

# **Sandia Optical Analyses and Testing for Heliostats and Central Receiver Systems**

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**Sandia National Laboratories**



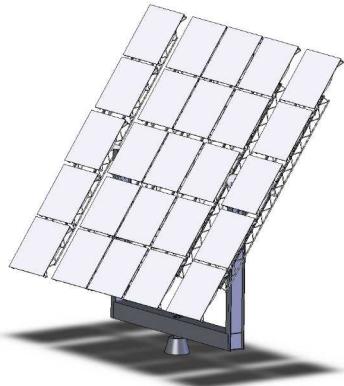
# Overview

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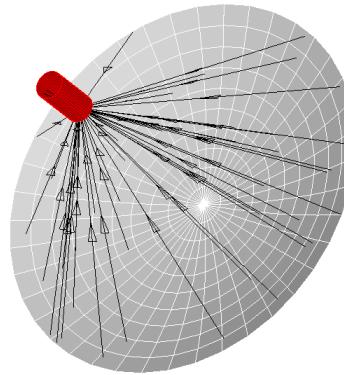
- Optical Codes
- Analysis of PWR Modules
- Analysis of Gravity Sag
- Analysis of Wind Loading
- Summary

# Optical Analysis Codes

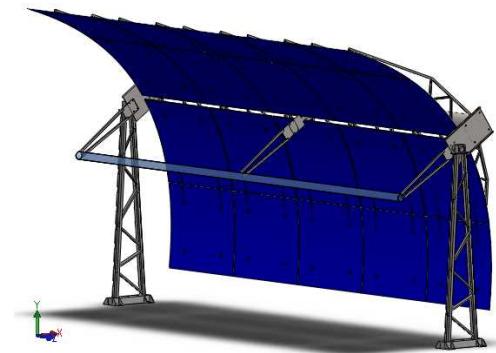
Heliost



Dish



Parabolic Trough



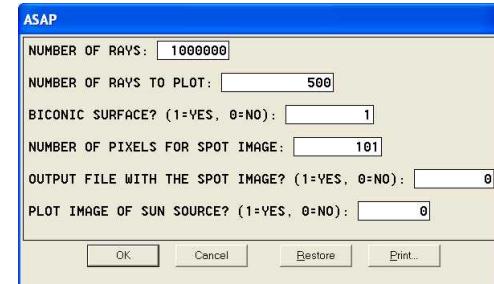
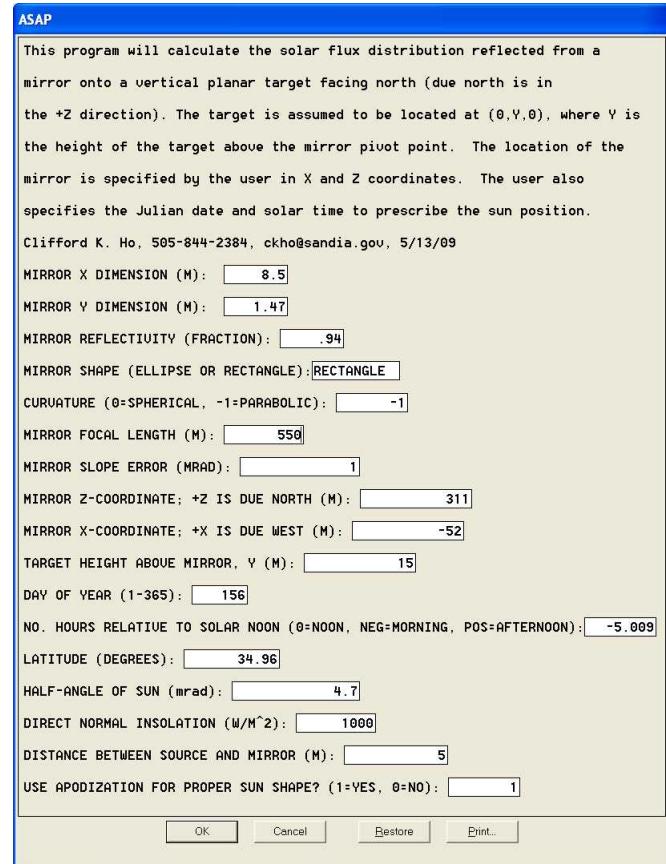
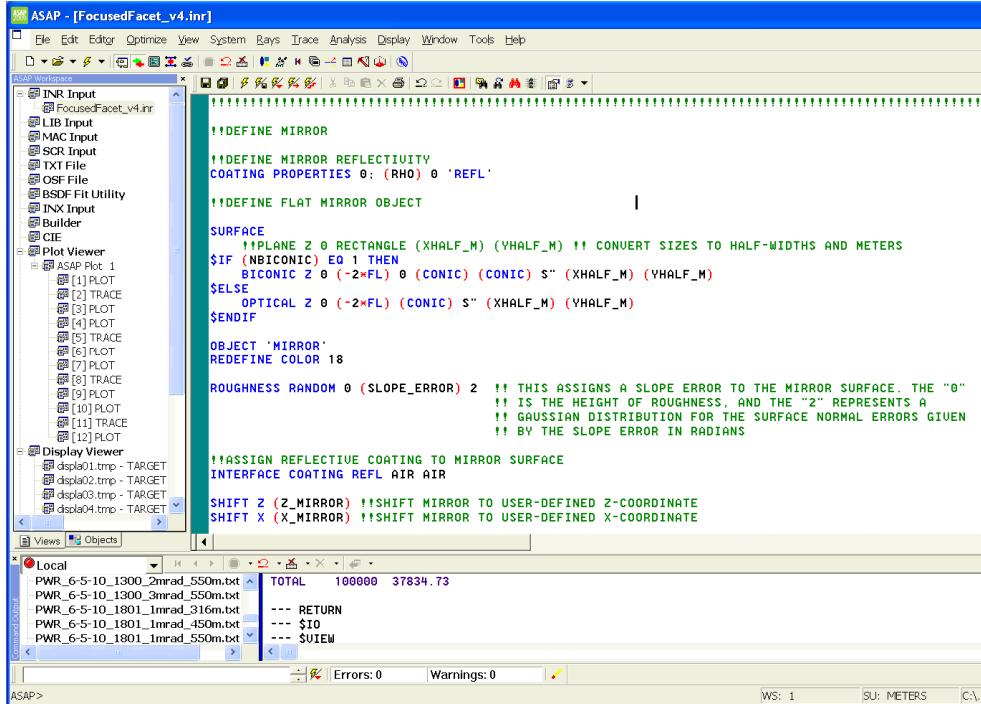
- **MIRVAL**
  - Ray tracing; flux from entire heliostat field; not supported
- **HELIOS**
  - Cone optics; flux from entire heliostat field; not supported
- **DELSOL**
  - Hermite polynomials; flux from entire heliostat field; optimization; energy output
- **ASAP**
  - Commercial ray-tracing code

- **CIRCE**
  - “Daughter” of HELIOS; cone optics; flux distribution within receiver
- **ASAP**
  - Commercial ray-tracing code

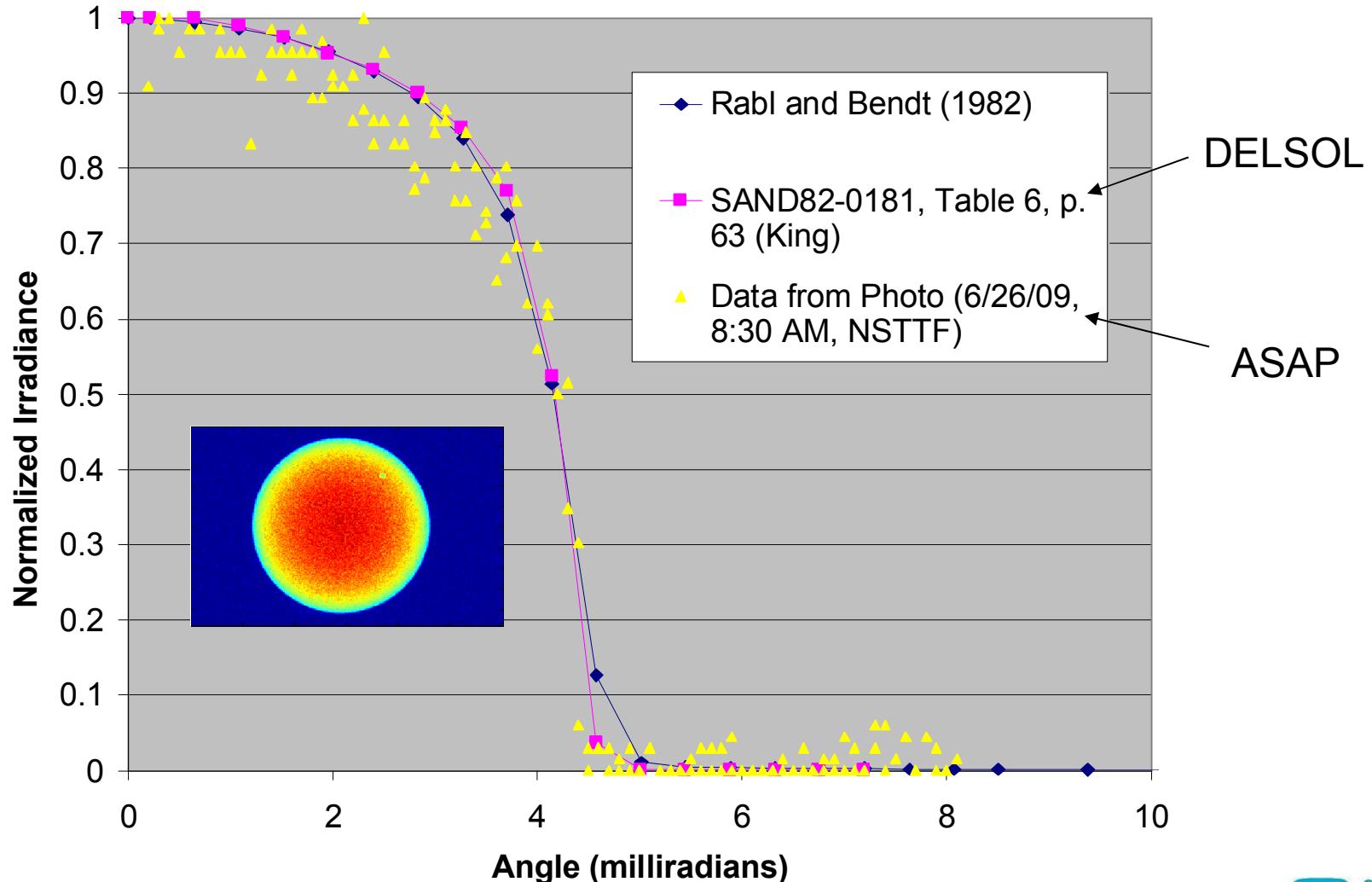
- **TROUGH\_HELIOS**
  - Trough version of HELIOS; cone optics
- **ASAP**
  - Commercial ray-tracing code

