

Sandia Optical Analyses and Testing for Heliostats and Central Receiver Systems

Clifford K. Ho

**Concentrating Solar Technologies Department
Sandia National Laboratories
Albuquerque, NM 87185**

ckho@sandia.gov



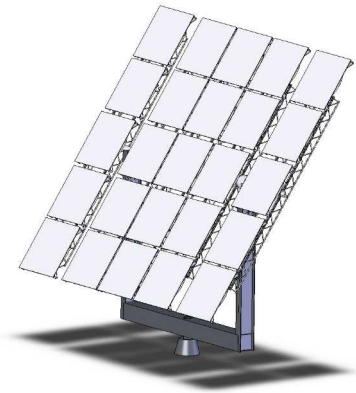


Overview

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

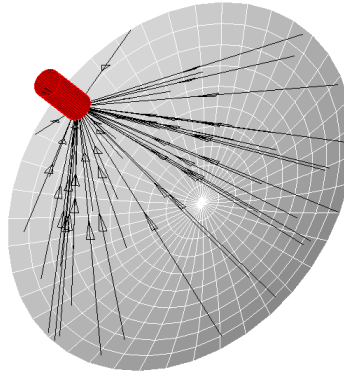
Optical Analysis Codes

Heliostat



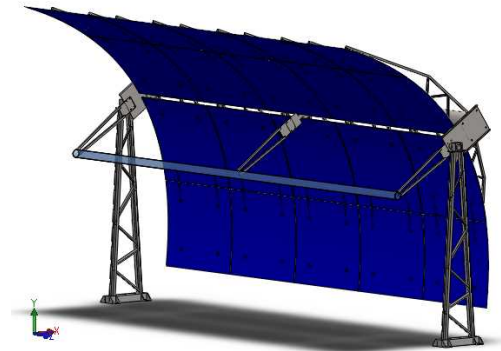
- **MIRVAL**
 - Ray tracing; flux from entire heliostat field; not supported
- **HELIOS**
 - Cone optics; flux from entire heliostat field; not supported
- **DELSOL**
 - Hermite polynomials; flux from entire heliostat field; optimization; energy output
- **ASAP**
 - Commercial ray-tracing code

Dish



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

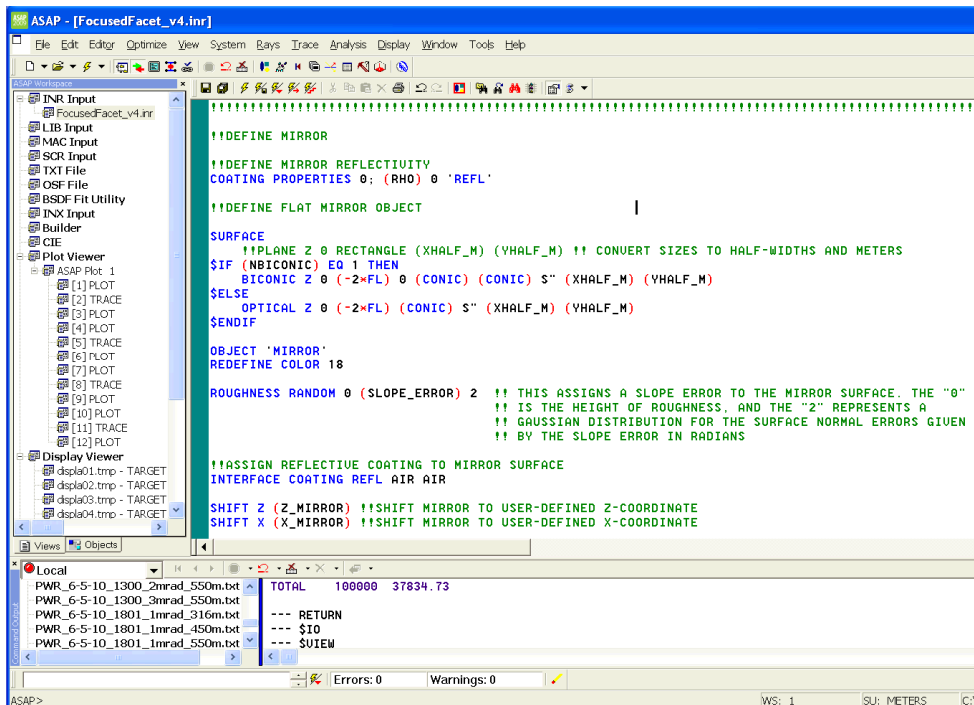
Parabolic Trough



- **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



ASAP

This program will calculate the solar flux distribution reflected from a mirror onto a vertical planar target facing north (due north is in the +Z direction). The target is assumed to be located at (0,V,0), where V is the height of the target above the mirror pivot point. The location of the mirror is specified by the user in X and Z coordinates. The user also specifies the Julian date and solar time to prescribe the sun position.

