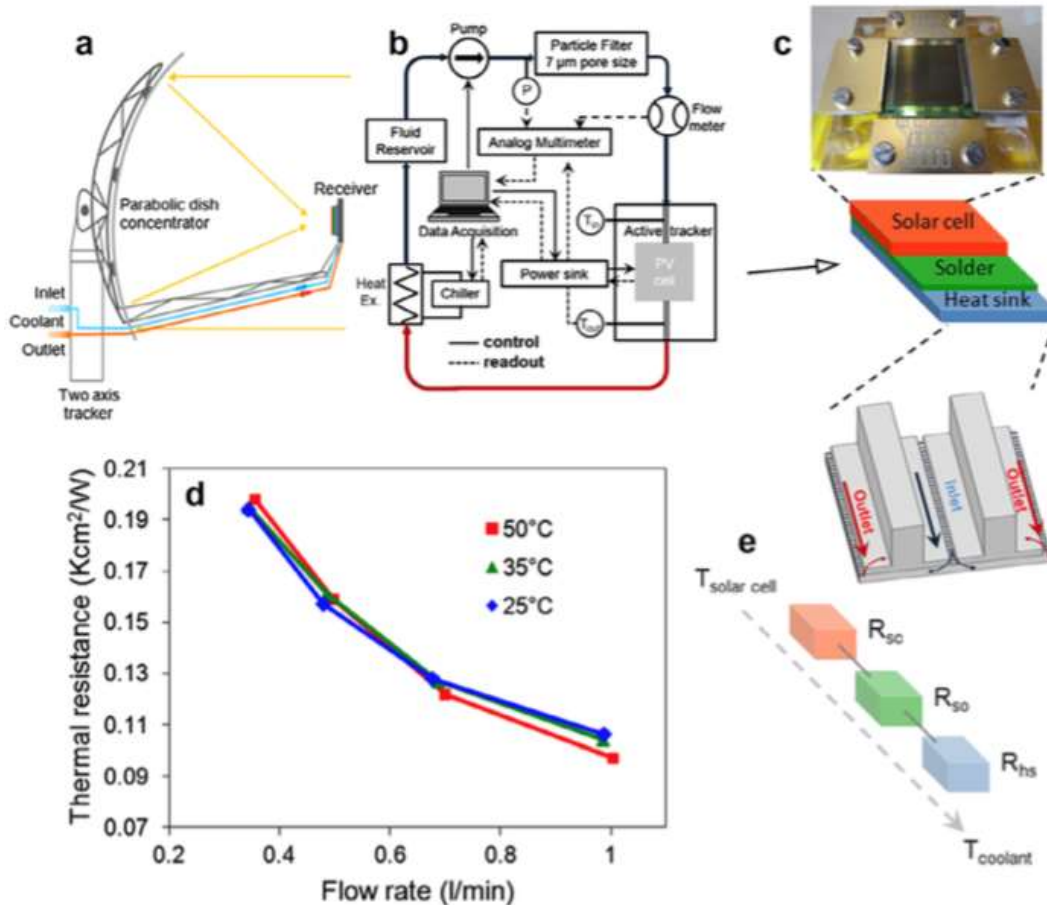
- Applications demands:
  - High heat transfer rates
  - Low temperature gradients
  - Minimum energy consumption
  - Low-cost
  - Up-scalable fabrication
  - Reliability
    - Low temperature variation
    - High Critical Heat Flux
    - Leak-proof
    - Minimum maintenance

# Microstructured heat sinks

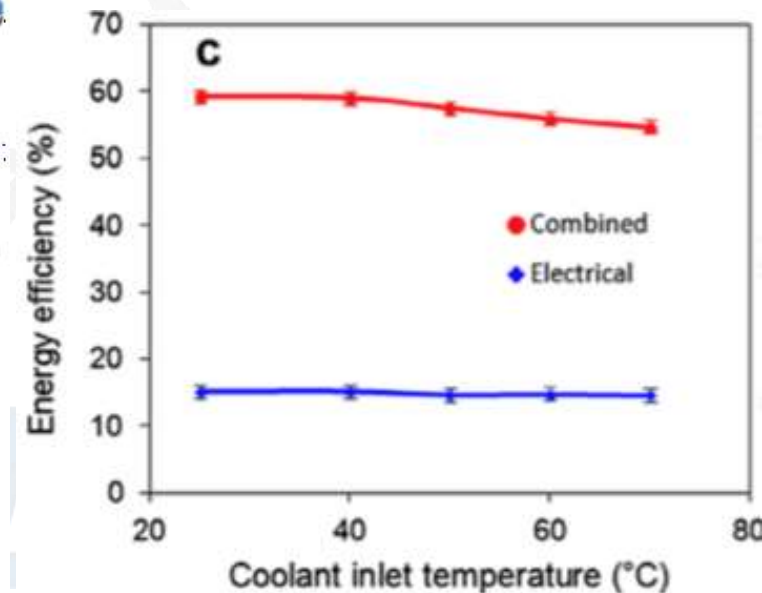
- Single-phase flow
  - Commercial devices are available
  - Limited performance
    - High temperature gradients
    - High pumping power

# Microstructured heat sinks

- Single-phase flow

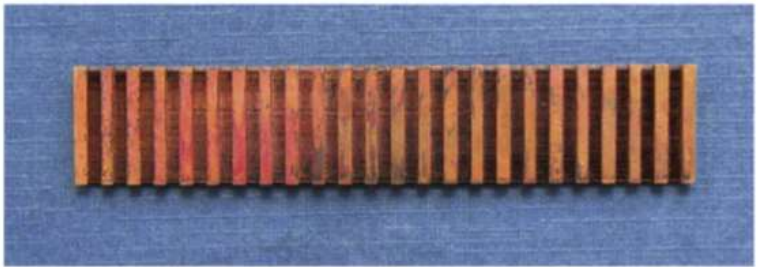
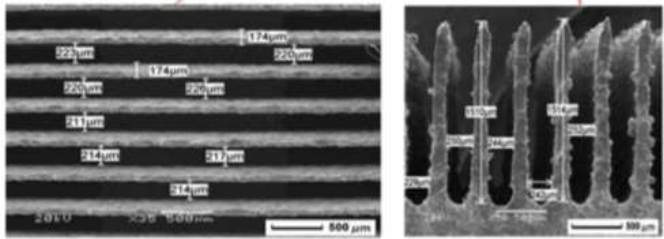
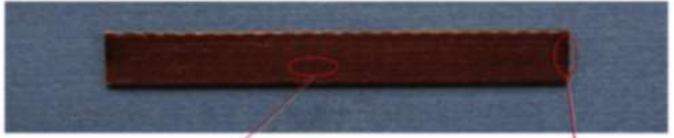


Zimmermann et al. (2015)

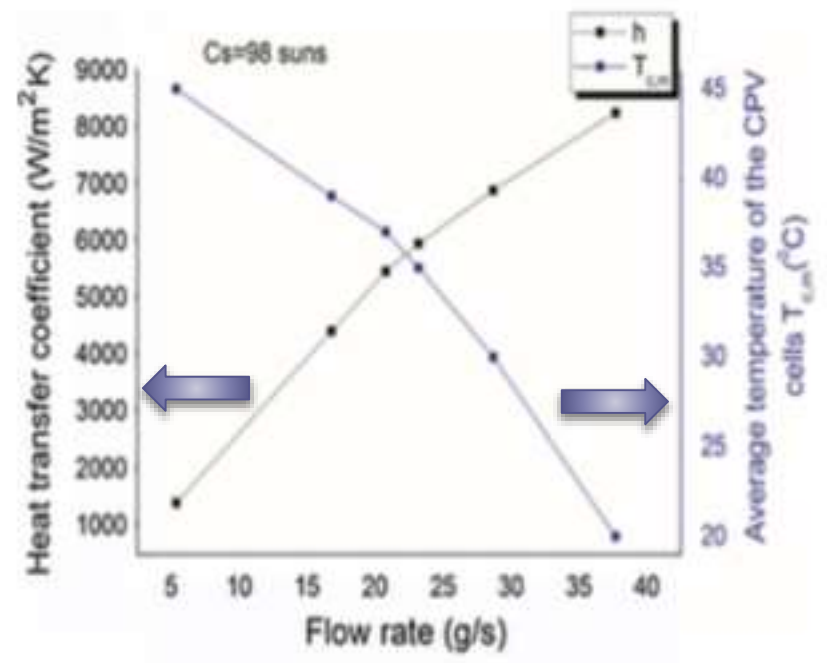


# Microstructured heat sinks

- Single-phase flow



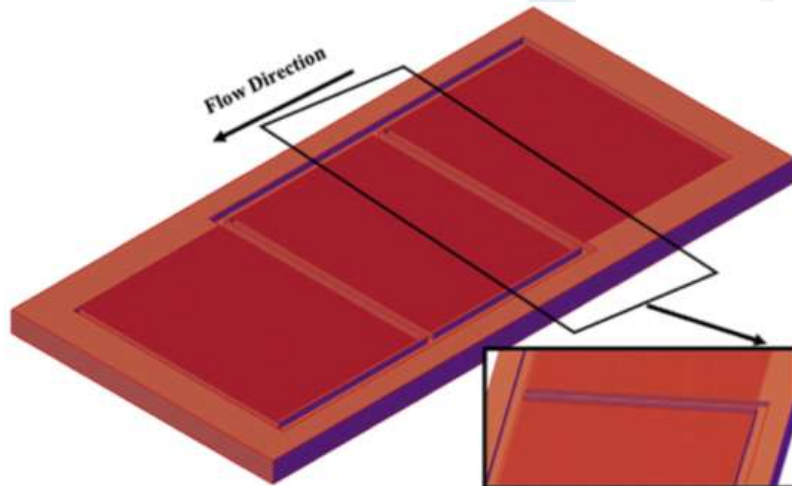
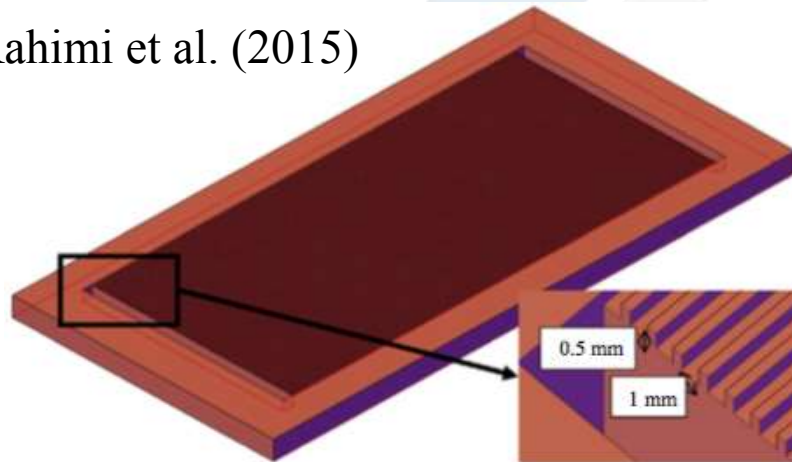
Yang and Zuo (2015)



# Microstructured heat sinks

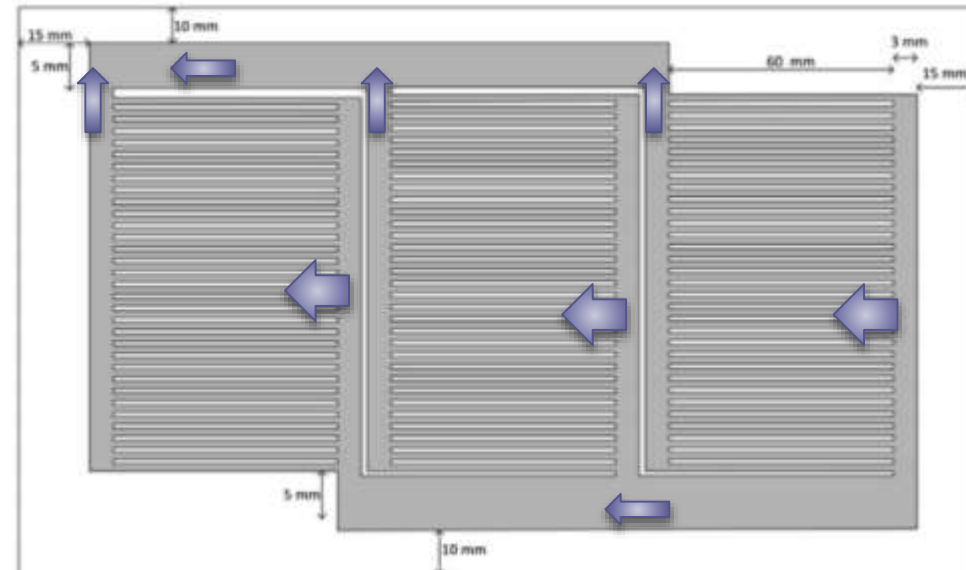
- Single-phase flow

Rahimi et al. (2015)