# ASAP Code

- Primary customer is automotive industry
- Powerful scripting interface
- CAD import



# Sun Shape and Apodization





# Overview

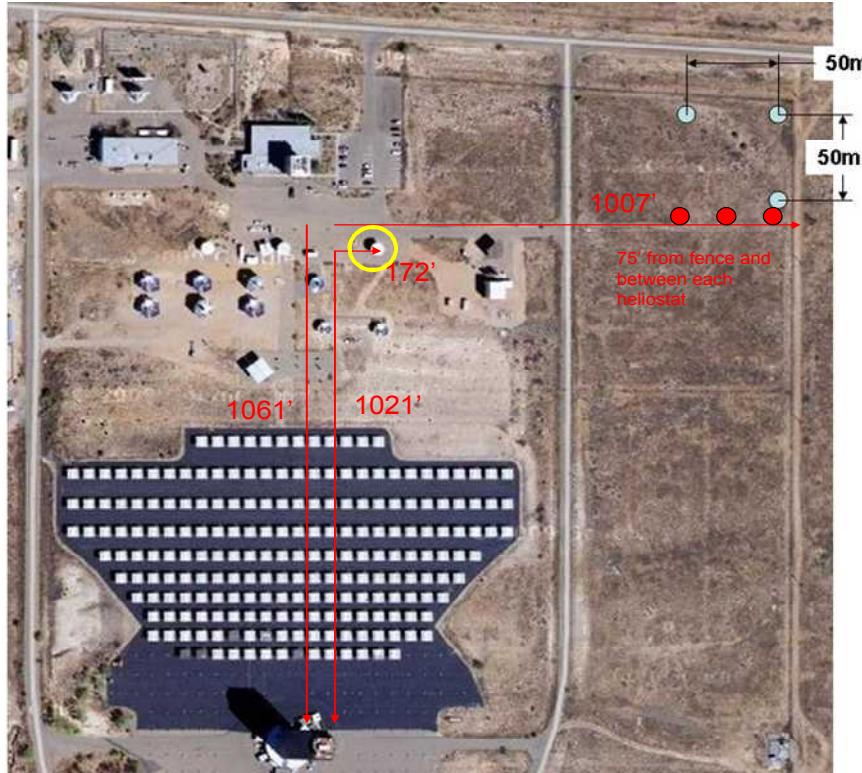
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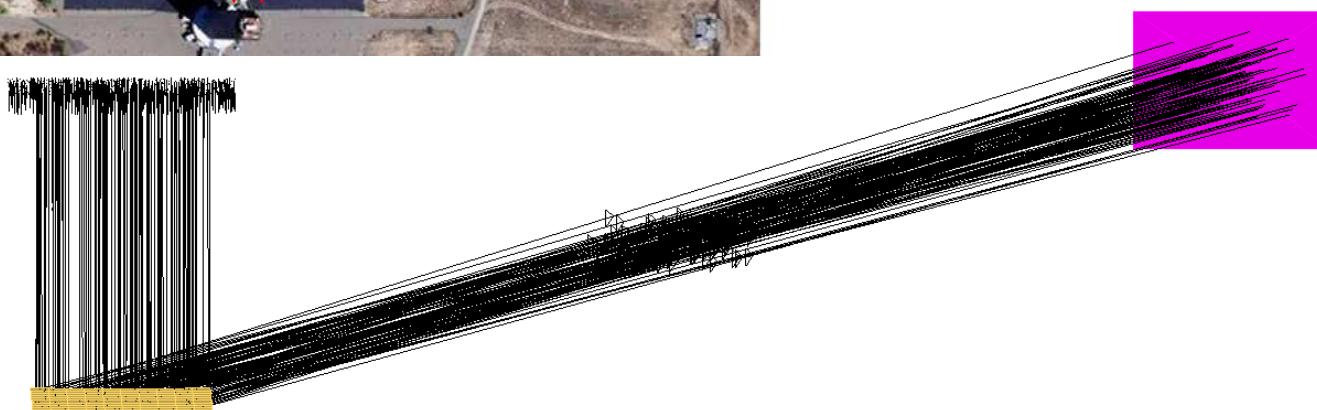
# Single Mirror Module



# Single Mirror Module

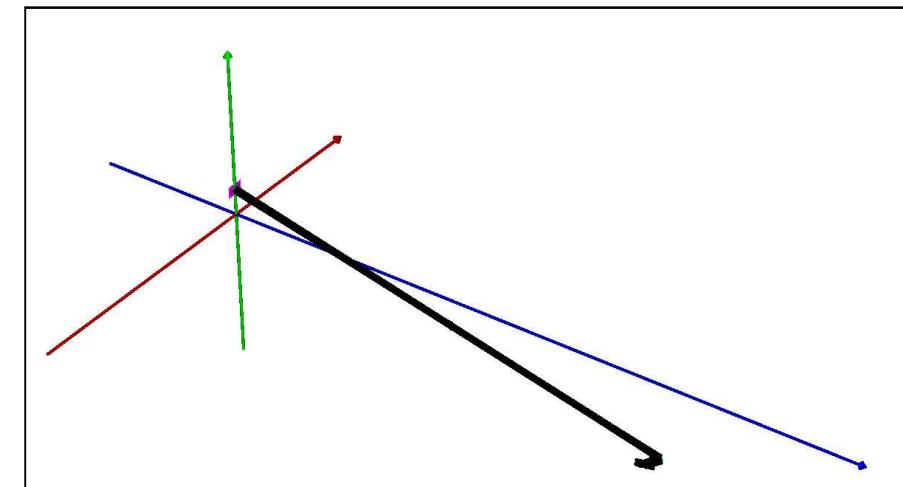
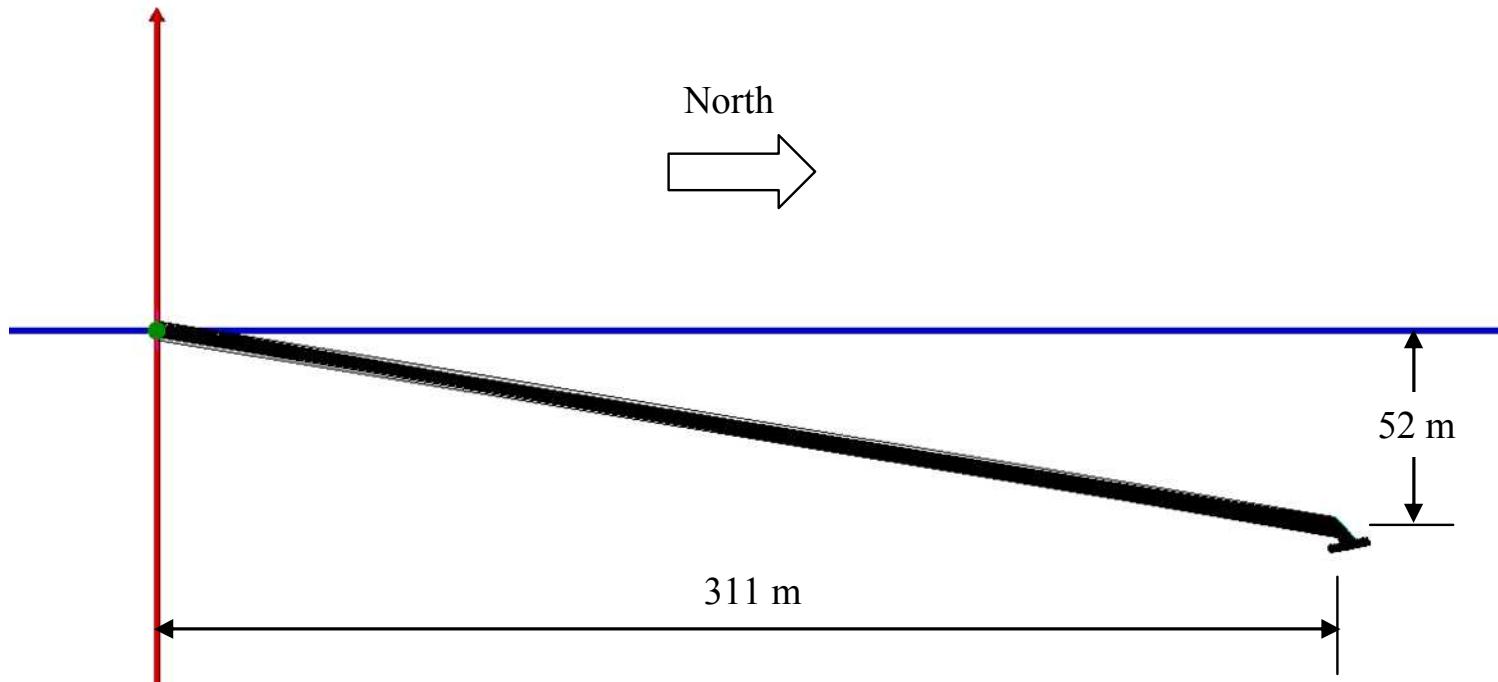