Clifford K. Ho, 505-844-2384, ckho@sandia.gov, 5/13/09

MIRROR X DIMENSION (M):

MIRROR Y DIMENSION (M):

MIRROR REFLECTIVITY (FRACTION):

MIRROR SHAPE (ELLIPSE OR RECTANGLE):

CURVATURE (0=SPHERICAL, -1=PARABOLIC):

MIRROR FOCAL LENGTH (M):

MIRROR SLOPE ERROR (MRAD):

MIRROR Z-COORDINATE: +Z IS DUE NORTH (M):

MIRROR X-COORDINATE: +X IS DUE WEST (M):

TARGET HEIGHT ABOVE MIRROR, V (M):

DAY OF YEAR (1-365):

NO. HOURS RELATIVE TO SOLAR NOON (0=NOON, NEG=MORNING, POS=AFTERNOON):

LATITUDE (DEGREES):

HALF-ANGLE OF SUN (mrad):

DIRECT NORMAL INSOLATION (W/M^2):

DISTANCE BETWEEN SOURCE AND MIRROR (M):

USE APODIZATION FOR PROPER SUN SHAPE? (1=YES, 0=NO):

ASAP

NUMBER OF RAYS:

NUMBER OF RAYS TO PLOT:

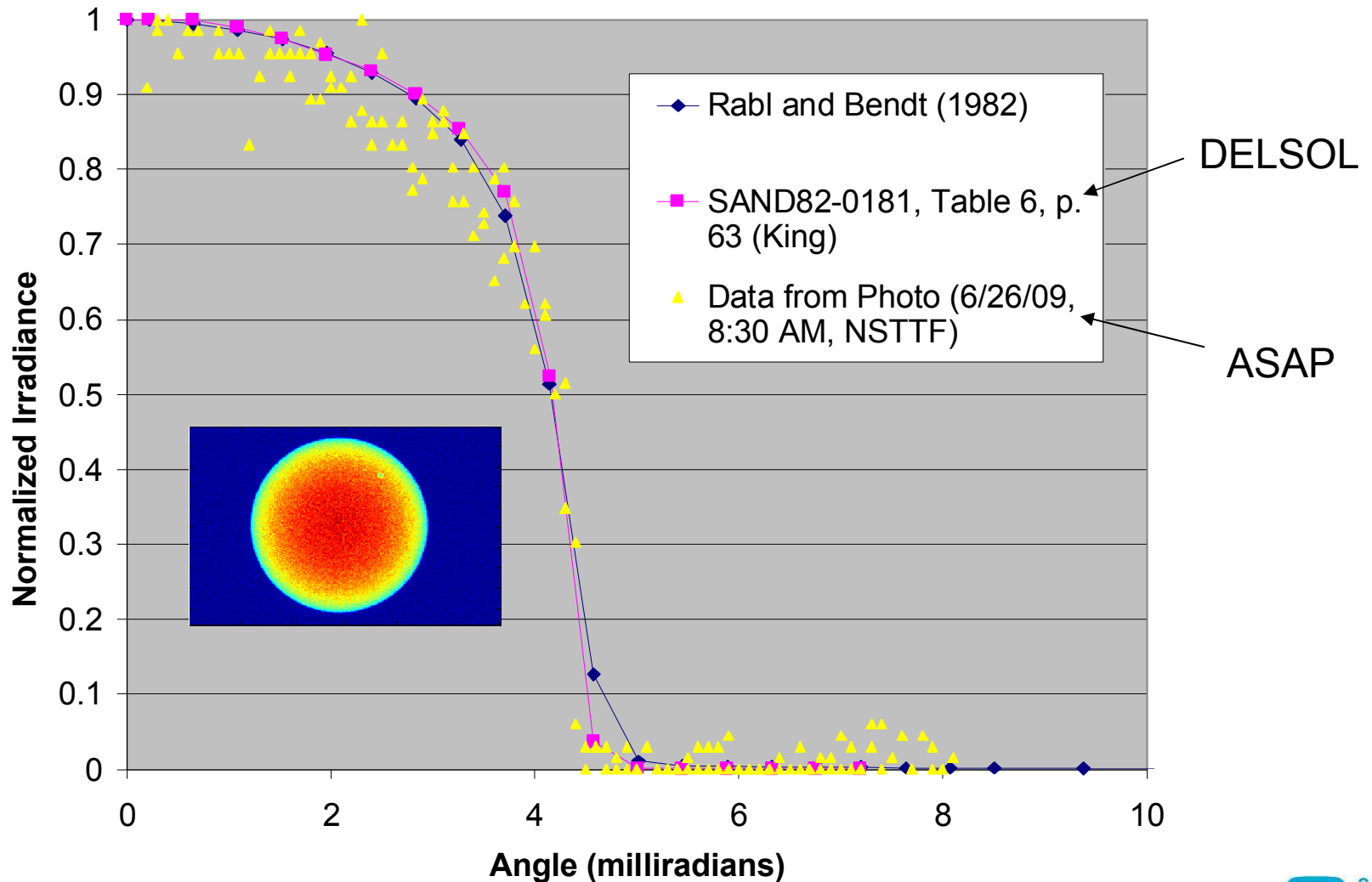
BICONIC SURFACE? (1=YES, 0=NO):