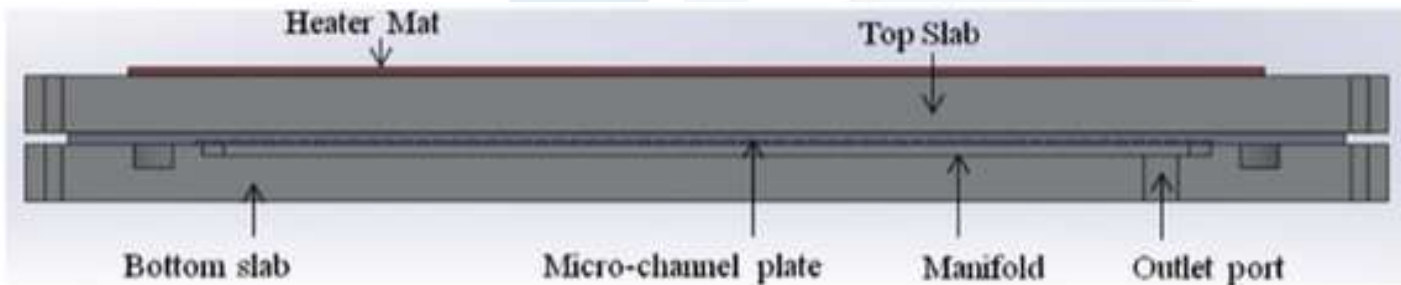
Multi header:

- Lower pressure drop
- Lower surface temperature
- Higher heat removal
- 28% higher efficiency

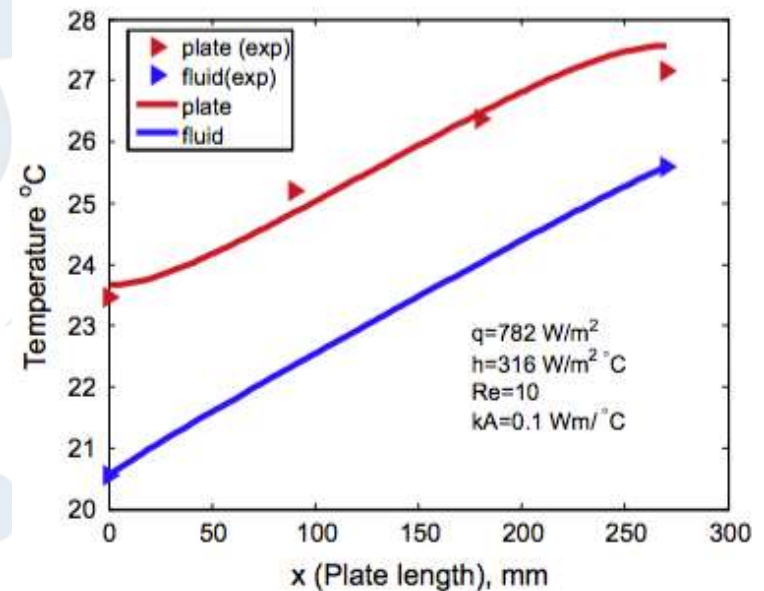
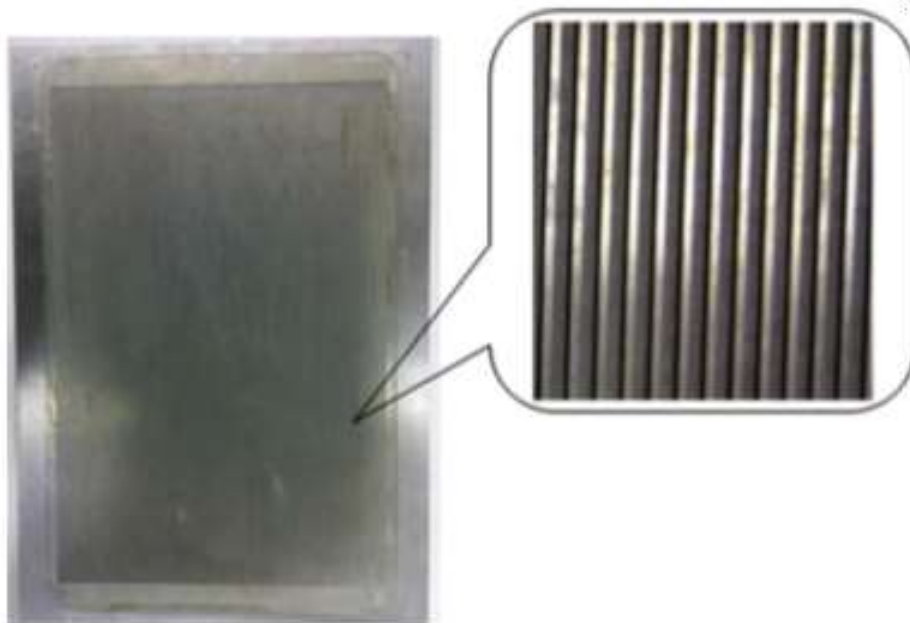


# Microstructured heat sinks

- Single-phase flow



Oyinlola et al. (2015)

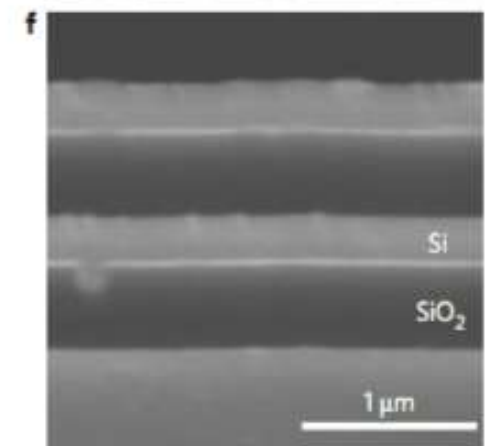
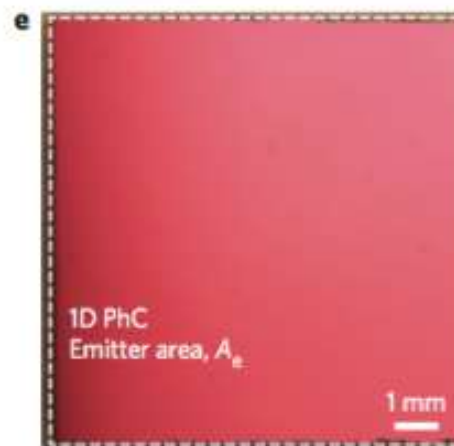
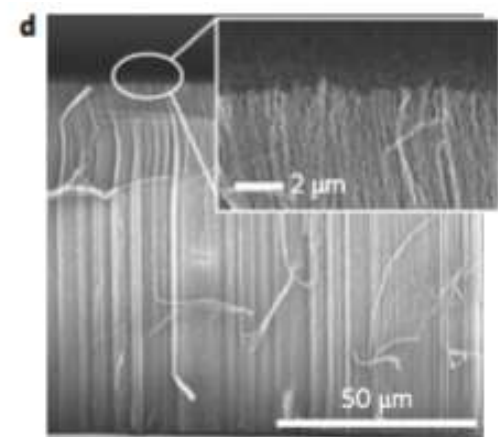
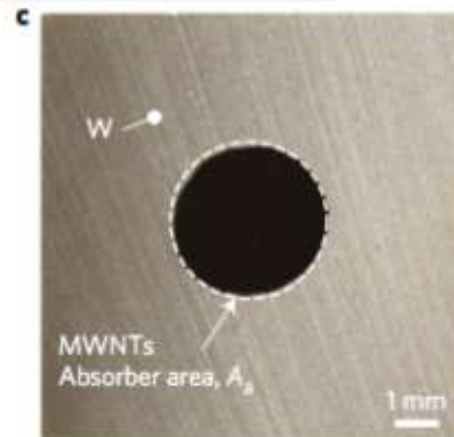
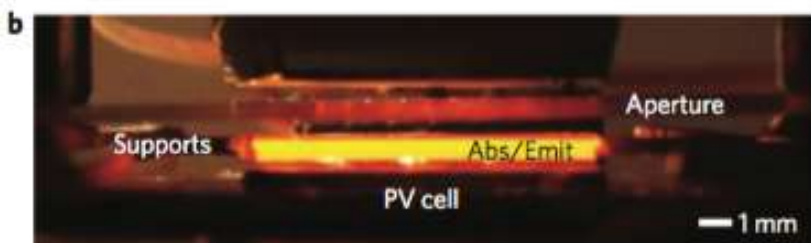
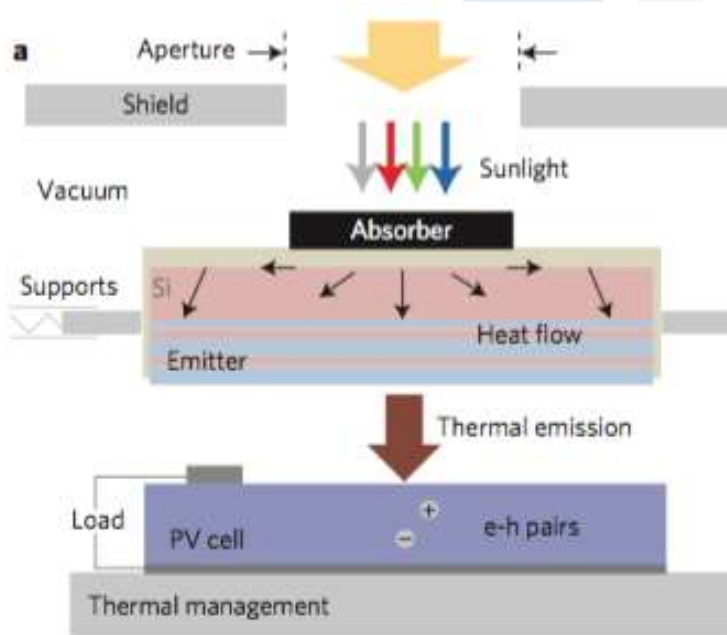




# Microstructured heat sinks

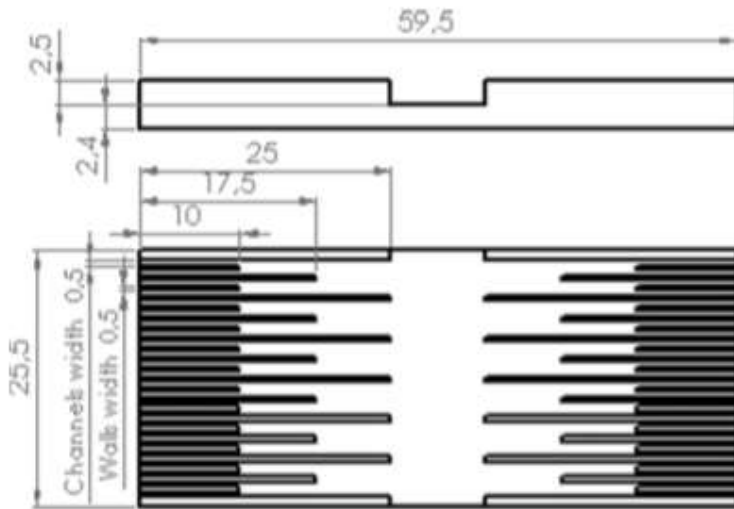
- Single-phase flow

Lenert et al. (2014)