- June 5, 2010
  - All day test with single mirror module
  - Compared beam flux distribution with ASAP and DELSOL
    - 8:04 AM, 1:00 PM, and 6:01 PM (MDT)



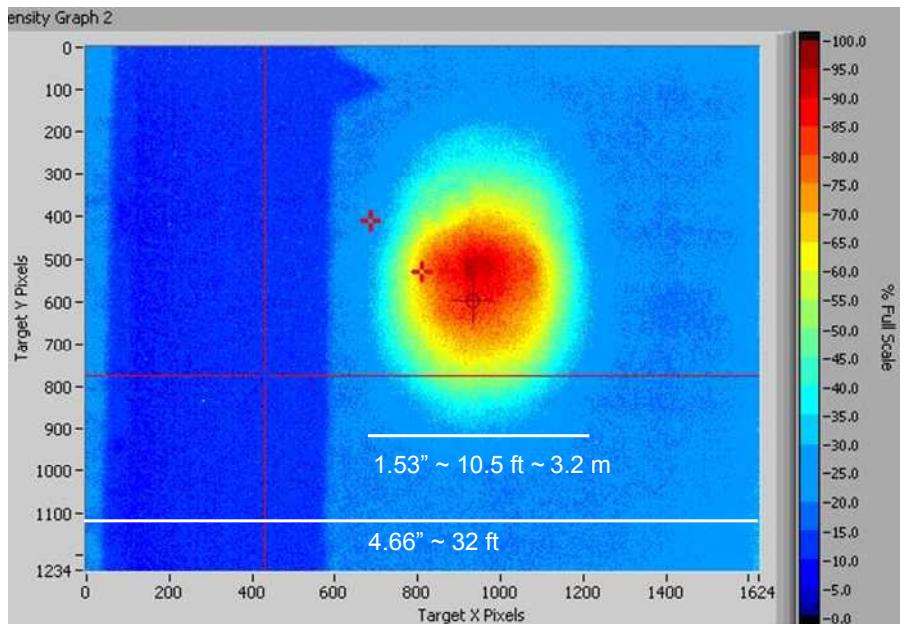


# 8:04 AM, June 5, 2010



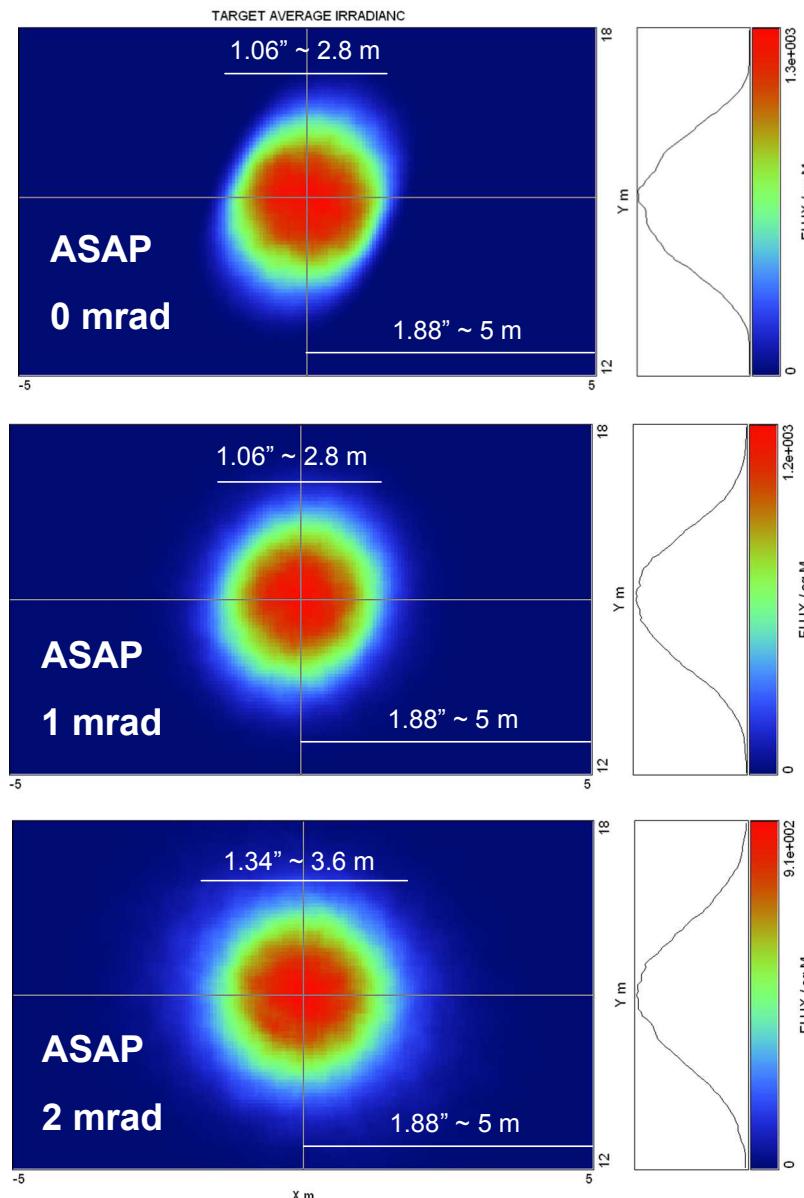
8:04 AM, June 5, 2010

550 m focal length  
Slant range to tower = 316 m



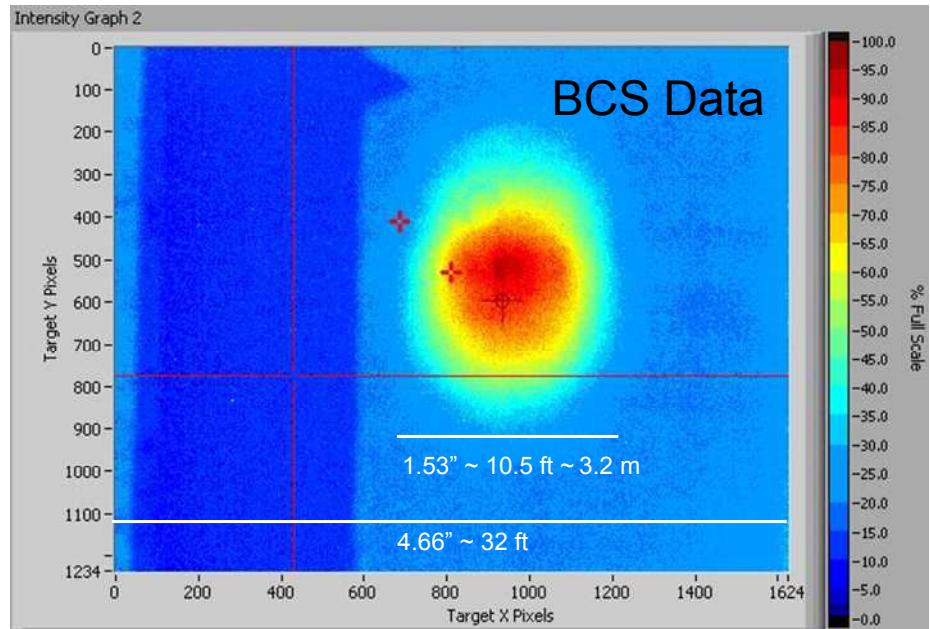
BCS Data

Different RMS slope errors in ASAP

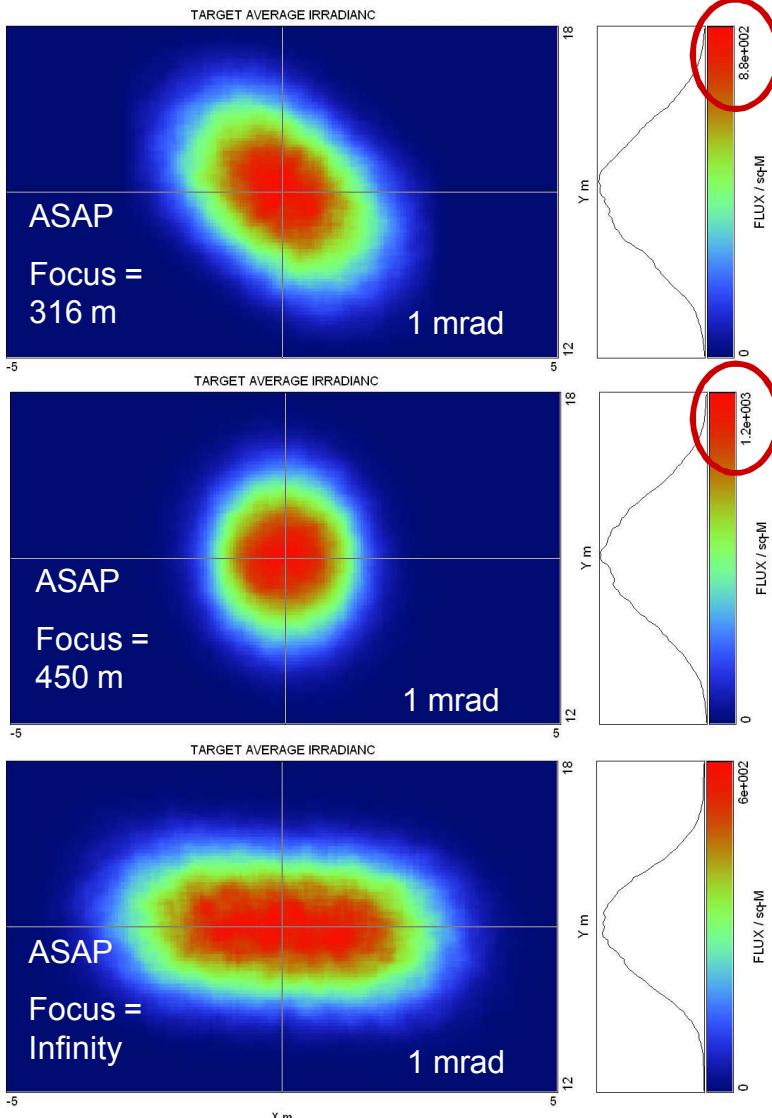