NUMBER OF PIXELS FOR SPOT IMAGE:

OUTPUT FILE WITH THE SPOT IMAGE? (1=YES, 0=NO):

PLOT IMAGE OF SUN SOURCE? (1=YES, 0=NO):

Sun Shape and Apodization





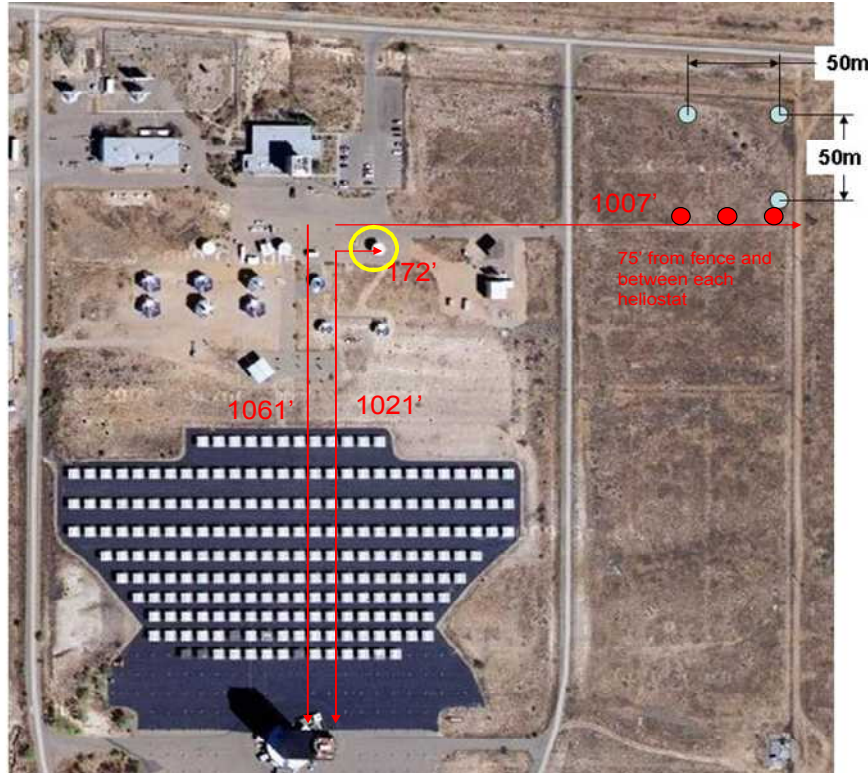
Overview