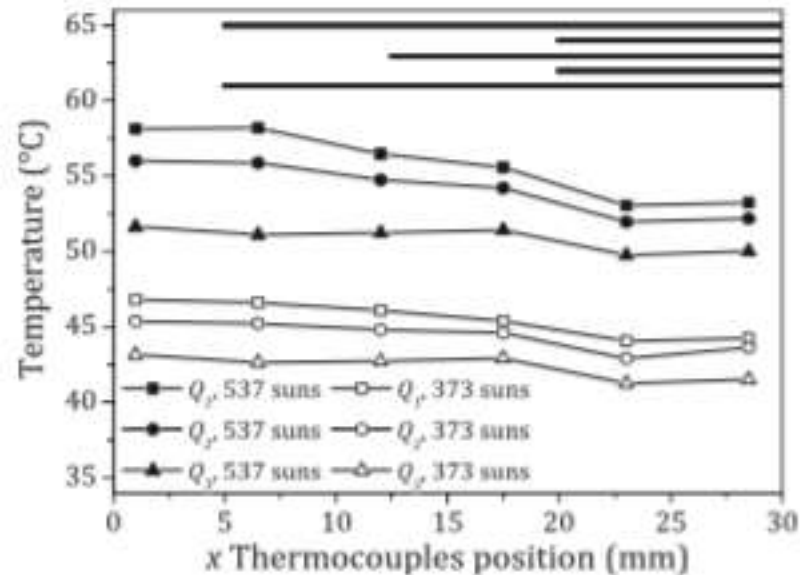
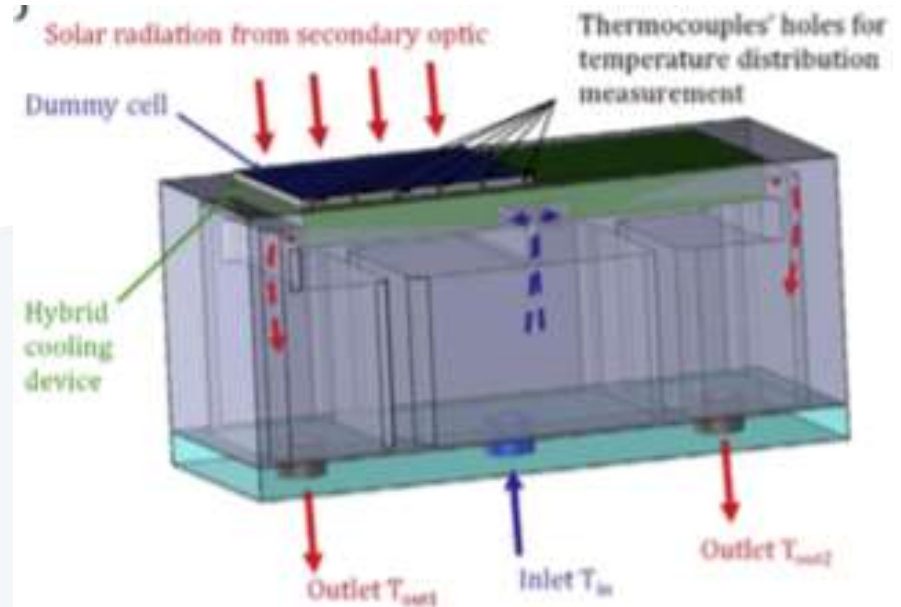
# Microstructured heat sinks

- Single-phase flow



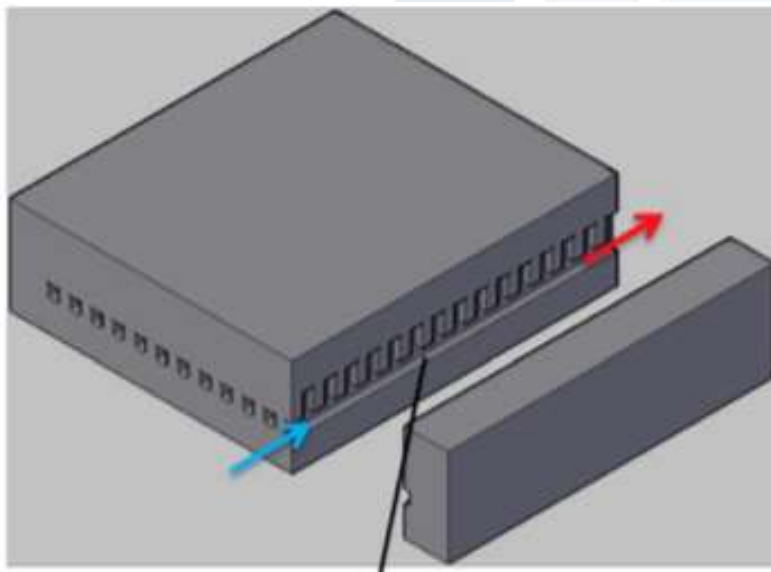
Barrau et al. (2014)

$Q_1=1.39$  l/min  
 $Q_3=2.94$  l/min



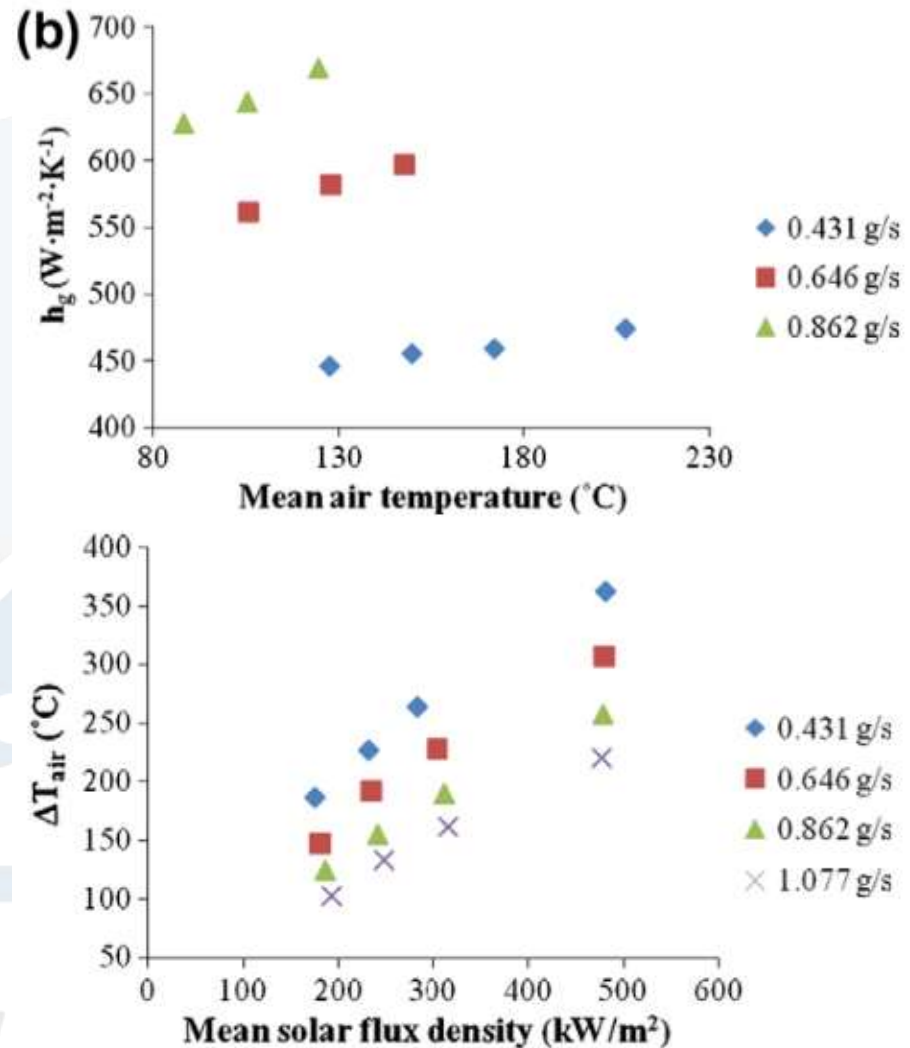
# Microstructured heat sinks

- Single-phase flow



Li et al. (2013)

Pressurized-air ( $\sim 900^\circ\text{C}$ )

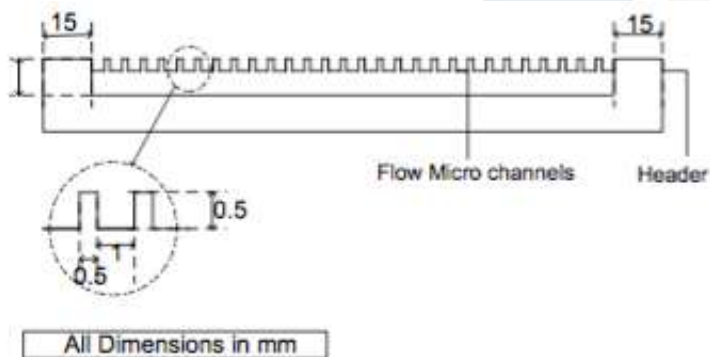


# Microstructured heat sinks

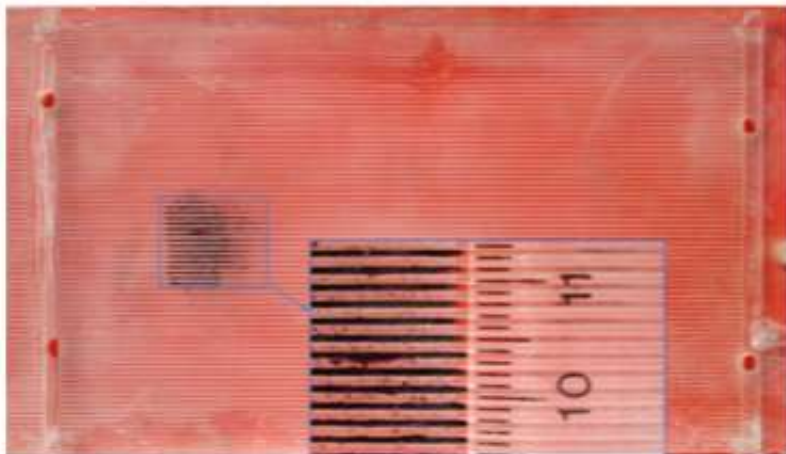
- Two-phase flow
  - Non-condensable-liquid
  - Flow boiling
    - Selected saturation temperature and fluid velocity
    - Minimum temperature variation
    - Latent heat

# Microstructured heat sinks

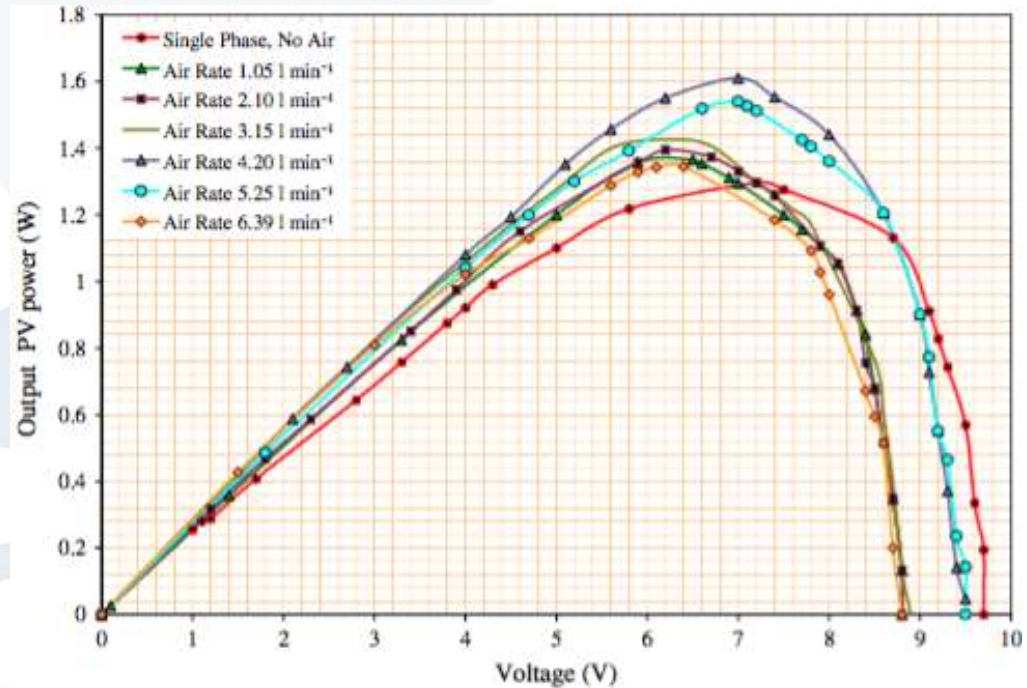
- Two-phase flow



(a)