8:04 AM, June 5, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m



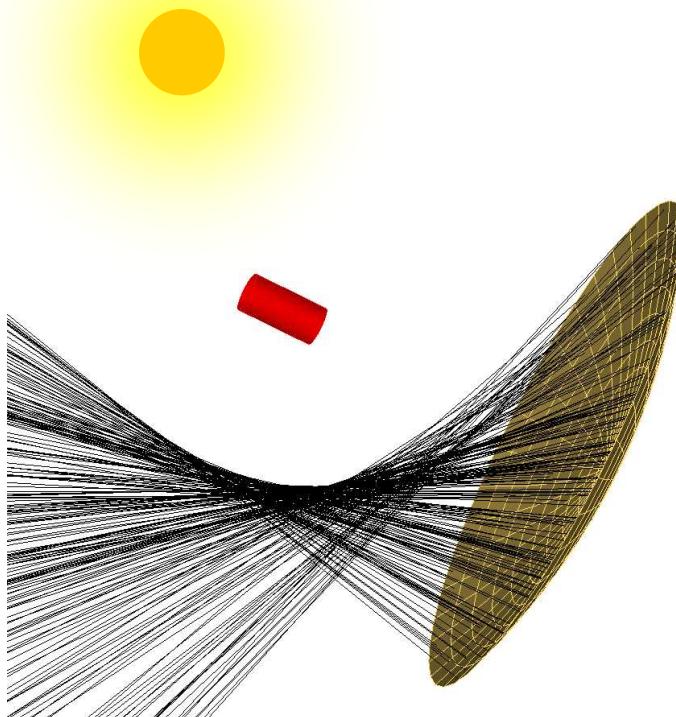
Different focal lengths in ASAP



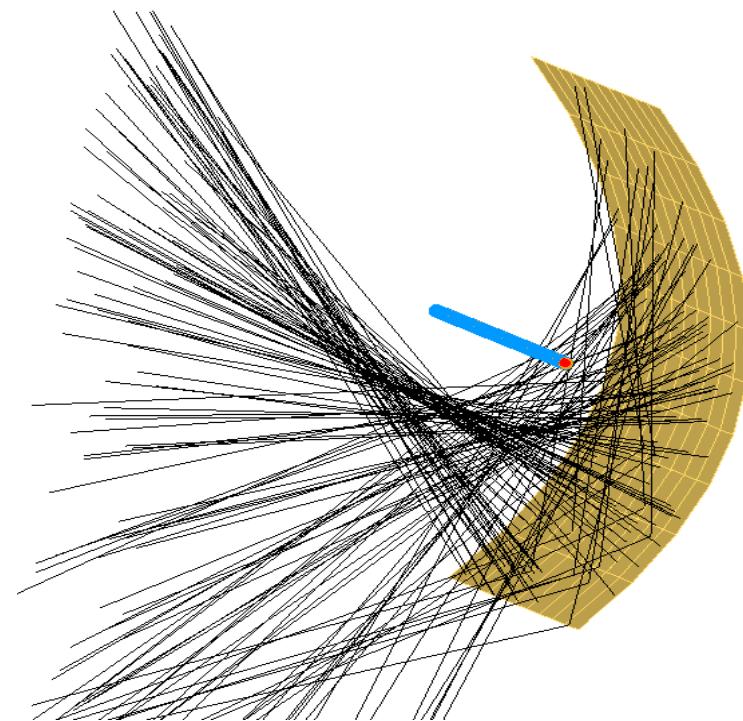
- **Shape of beam when mirror is angled sharply provides indication of true focal length**
- **Peak flux not always highest when focal length equals slant range**



# Optical Aberrations



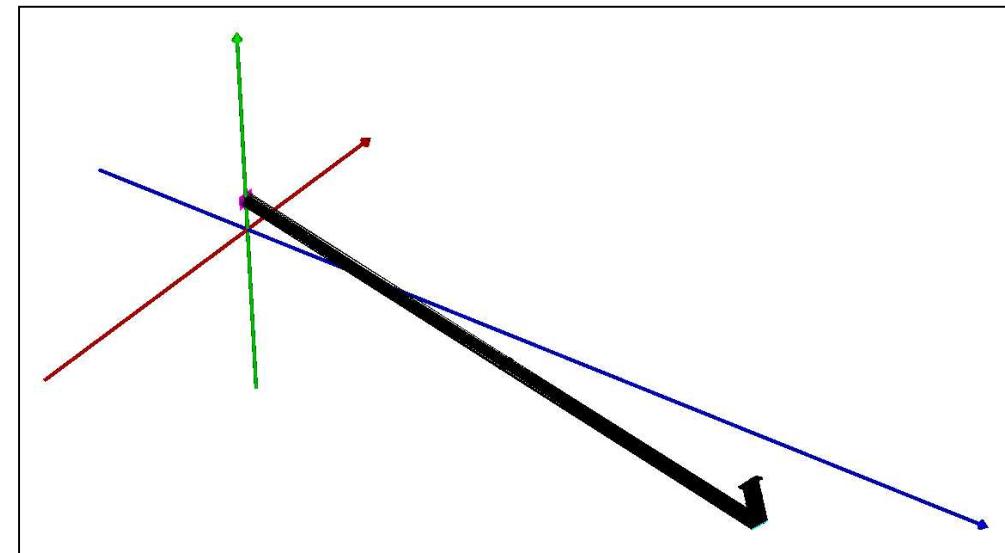
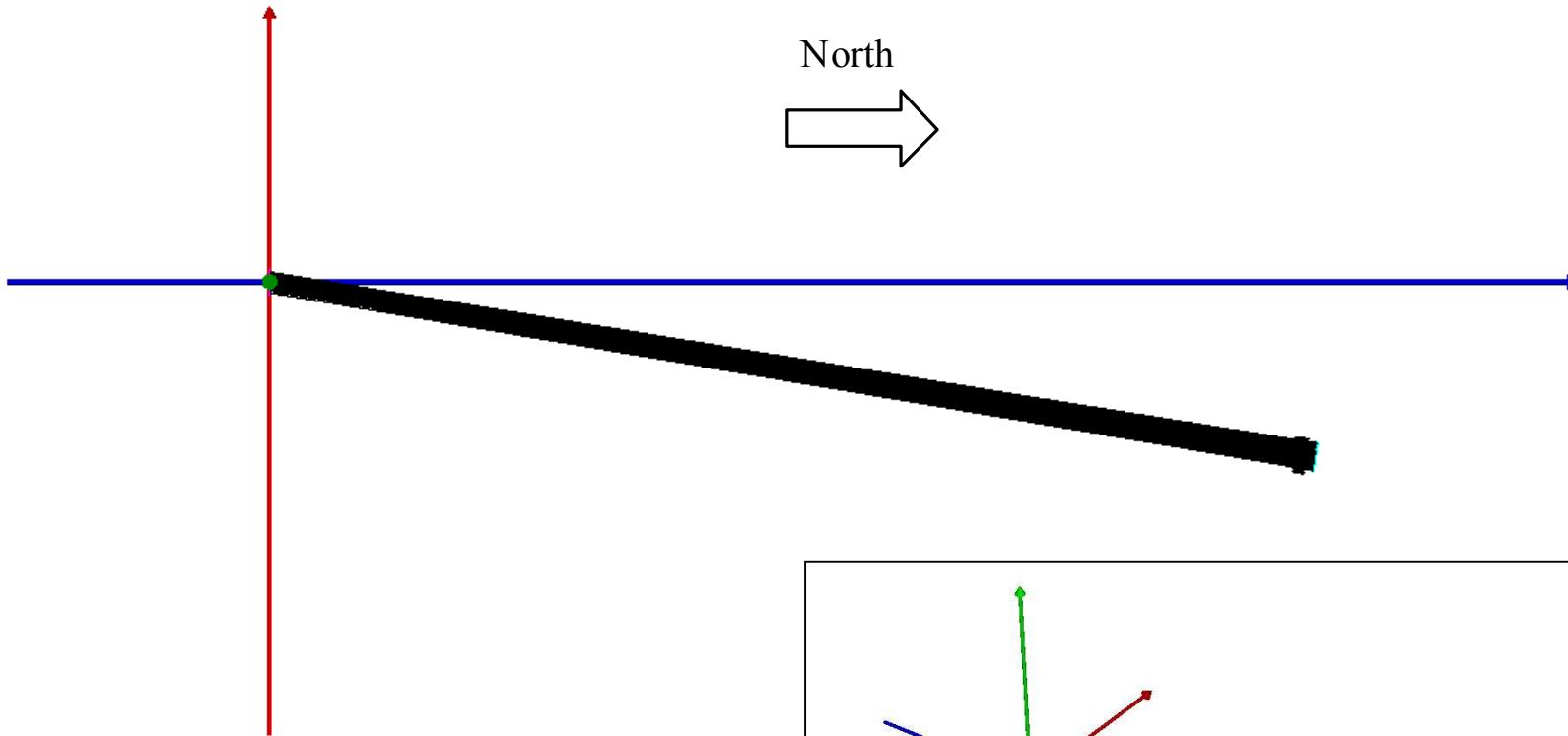
Off-axis Dish