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



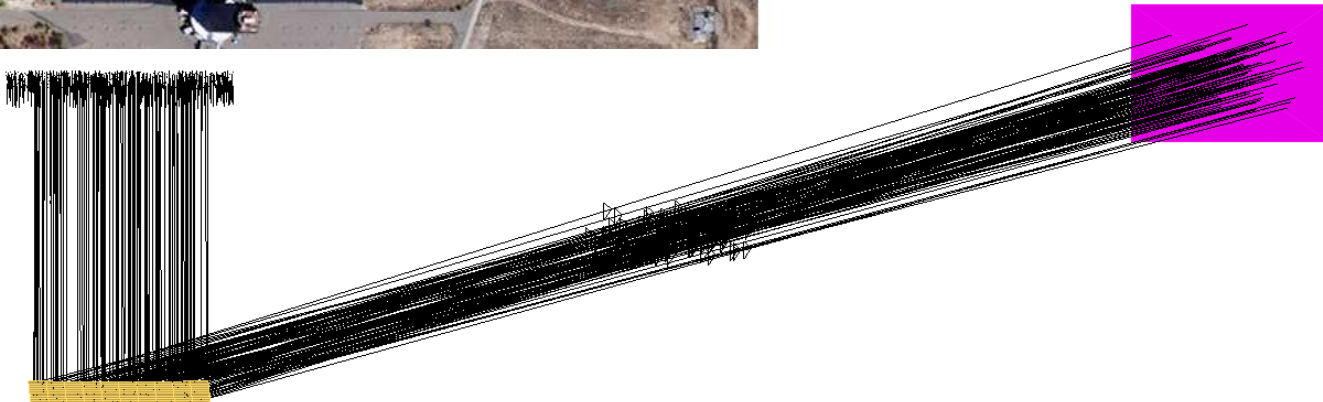
Single Mirror Module

Single Mirror Module

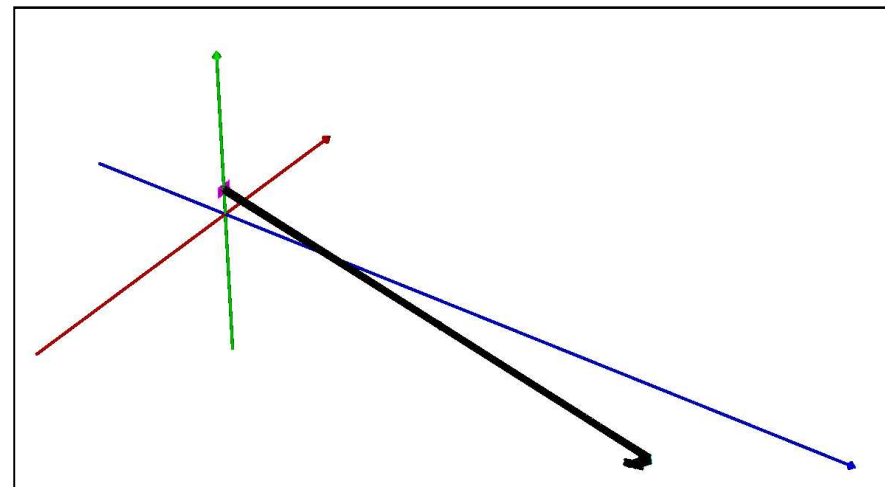
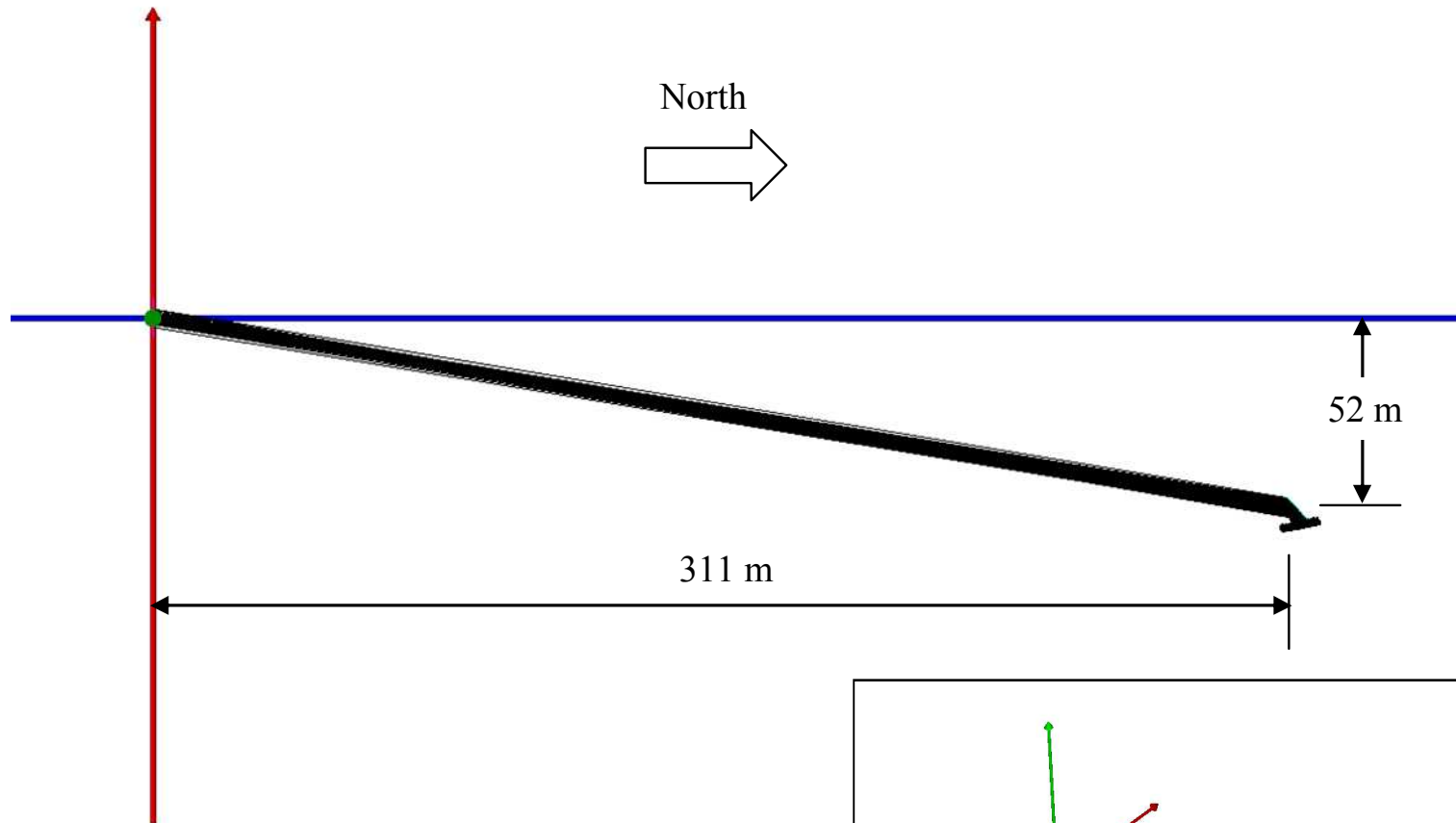