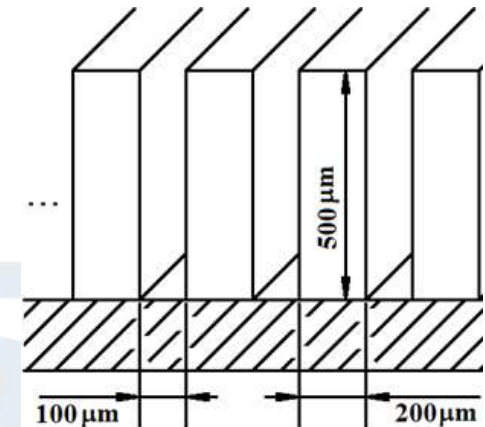
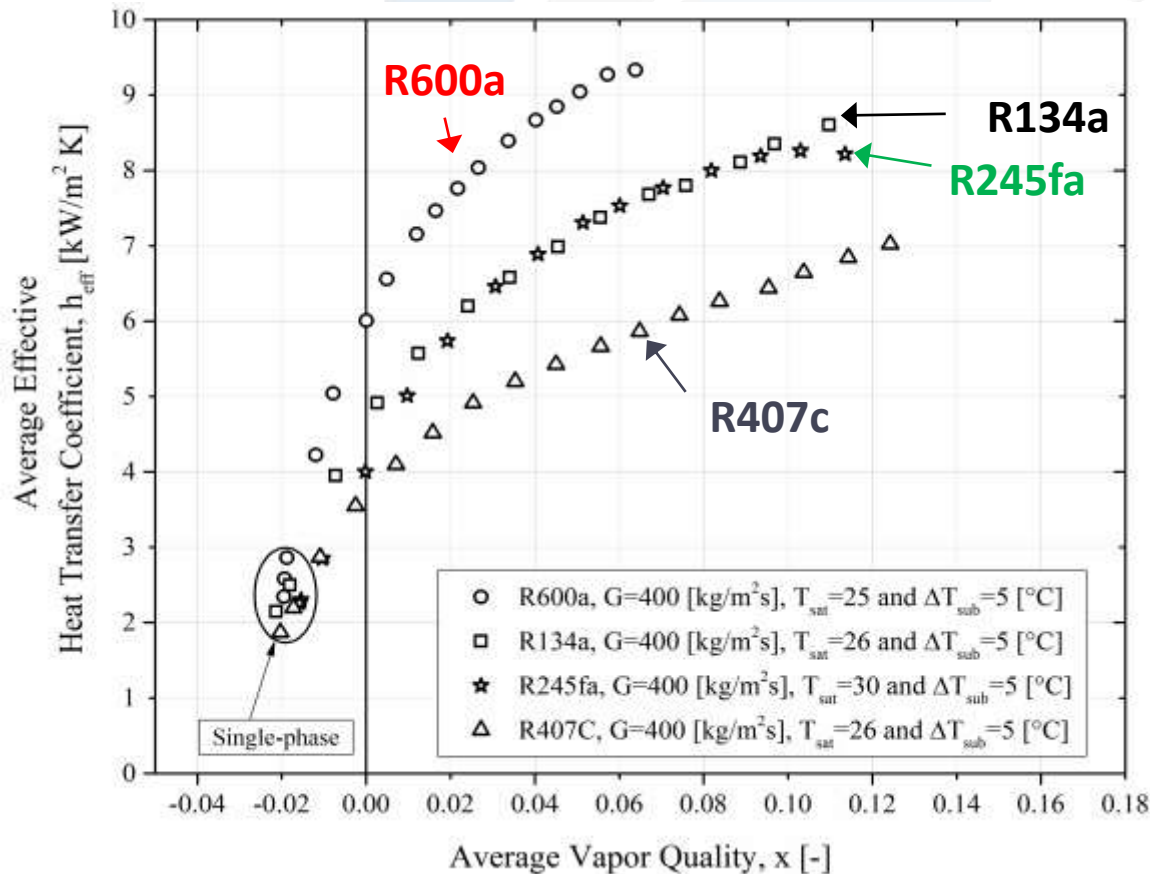


(b)



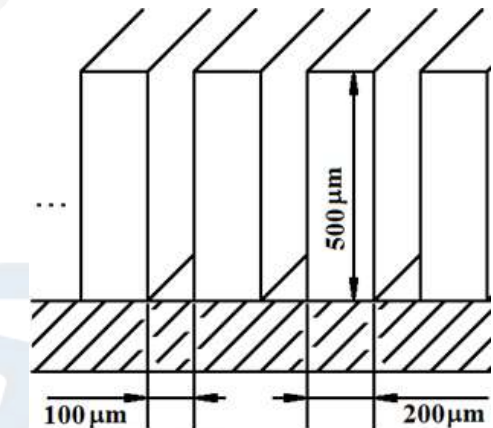
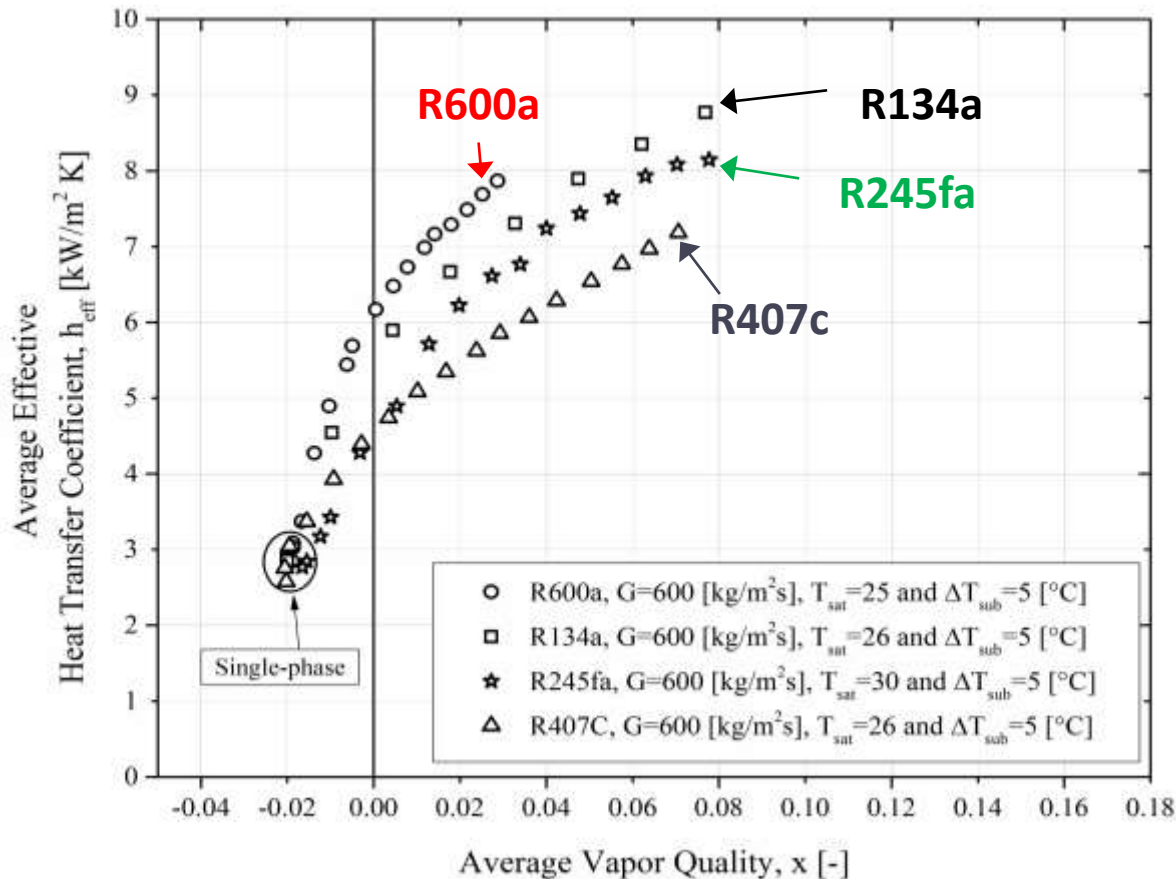
# Microstructured heat sinks

- Two-phase flow
  - Low G

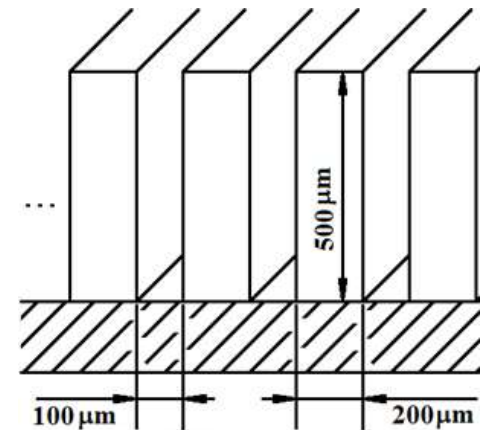
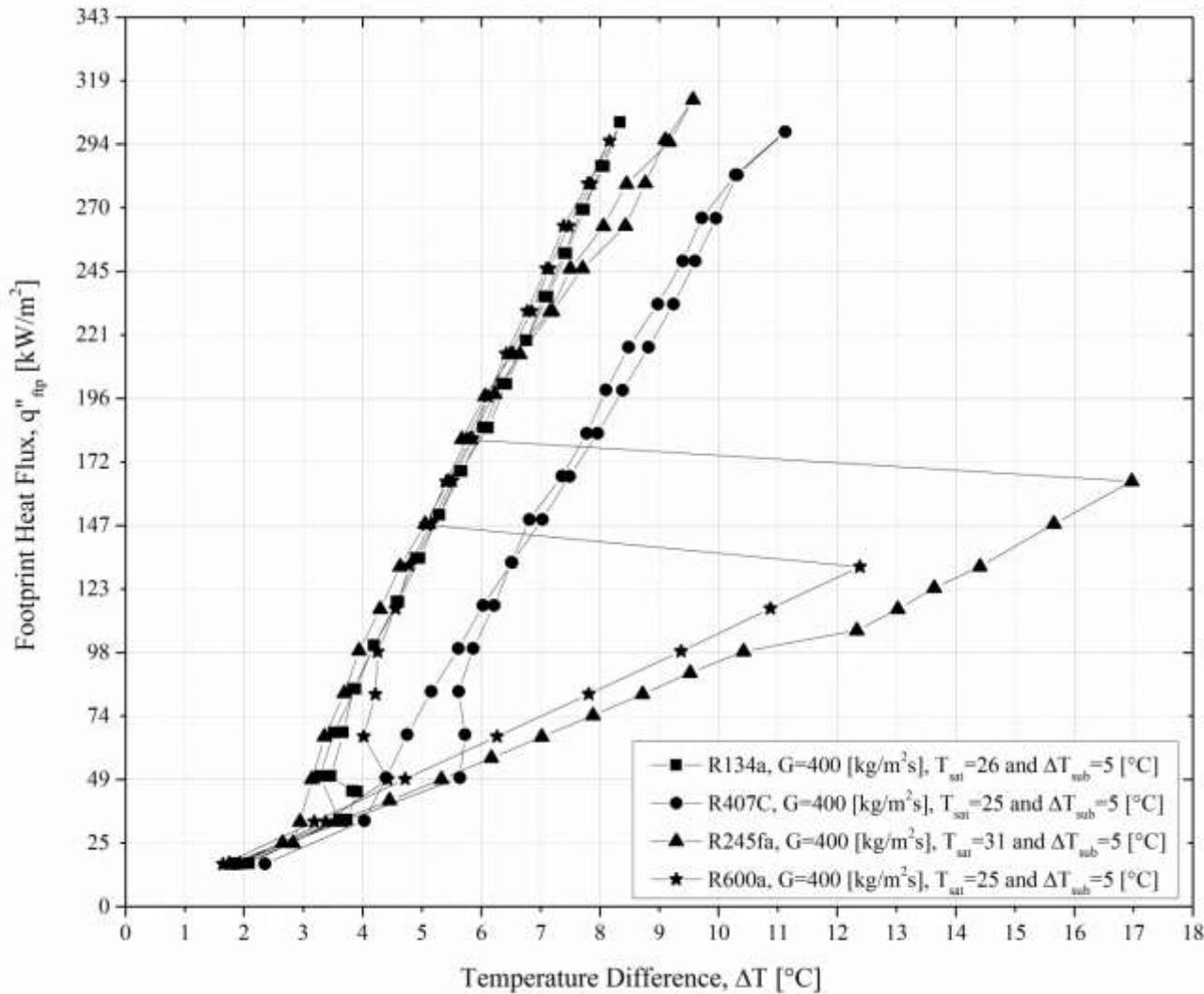