Off-axis Trough



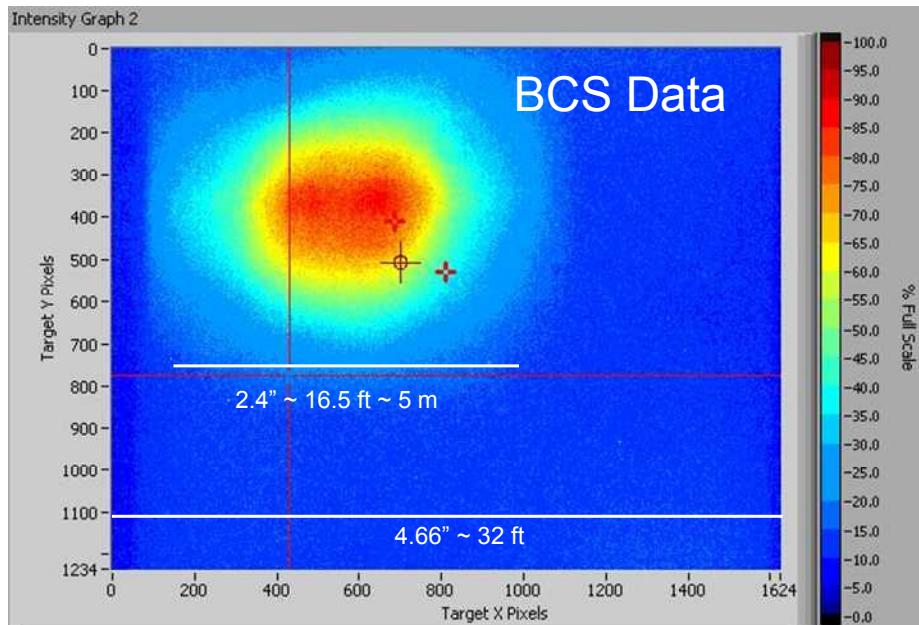
1:00 PM, June 5, 2010



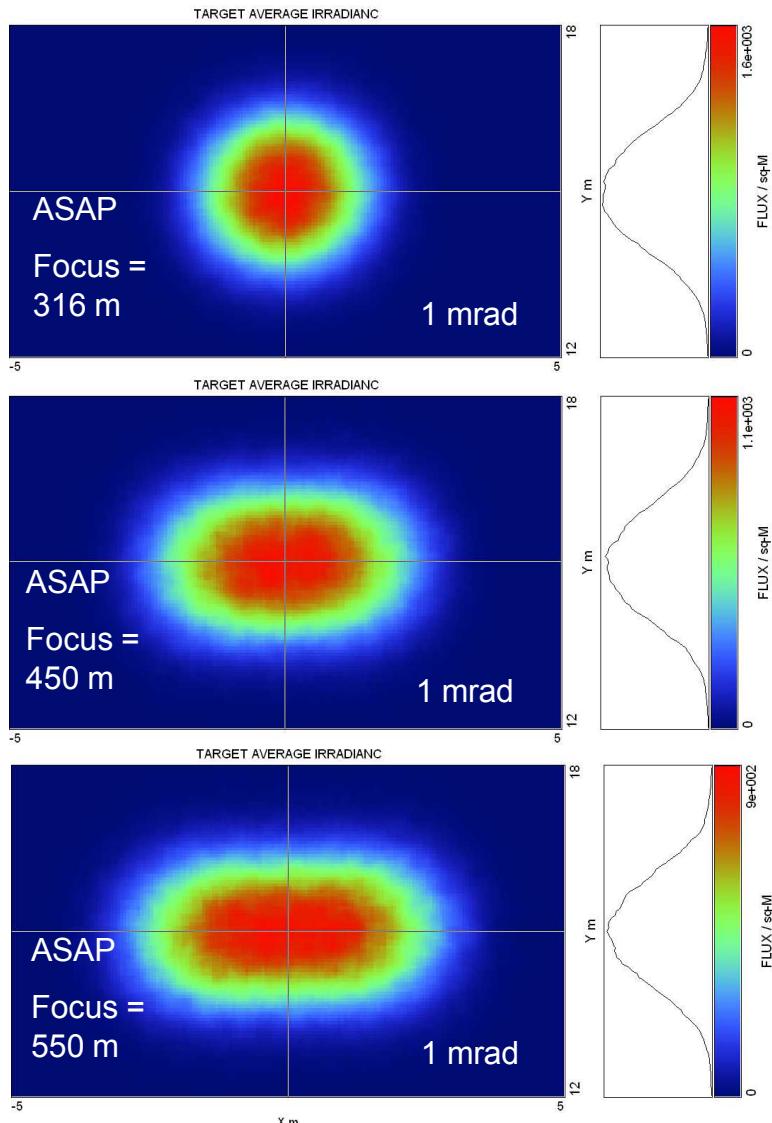


# 1:00 PM, June 5, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m



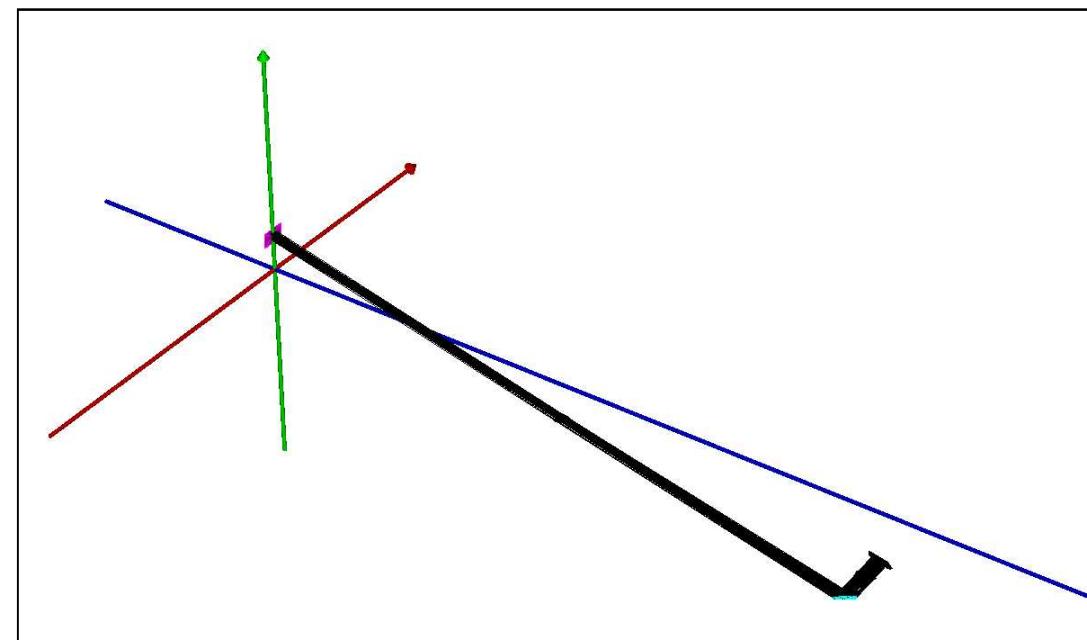
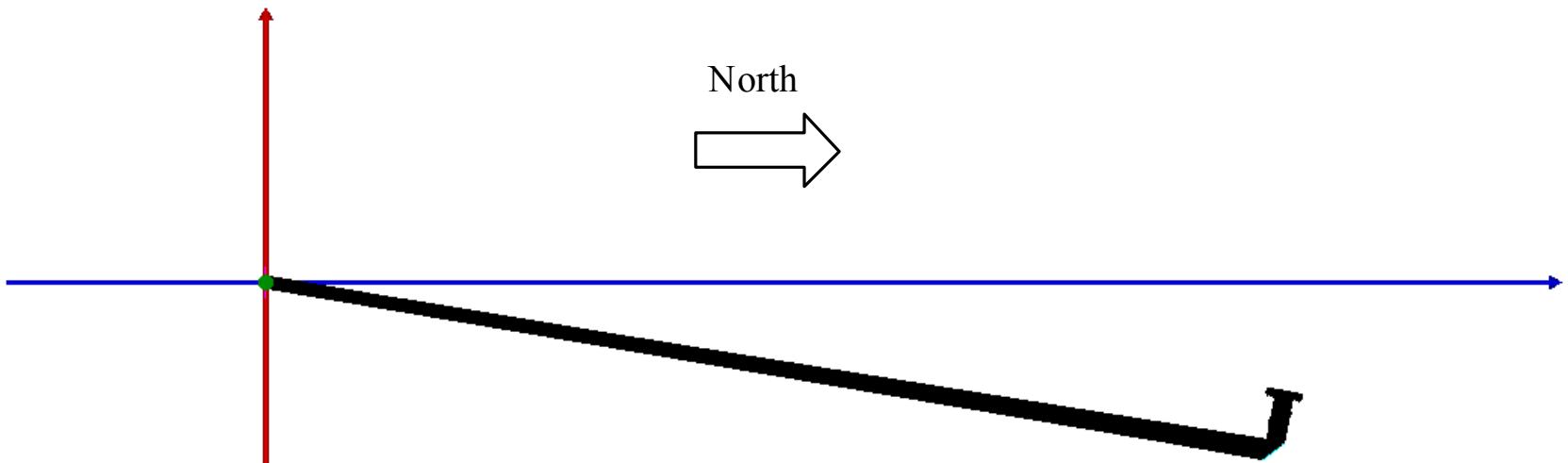
Different focal lengths in ASAP