• June 5, 2010

- 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)

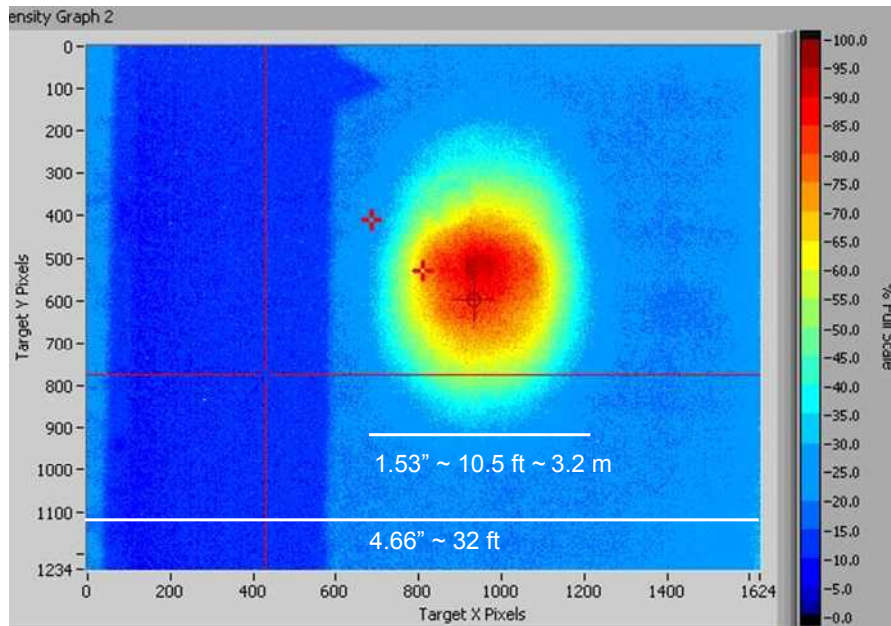


8:04 AM, June 5, 2010



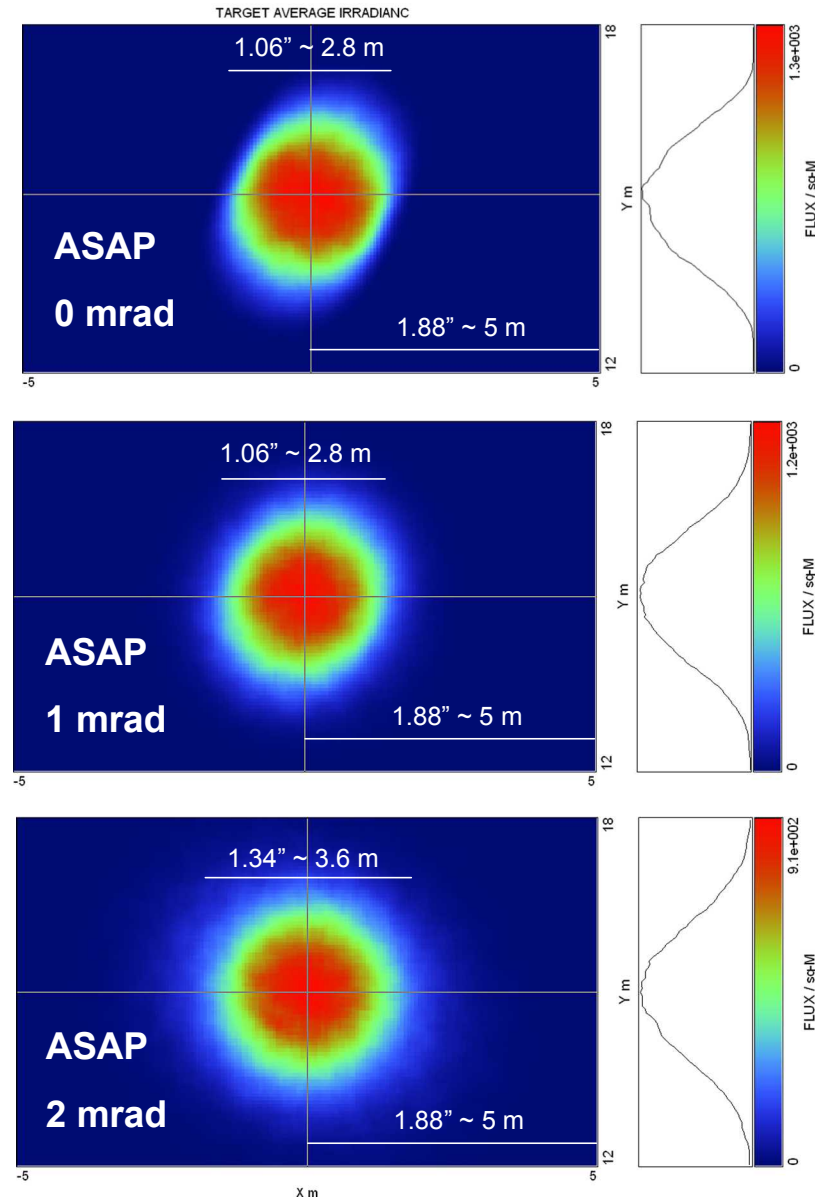
8:04 AM, June 5, 2010

550 m focal length