# Microstructured heat sinks

- Two-phase flow
  - High G



# Microstructured heat sinks

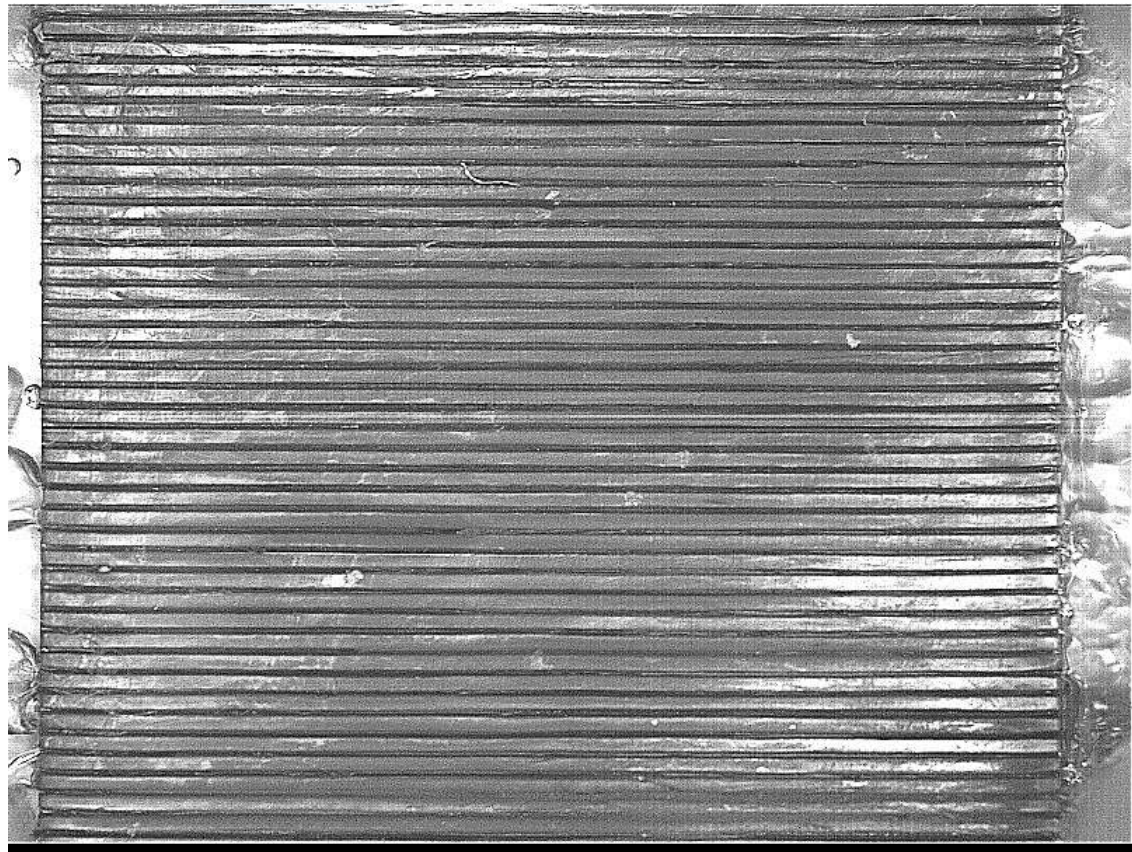
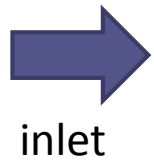




# Microstructured heat sinks

- Two-phase flow
  - Back flows

Leão and Ribatski (2014)



outlet

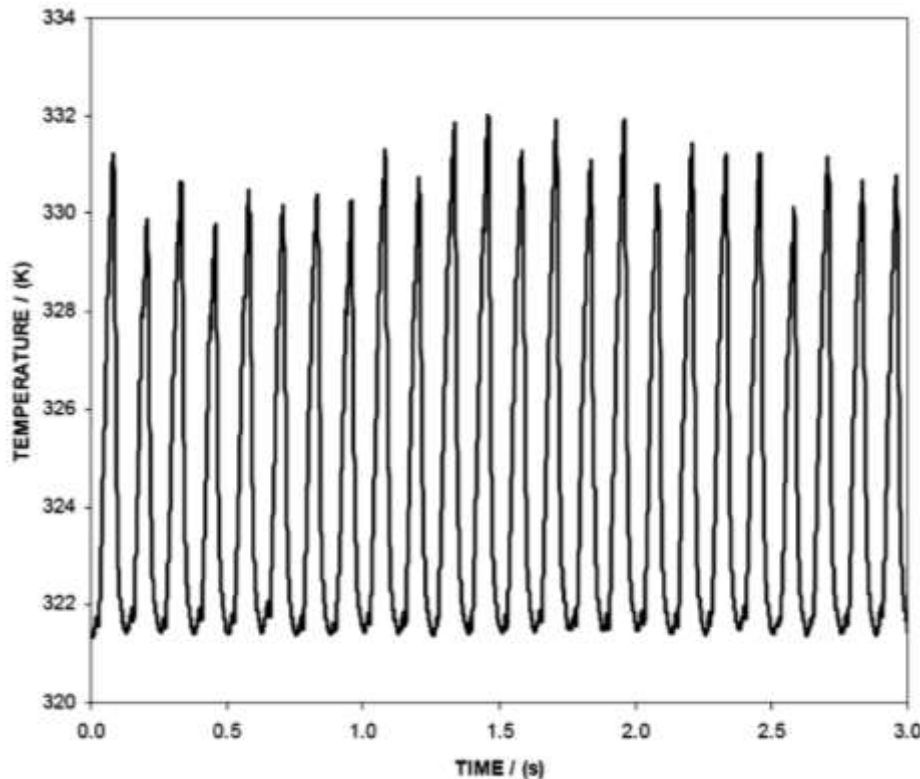


$$P_{in} \approx 180 \text{ kPa}, T_{sat} \approx 31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}, G=400 \text{ kg/m}^2\text{s},$$

$$\Delta T_{sub} = 5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \text{ and } q''_{\text{footprint}} = 100 \text{ kW/m}^2$$

# Microstructured heat sinks

- Two-phase flow
  - Back flows



Consolini et al. (2007)

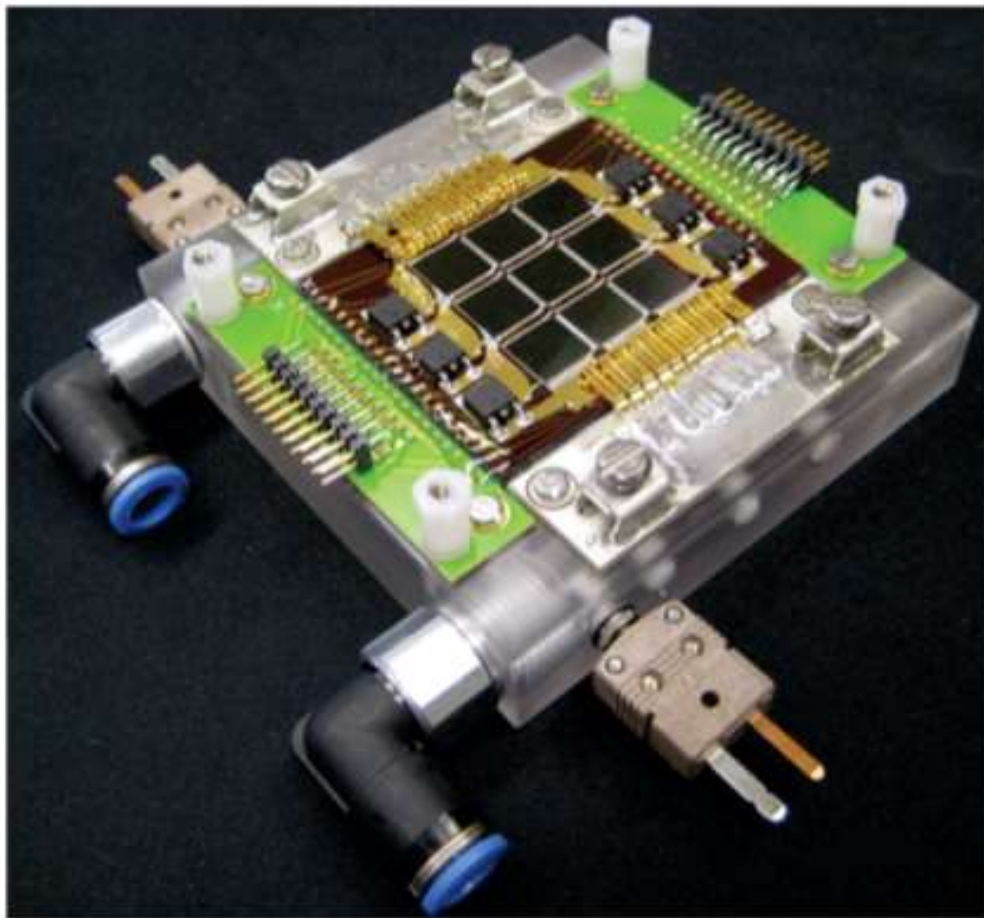
Outer wall temperature fluctuations for flow boiling of R-134a in a single 0.8 mm circular channel, taken at half the channel length (heat flux:  $140 \text{ kW/m}^2$ , mass velocity:  $300 \text{ kg/m}^2\text{s}$ , saturation temperature:  $31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , channel length: 70 mm).

# Microstructured heat sinks

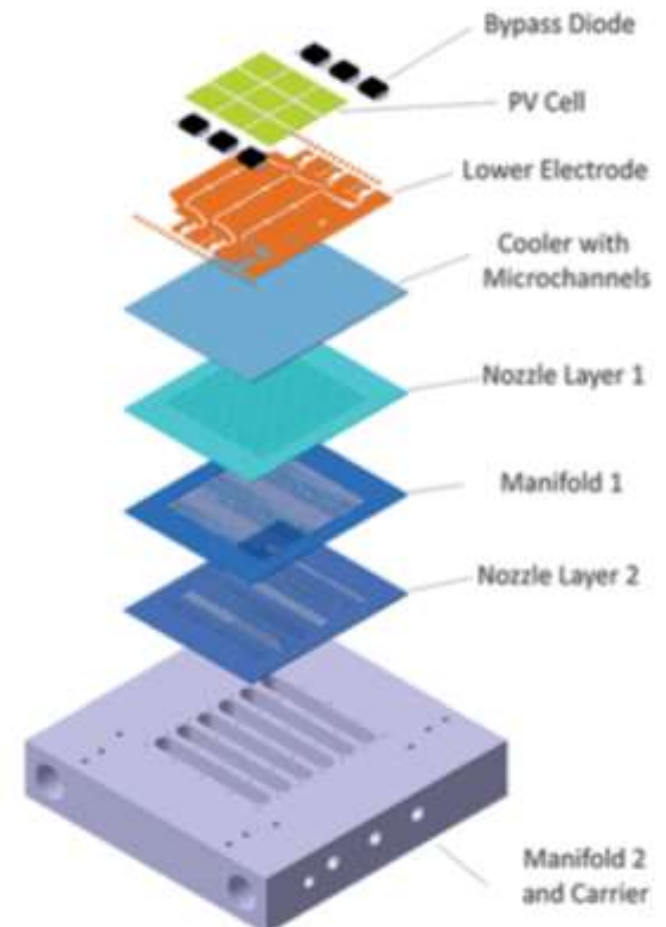
- Waste heat reuse
  - Thermodynamic cycles
    - Organic Rankine Cycle
    - Ericsson or Stirling cycles
    - Refrigeration
  - Water desalination
  - Hydrogen production
  - Ambient heating