- **Actual focal length of modules appears to be less than 550 m**
  - Consistent with module profiles shown in June 10 peer-review presentation (slides 52 and 53)

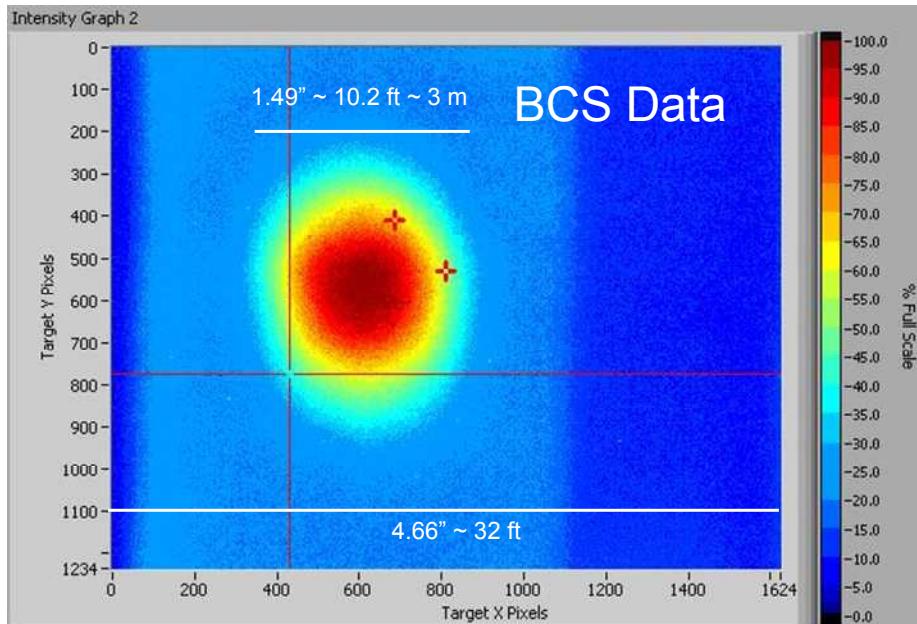


6:01 PM, June 5, 2010

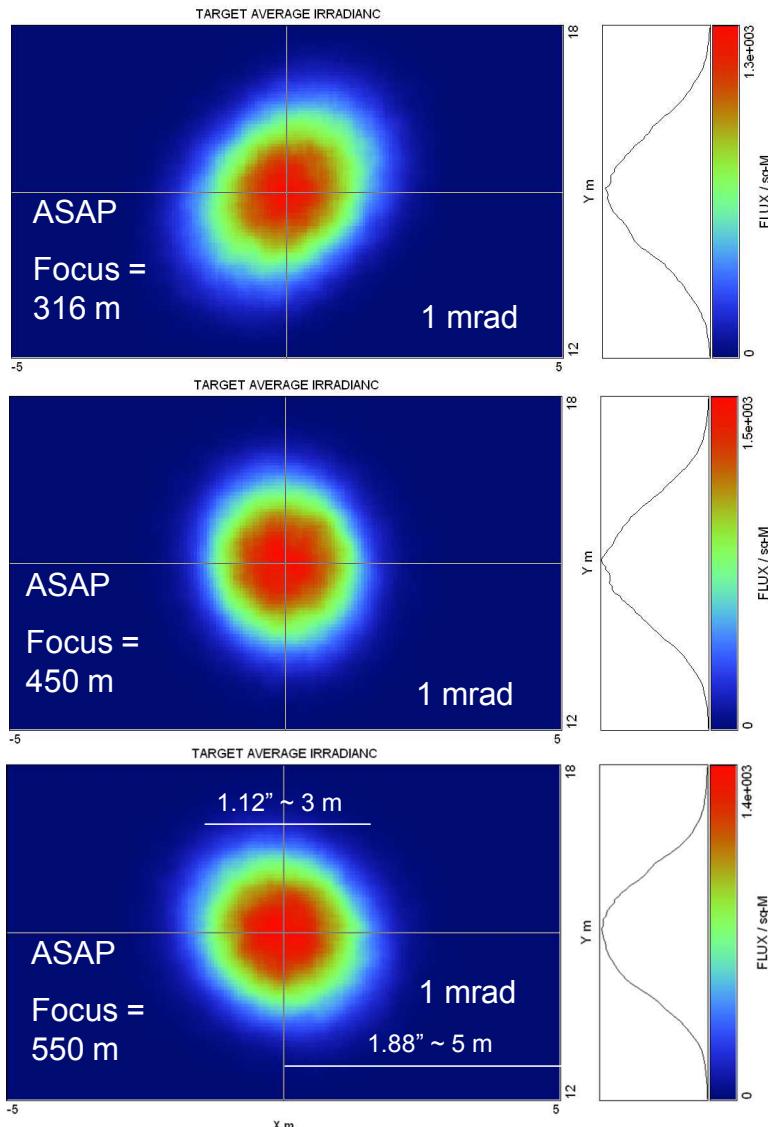


6:01 PM, June 5, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m

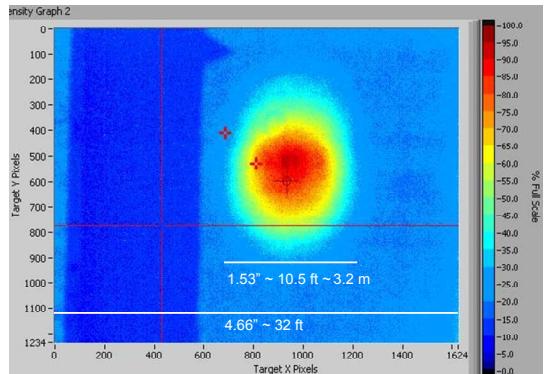


Different focal lengths in ASAP

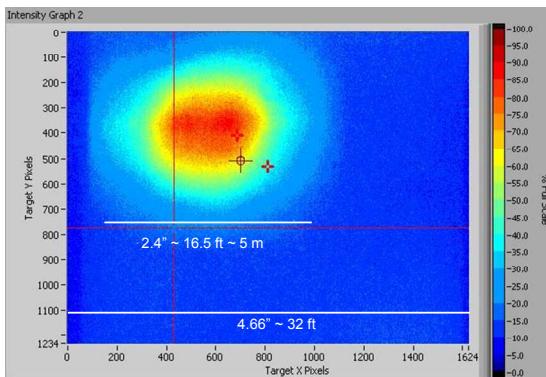


# Comparison of Peak Fluxes

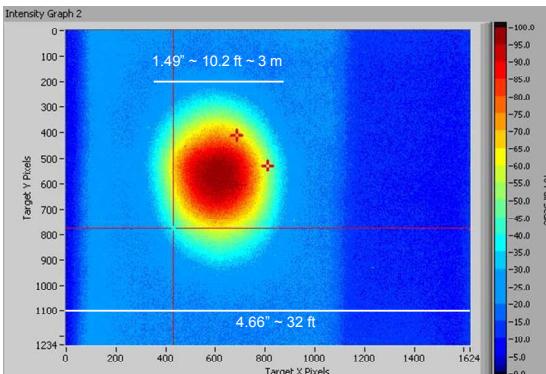
8:04 am  
DNI=850 W/m<sup>2</sup>



1:00 PM  
DNI=990 W/m<sup>2</sup>



6:01 PM  
850 W/m<sup>2</sup>



- BCS images all taken with same f-stop (f/8)
  - Measured peak fluxes appears consistent with predictions