Slant range to tower = 316 m



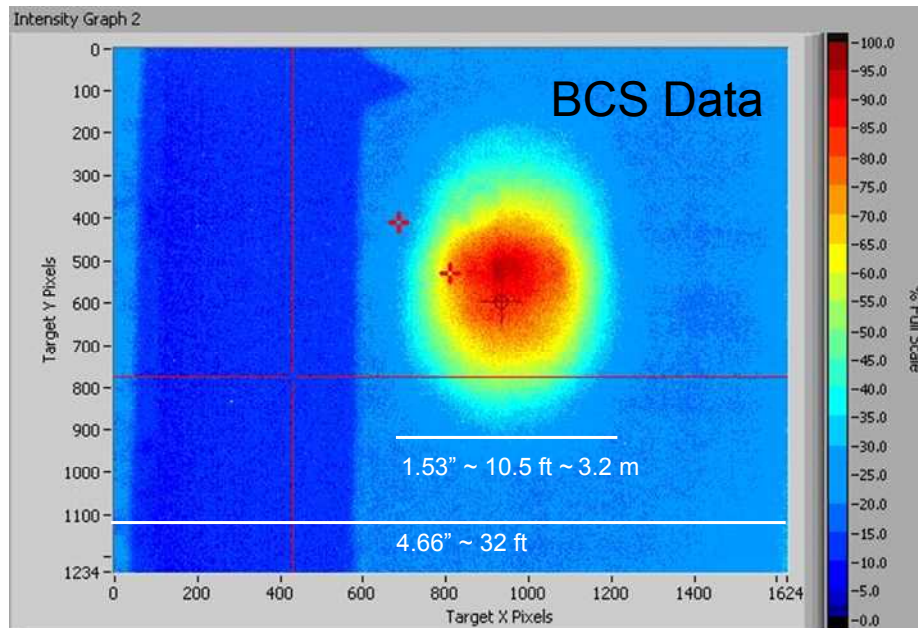
BCS Data

Different RMS slope errors in ASAP



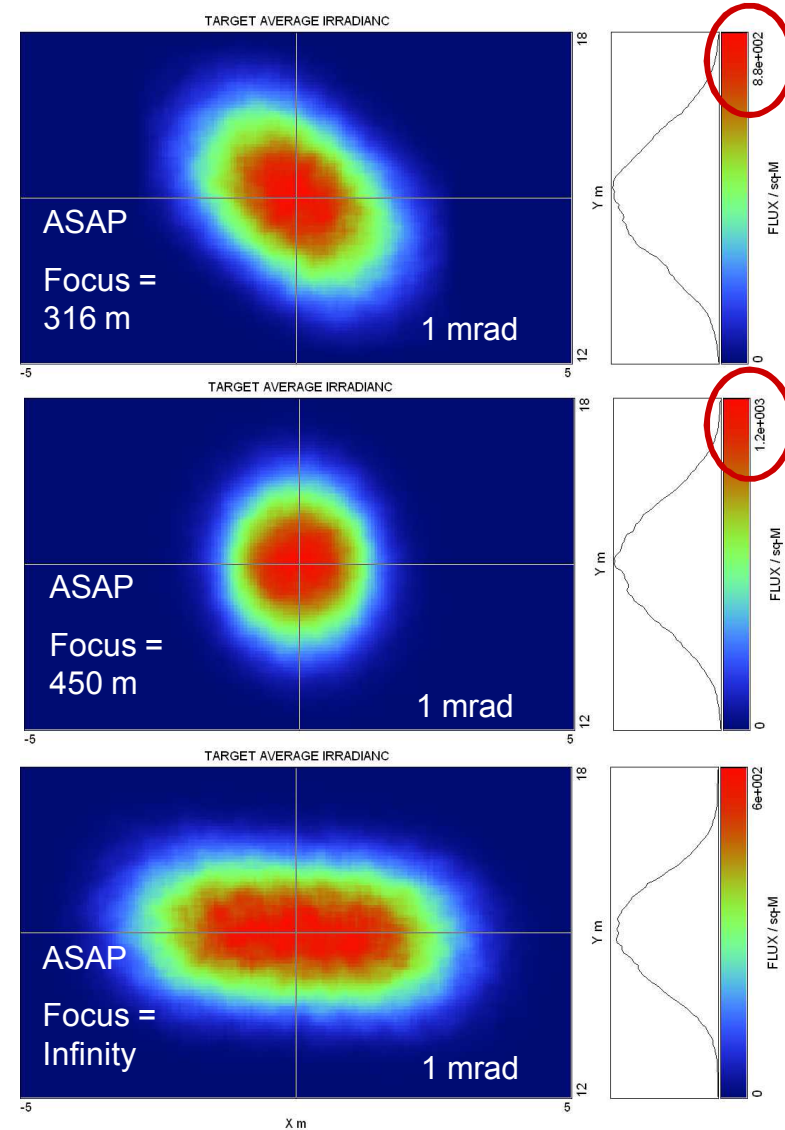
8:04 AM, June 5, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m