# Microstructured heat sinks

- Waste heat reuse

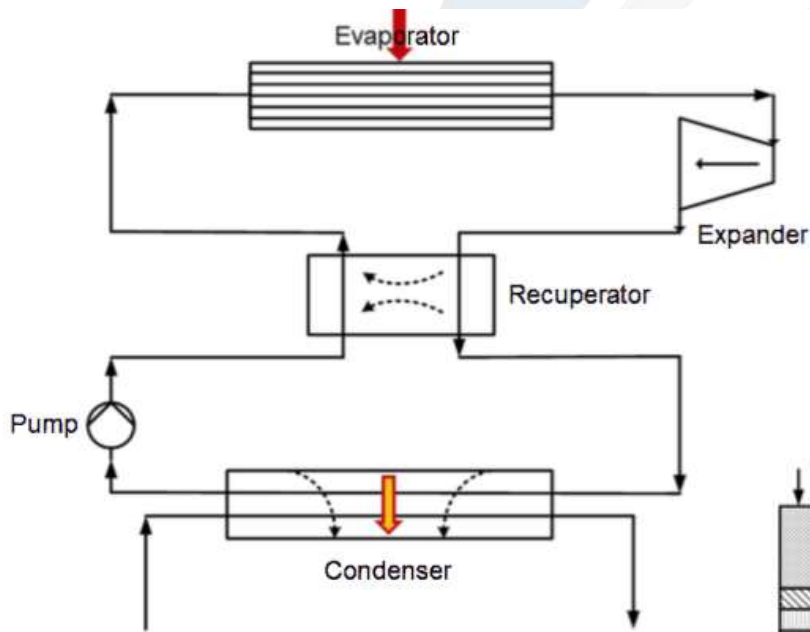


Michel and Paredes (2013)  
2000suns

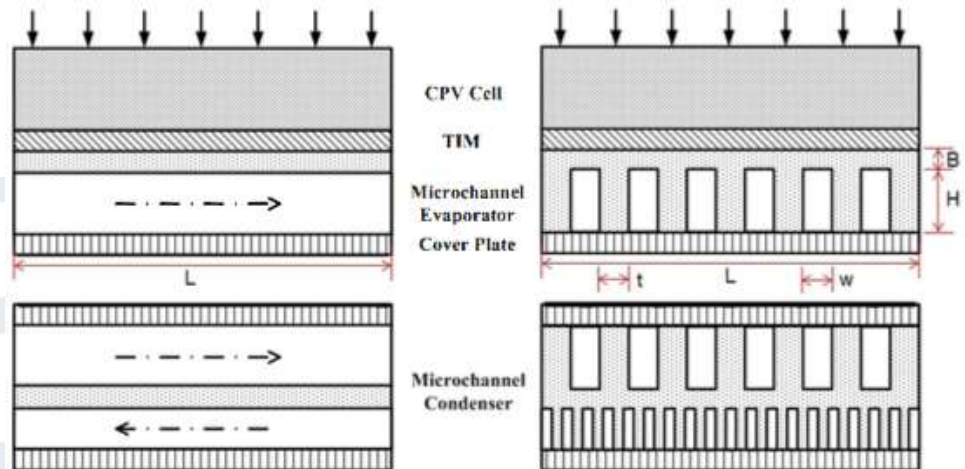
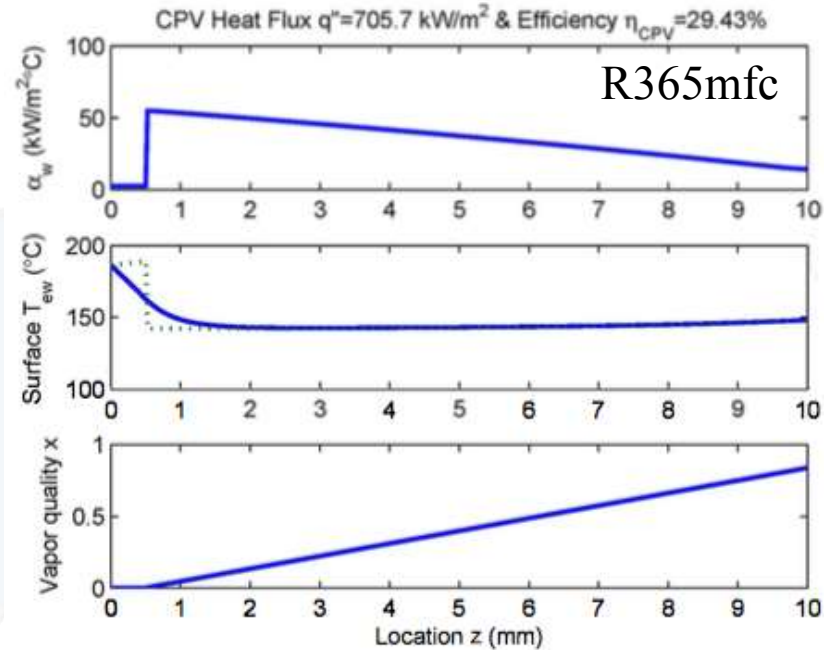


# Microstructured heat sinks

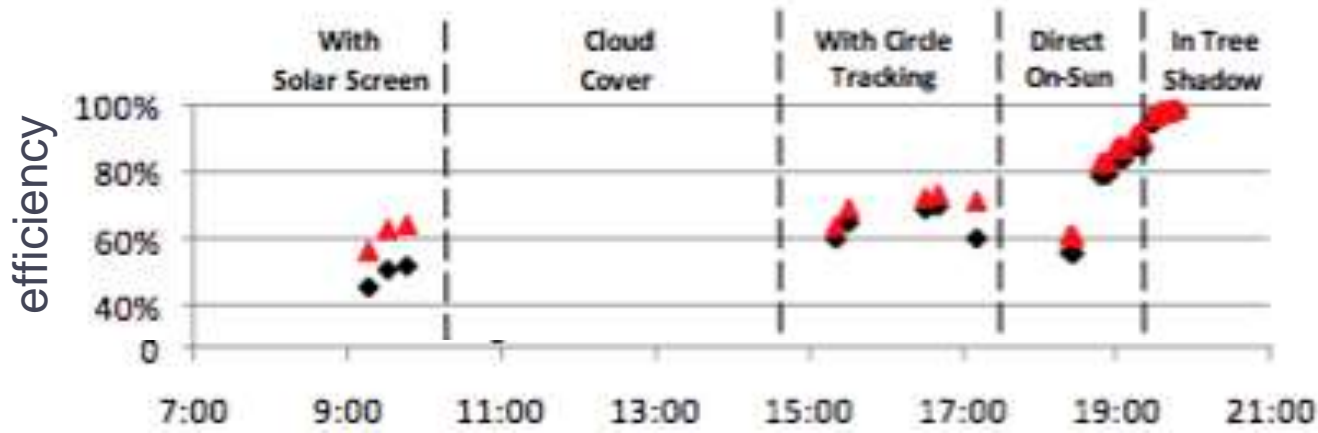
- Waste heat reuse



Zhang and Wang (2012)  
 $\eta$  from 12 to 44%

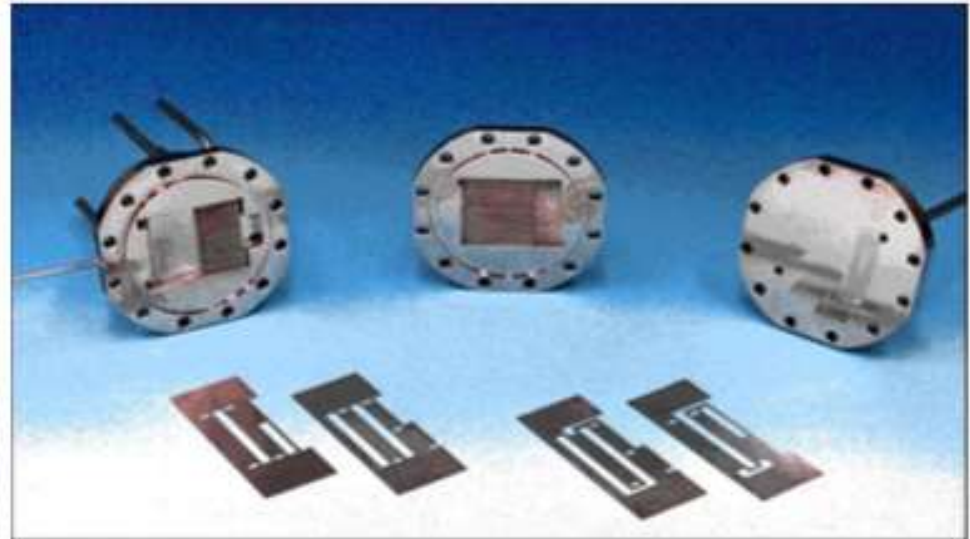
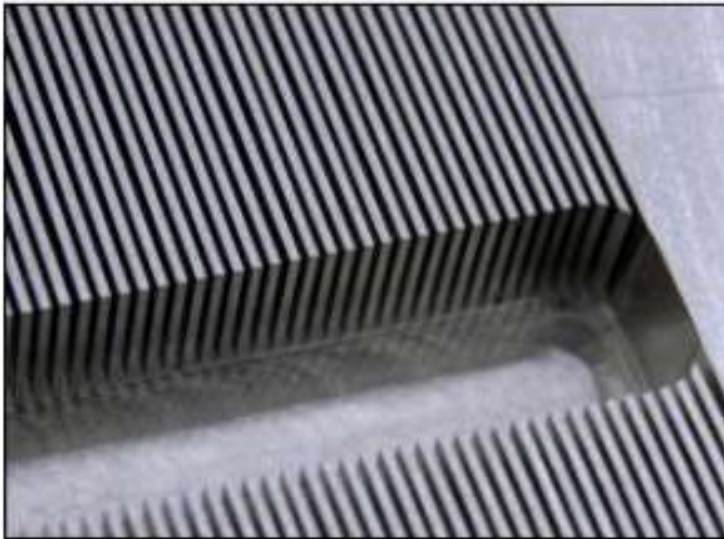


# Microstructured heat sinks



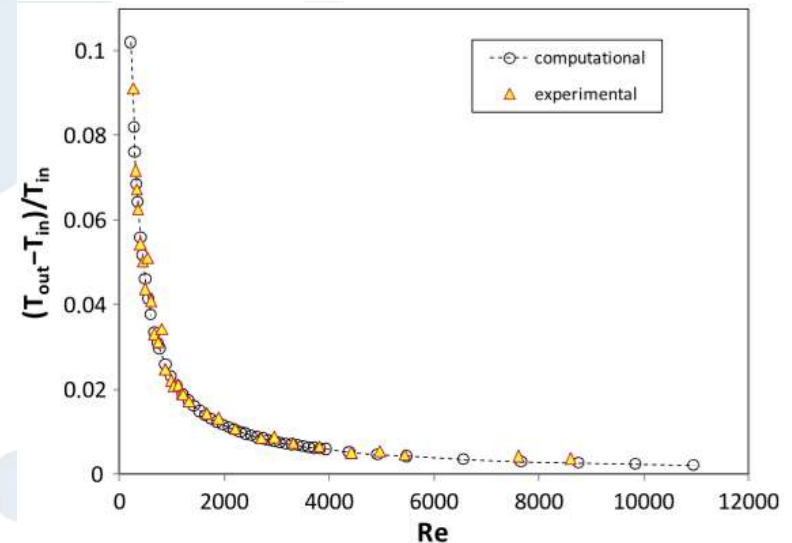
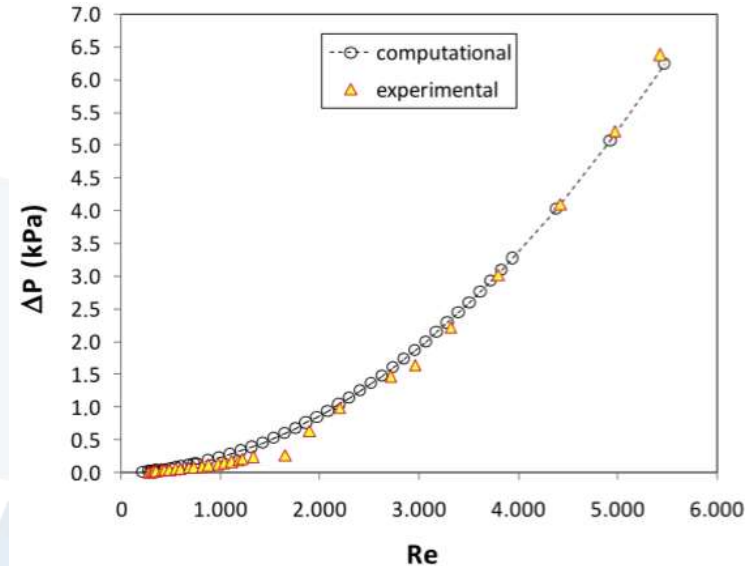
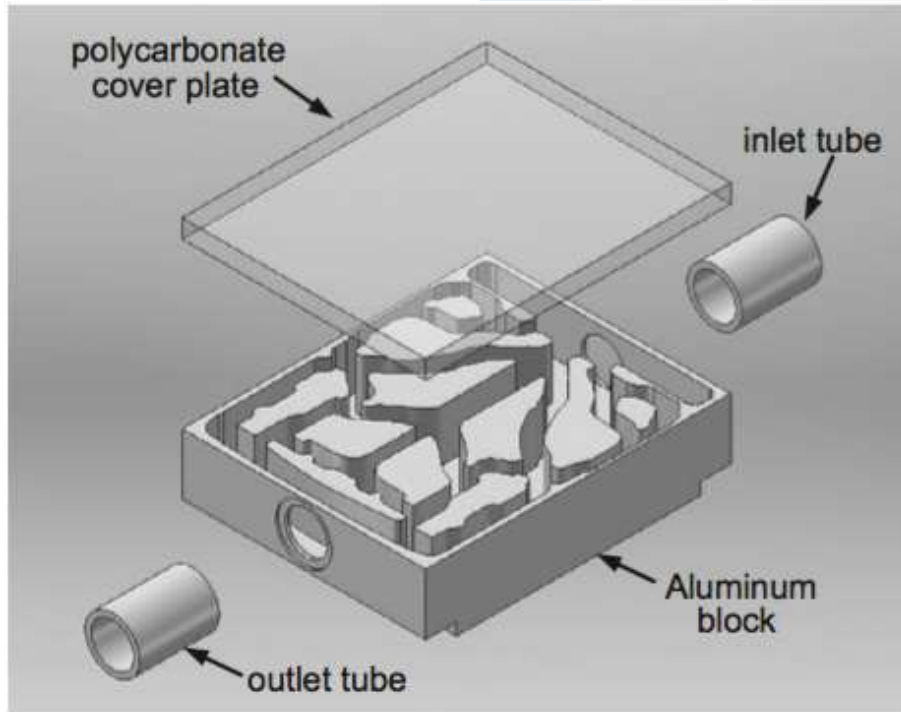
steam  
methane  
reforming