## Predicted Peak Flux (suns)

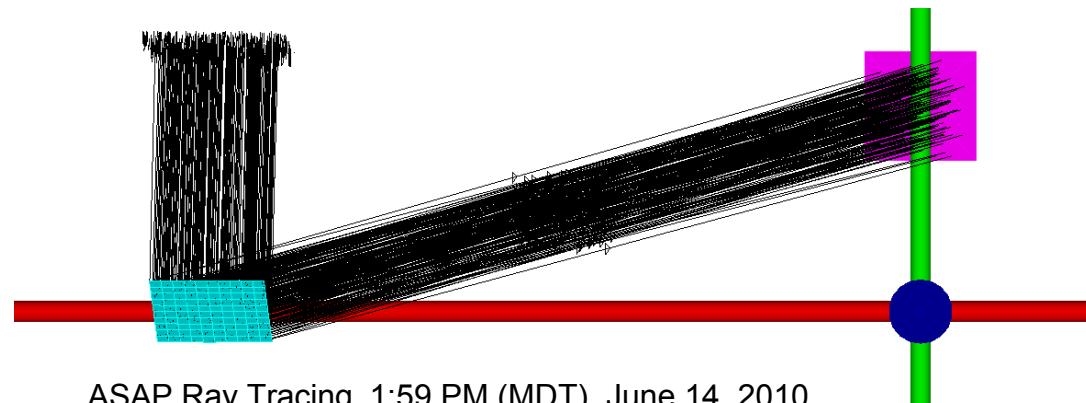
550 m focal length

Time	ASAP	DELSOL*
8:04 AM	1.2	1.1
1:00 PM	1.0	0.89
6:01 PM	1.4	1.2

\*Included atmospheric attenuation (0.963)

# Four Modules

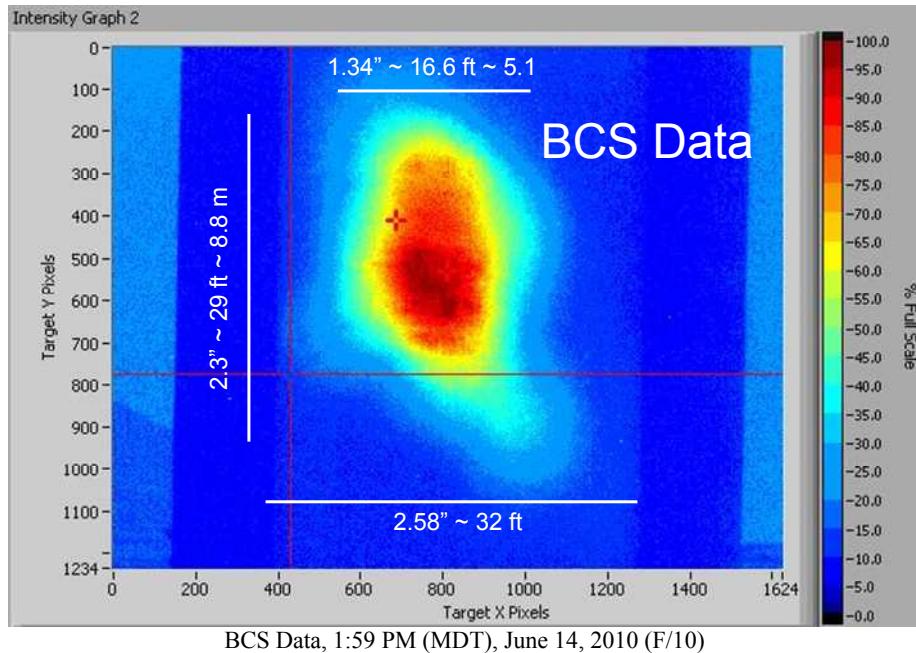
June 14, 2010



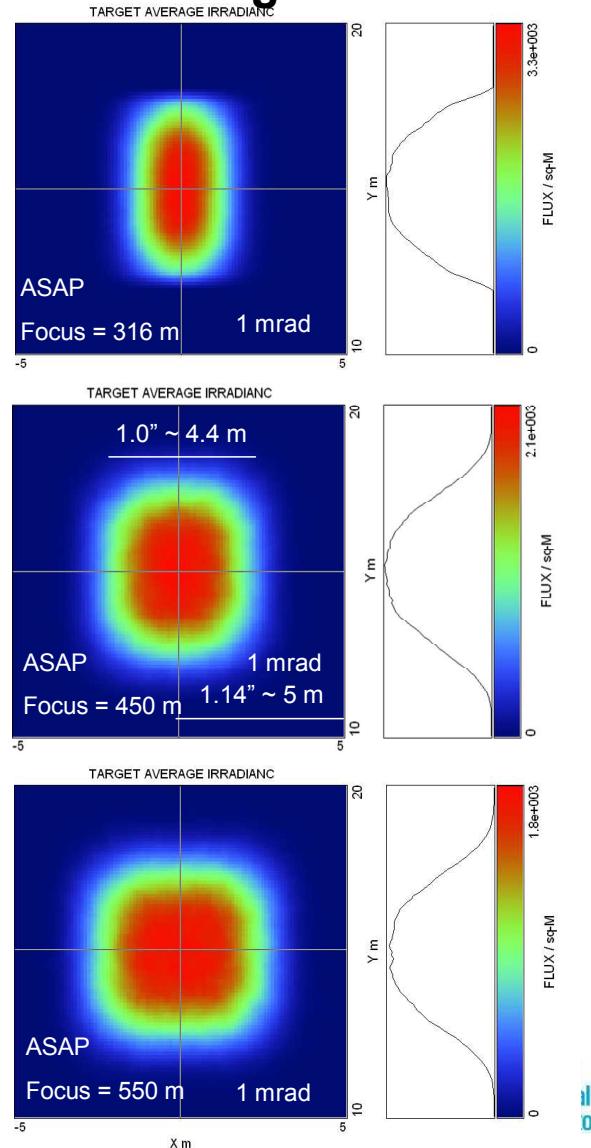
ASAP Ray Tracing, 1:59 PM (MDT), June 14, 2010

1:59 PM (MDT), June 14, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m



### Different focal lengths in ASAP





# Overview

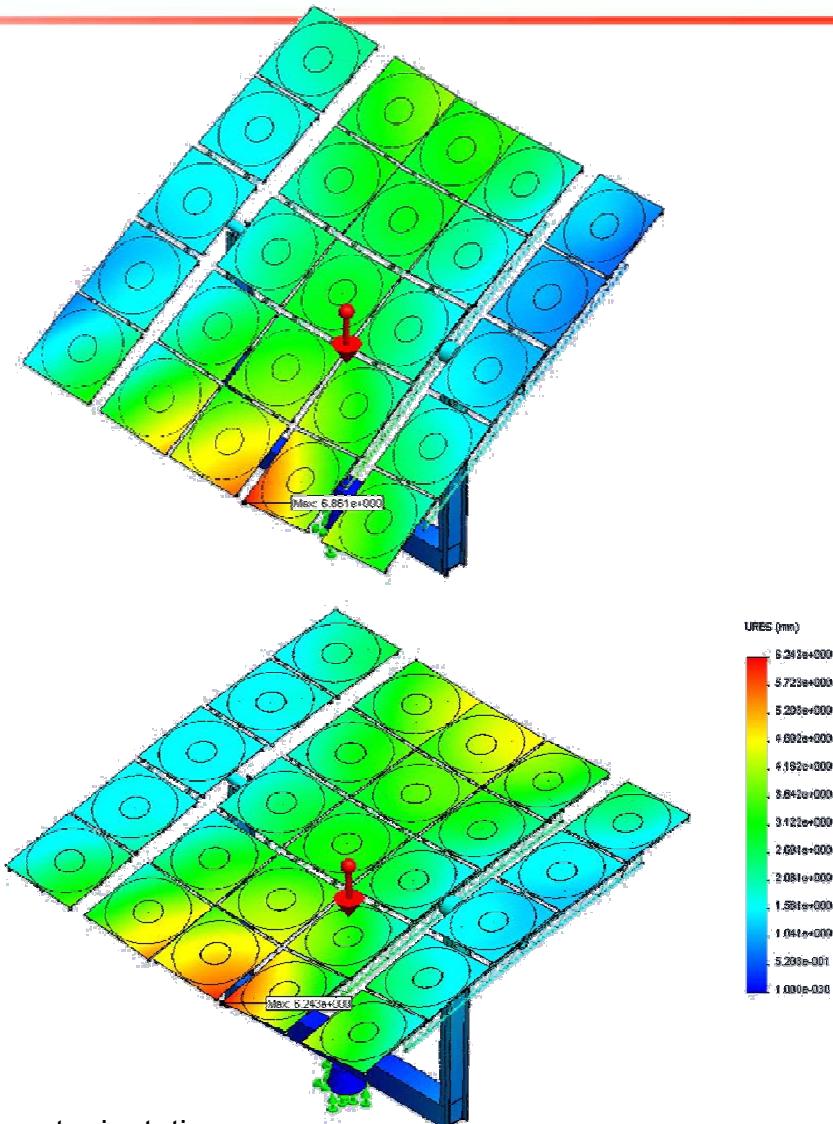
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# Gravity Sag