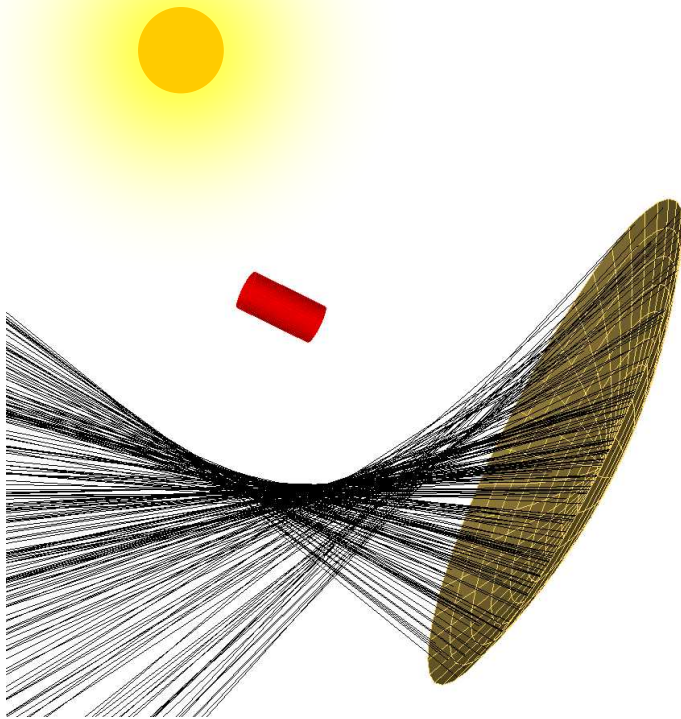


- Shape of beam when mirror is angled sharply provides indication of true focal length
- Peak flux not always highest when focal length equals slant range