Wegeng et al. (2011)



# Microstructured heat sinks

- Novel designs

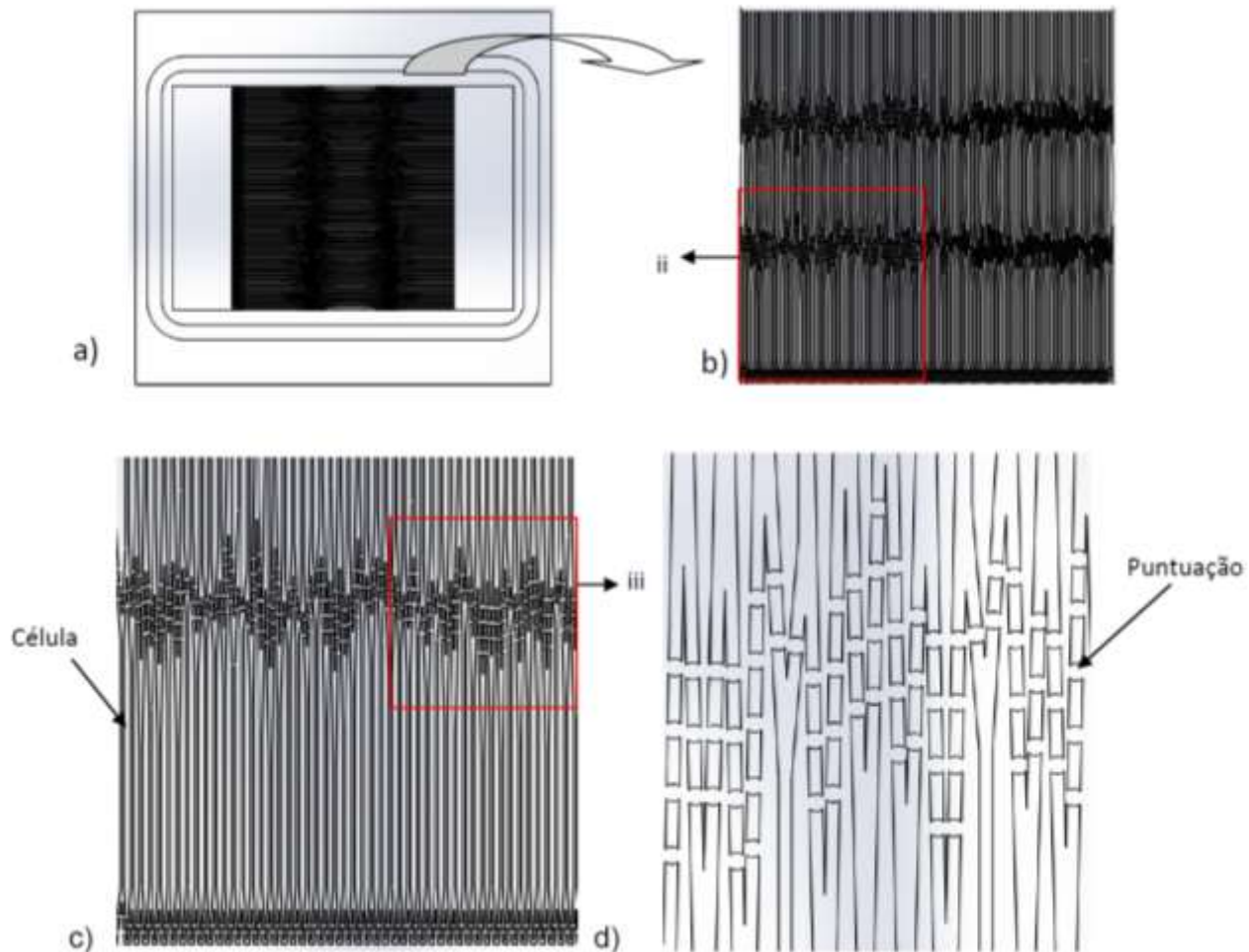


Koga et al. (2013)

# Microstructured heat sinks

- Novel designs

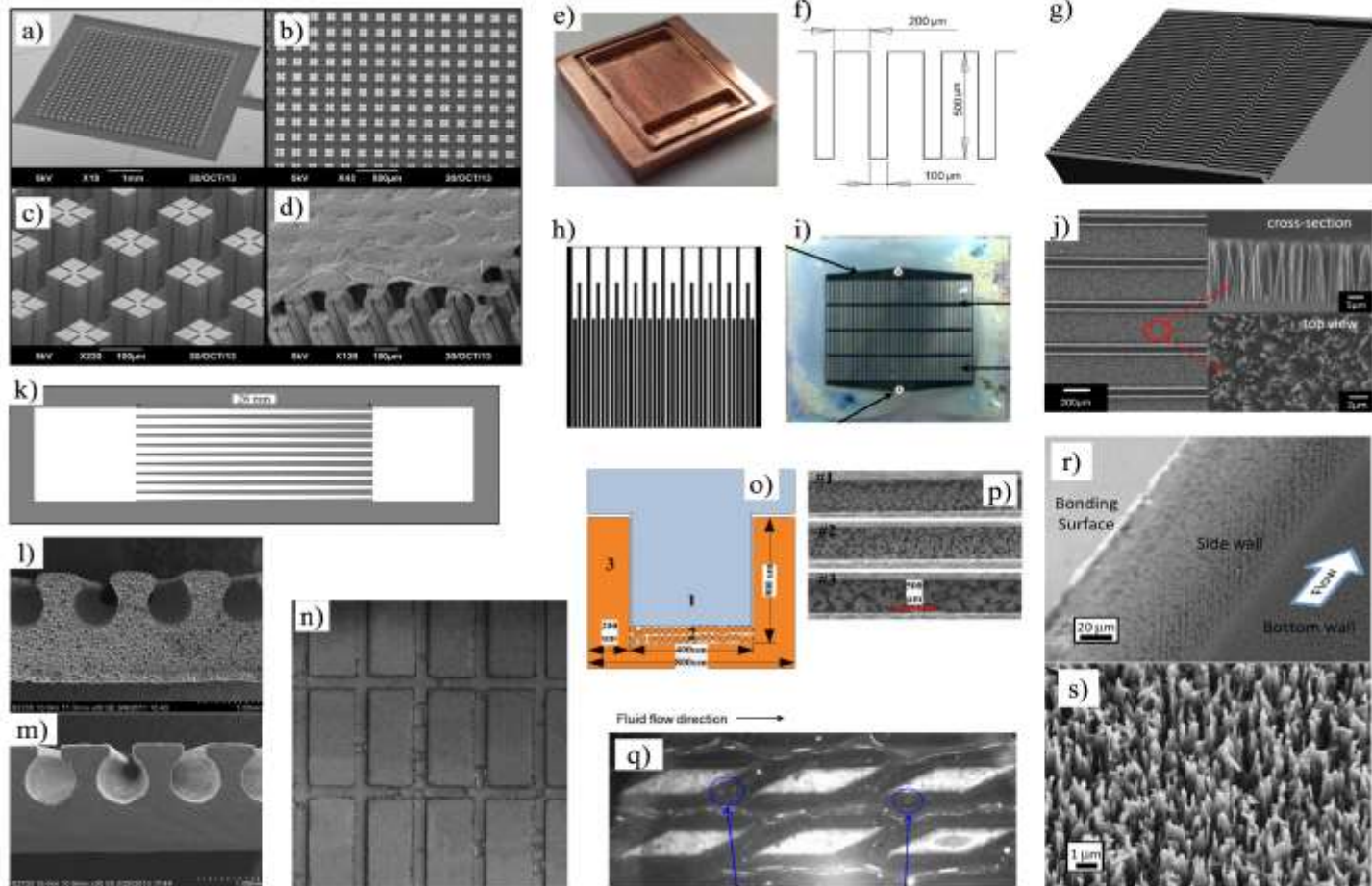
Chávez and Ribatski (2014)