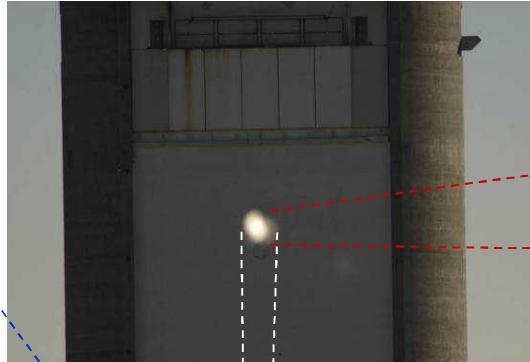
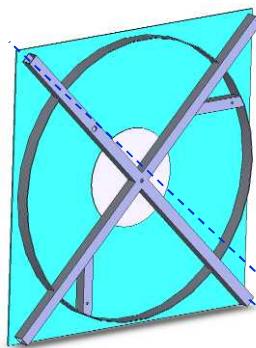
- Integrate deformed shapes from gravity loads into ray-tracing analysis

- Sun shape and limb darkening
- Slope errors at multiple scales
  - Small-scale distortions
  - Larger-scale errors from loads



Gravity-induced deformation of NSTTF heliostat in different orientations

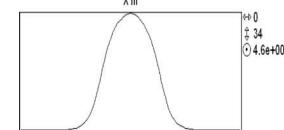
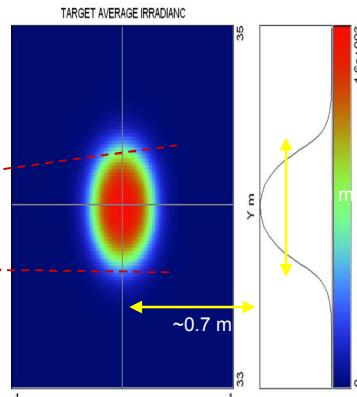
# Single Facet Testing for Model Validation



Test

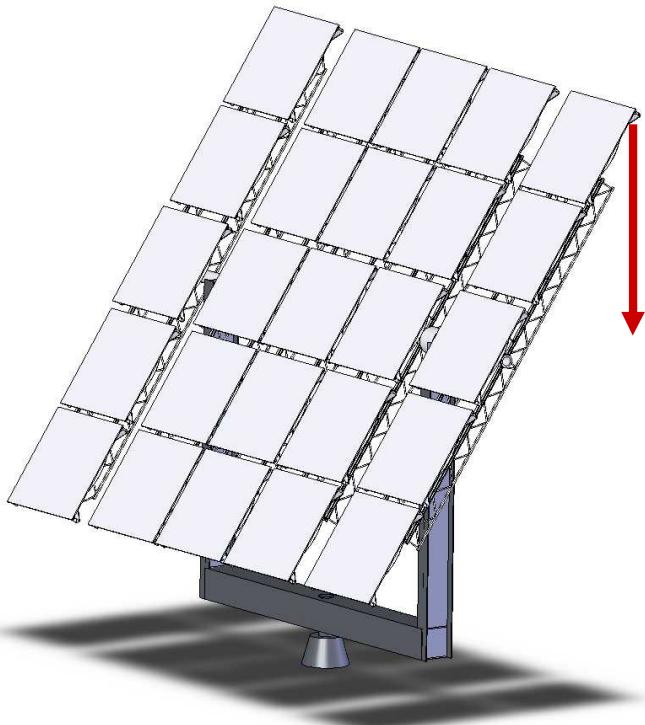


Model

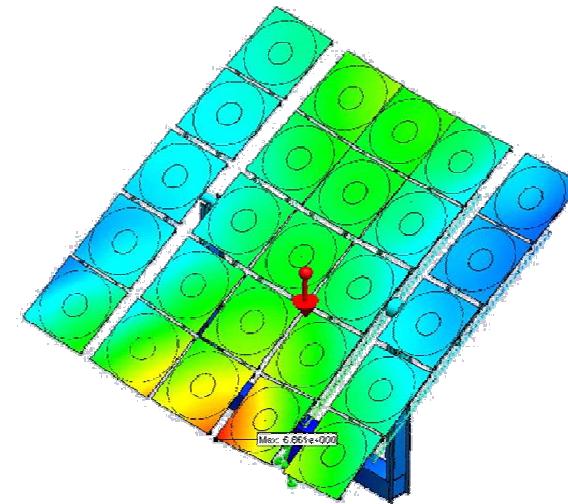




# Static Loading Test



- Hang weights from heliostats in different orientations
  - Measure displacements and compare to models



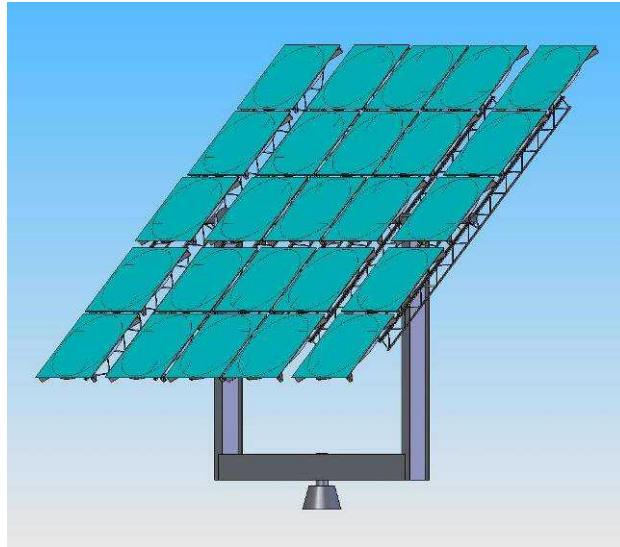


# Overview

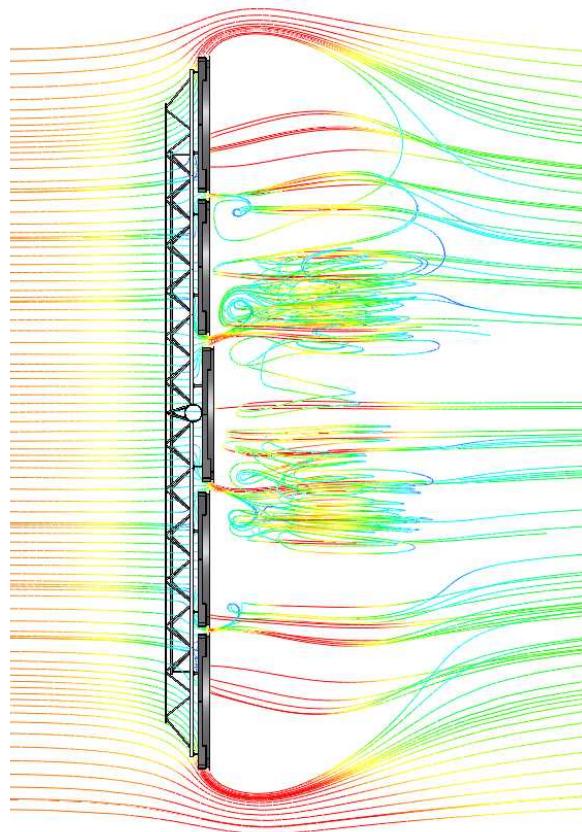
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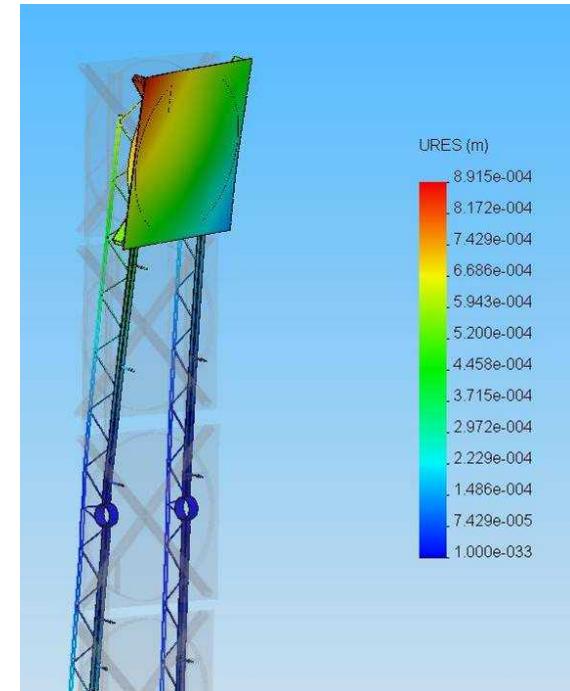
# Static Wind Loading



3D Solidworks model  
of heliostat at Sandia



CFD simulations of  
flow over heliostat



FEA analysis of loads  
on facet



# Dynamic Analysis

- **Plan to do modal testing of NSTTF heliostats this summer**
  - Instrument heliostat with accelerometers, strain gauges
  - Validate models through modal analysis
- **Instrument numerous heliostats at NSTTF for dynamic wind-response tests**
  - Accelerometers, strain gauges, pressure sensors
  - Record environmental variables (wind speed direction, temperature, etc.)
  - Glean information regarding field response (e.g., interior vs. perimeter)
  - Apply methods and analyses to other heliostat fields



# Overview

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# Summary

- **Sandia has several optical and system performance codes to analyze heliostats and central receivers**
  - DELSOL, ASAP, HELIOS, MIRVAL
  - Incorporating FEA and CFD into optical analysis
- **Testing to validate models**
  - Static loading
    - Individual facets or heliostats
  - Dynamic testing
    - Modal testing and analysis of entire heliostat
    - Instrumentation of heliostats for dynamic wind analysis