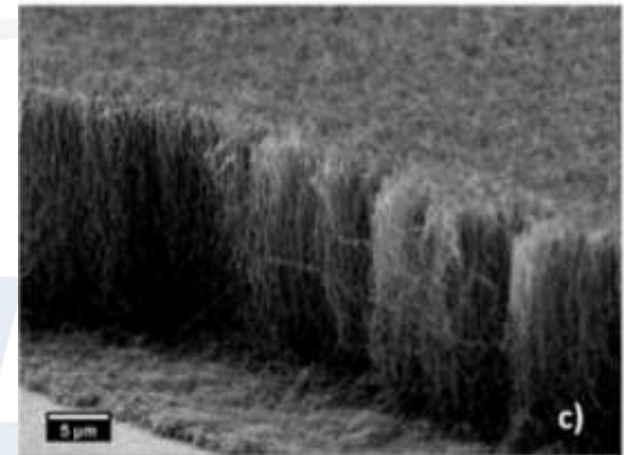
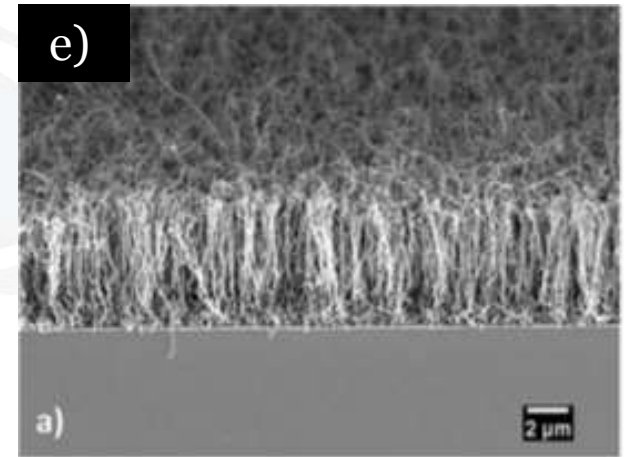
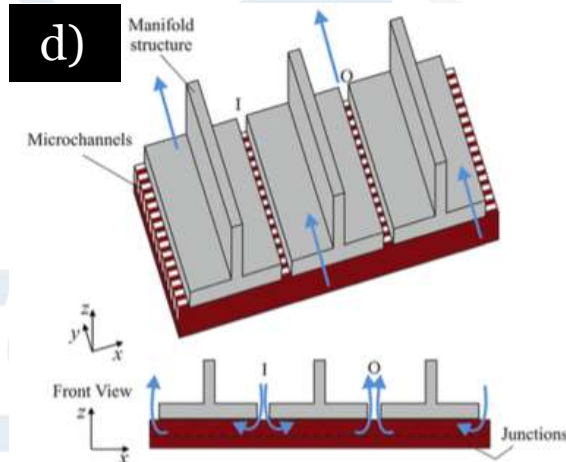
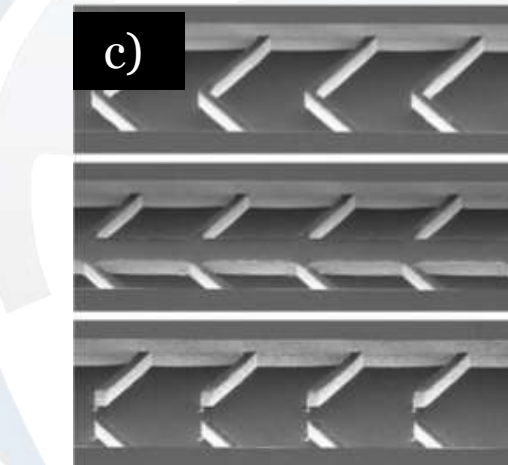
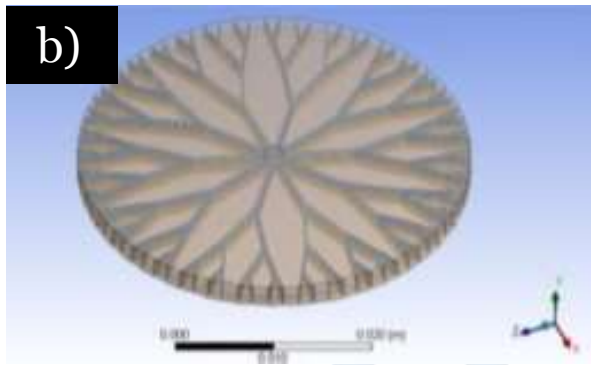
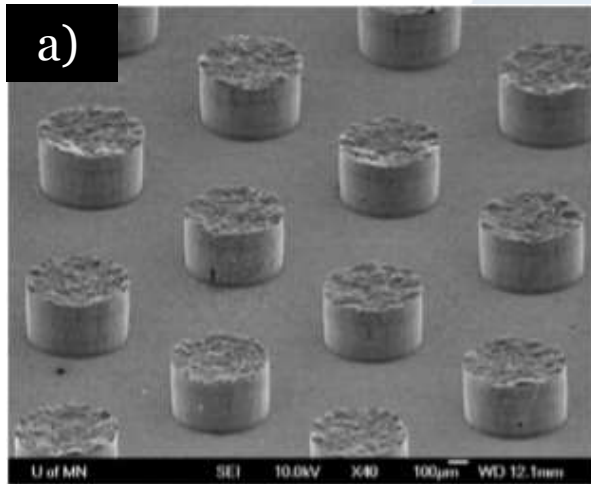
# Microstructured heat sinks

- Novel designs



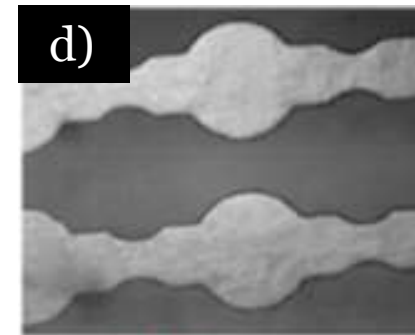
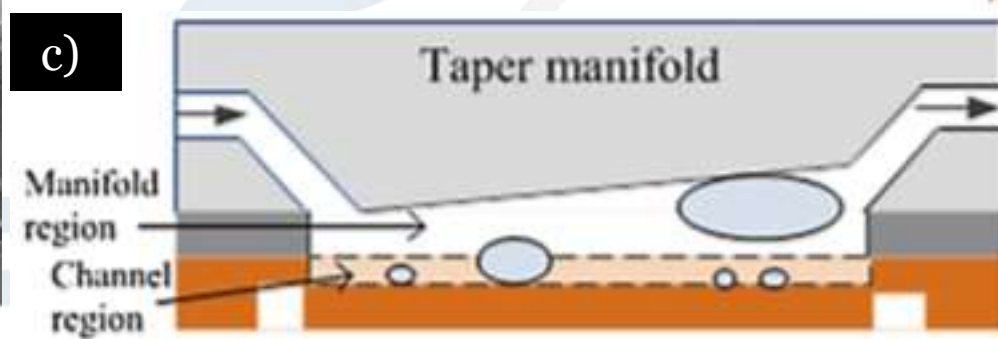
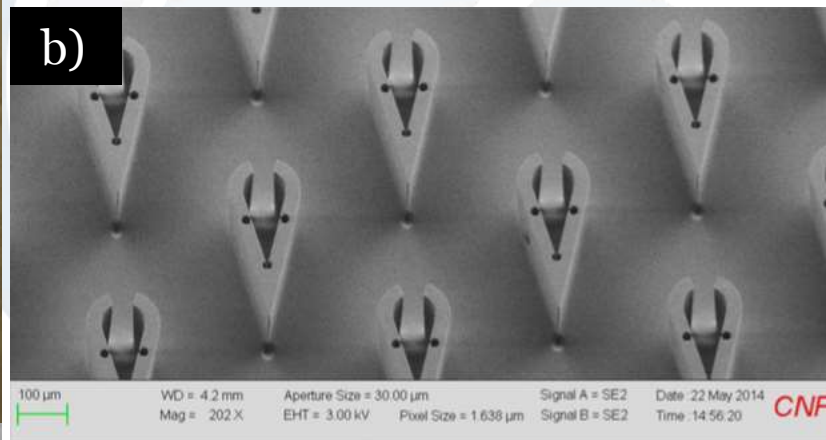
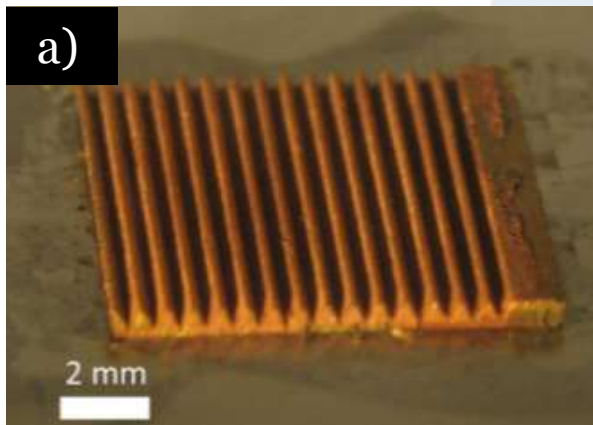
# Microstructured heat sinks

- Novel designs

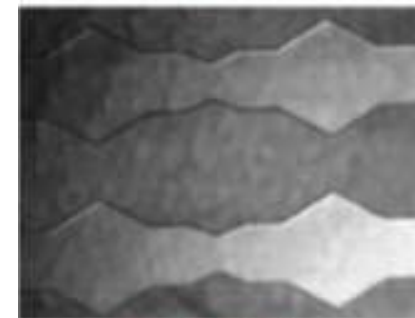


# Microstructured heat sinks

- Novel designs



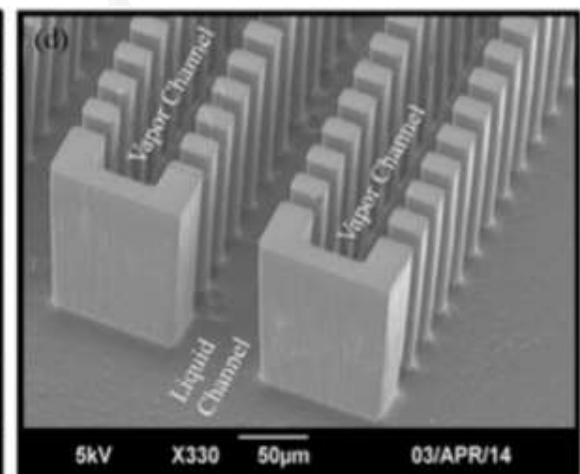
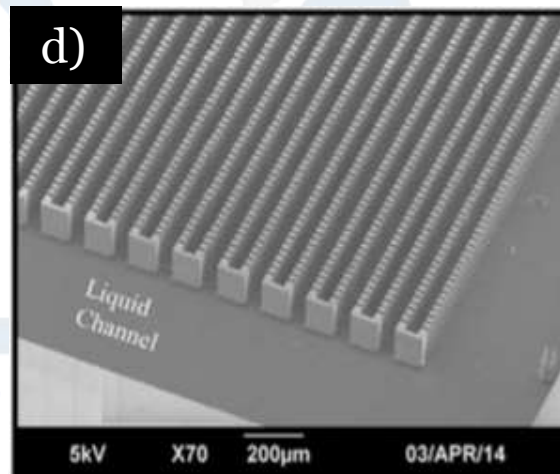
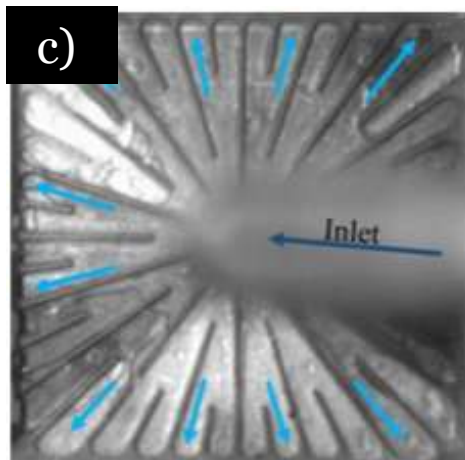
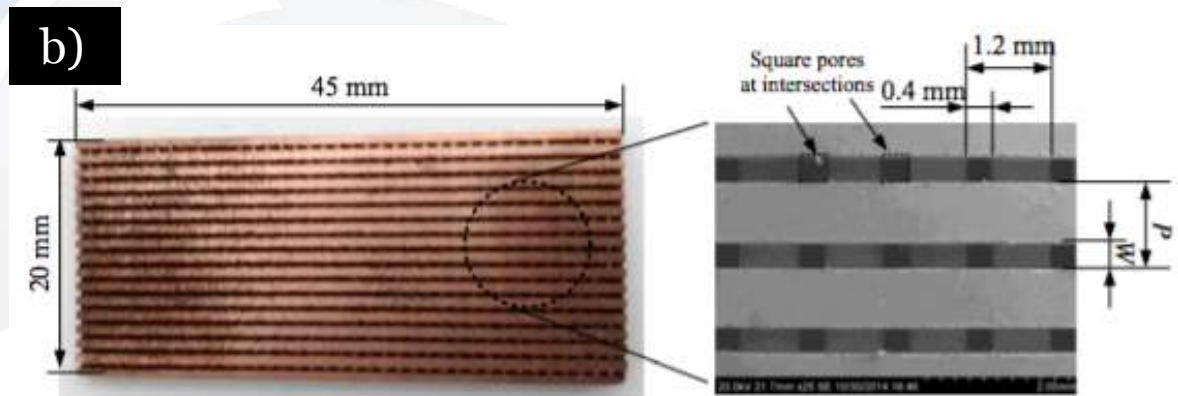
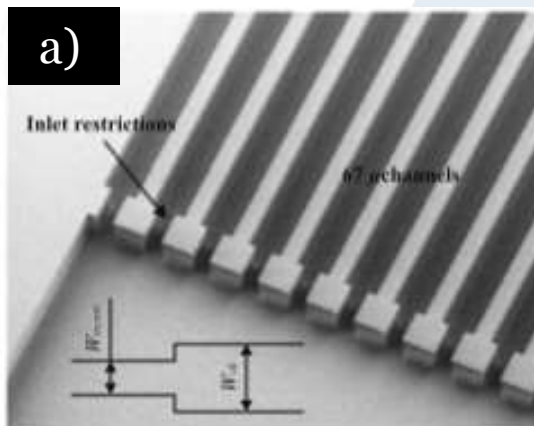
C.C.C.R



Tri.C-Tri.R

# Microstructured heat sinks

- Novel designs



# Concluding remarks

- Research needs:
  - Mal-distribution effects
  - Non-uniform heat distribution
  - Dynamic controlling systems
  - Increase CHF
  - Minimize instabilities
  - Cheaper and up-scalable fabrication
  - Design optimization techniques
  - Micro- and nanostructured surfaces
  - Flexible heat sinks







# Obrigado!