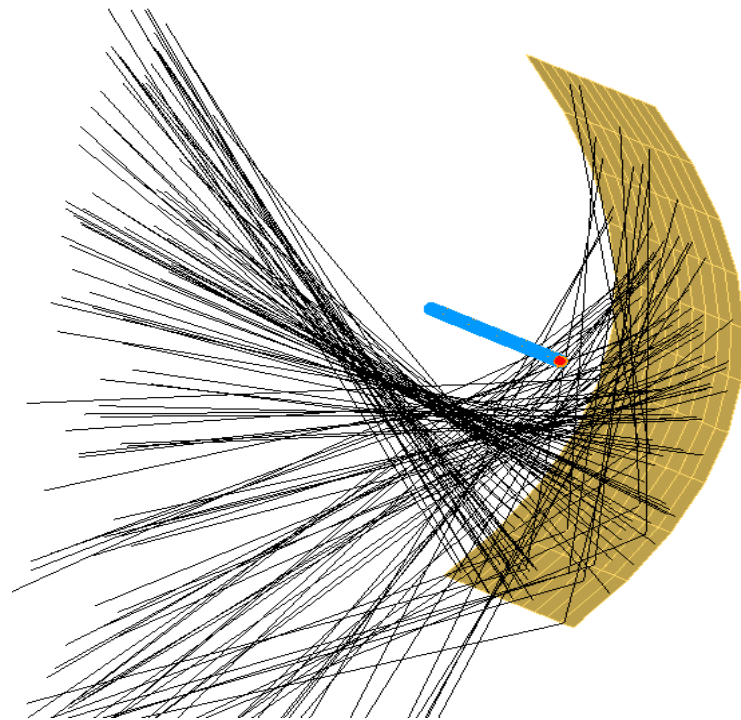
Different focal lengths in ASAP



Optical Aberrations

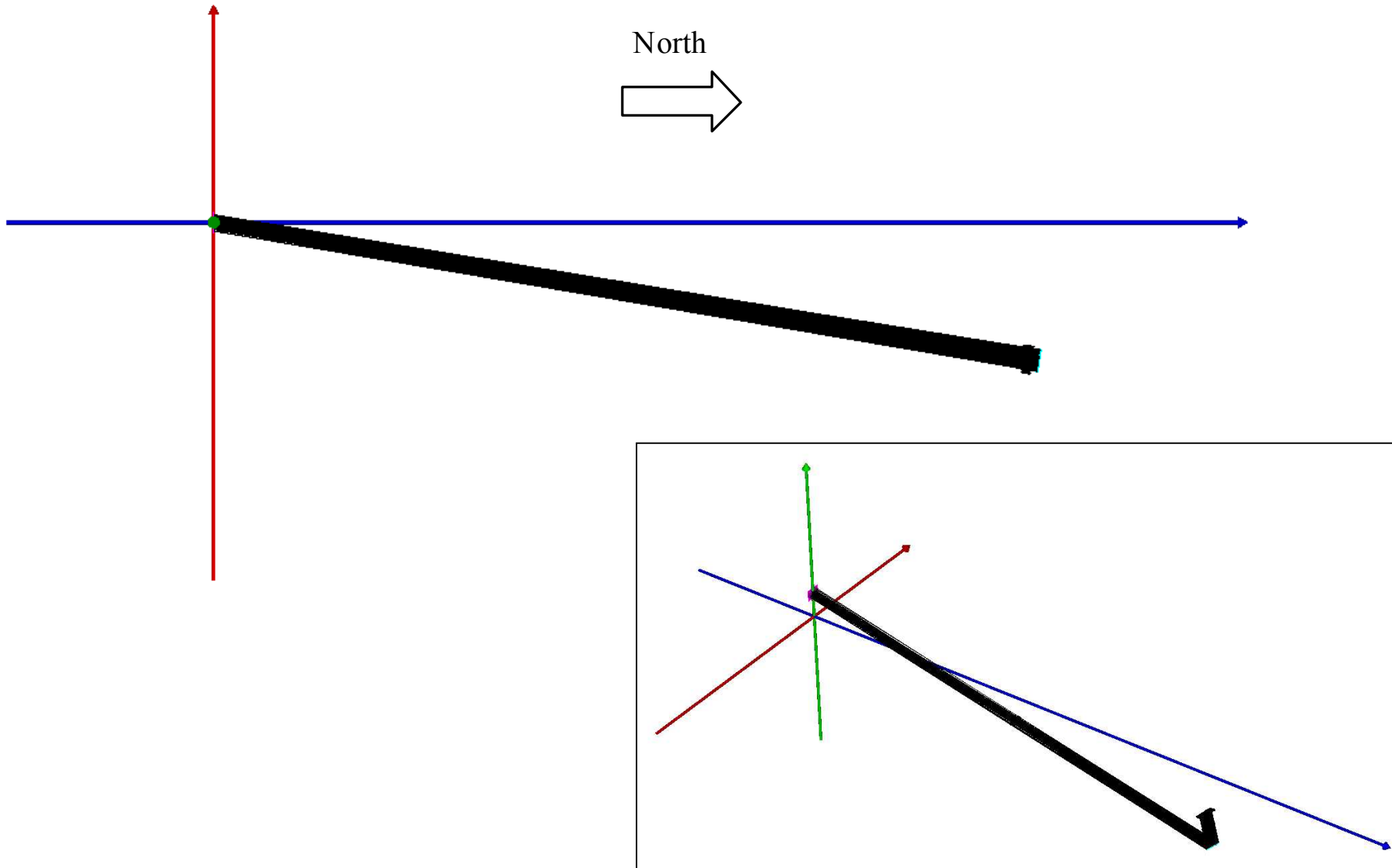


Off-axis Dish



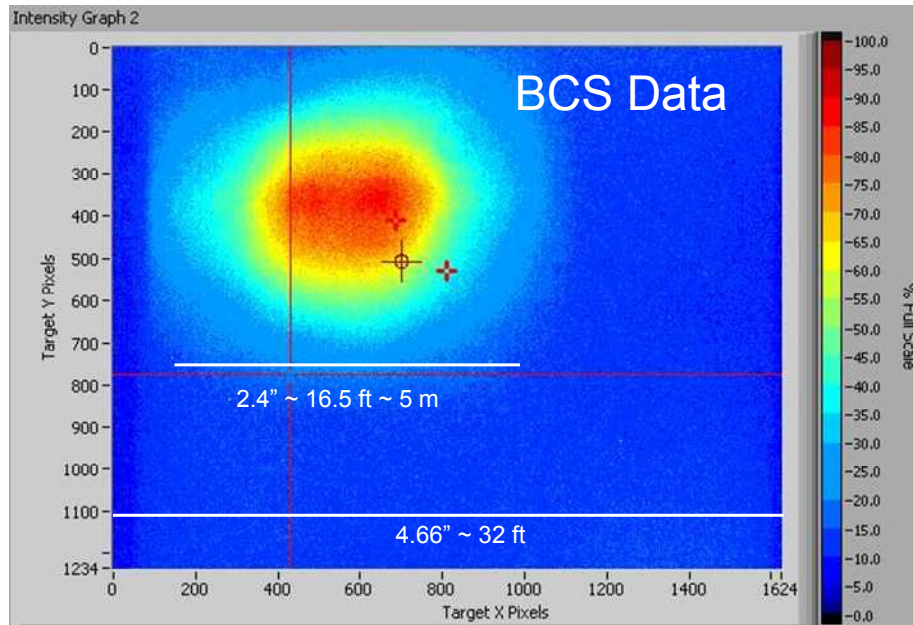
Off-axis Trough

1:00 PM, June 5, 2010



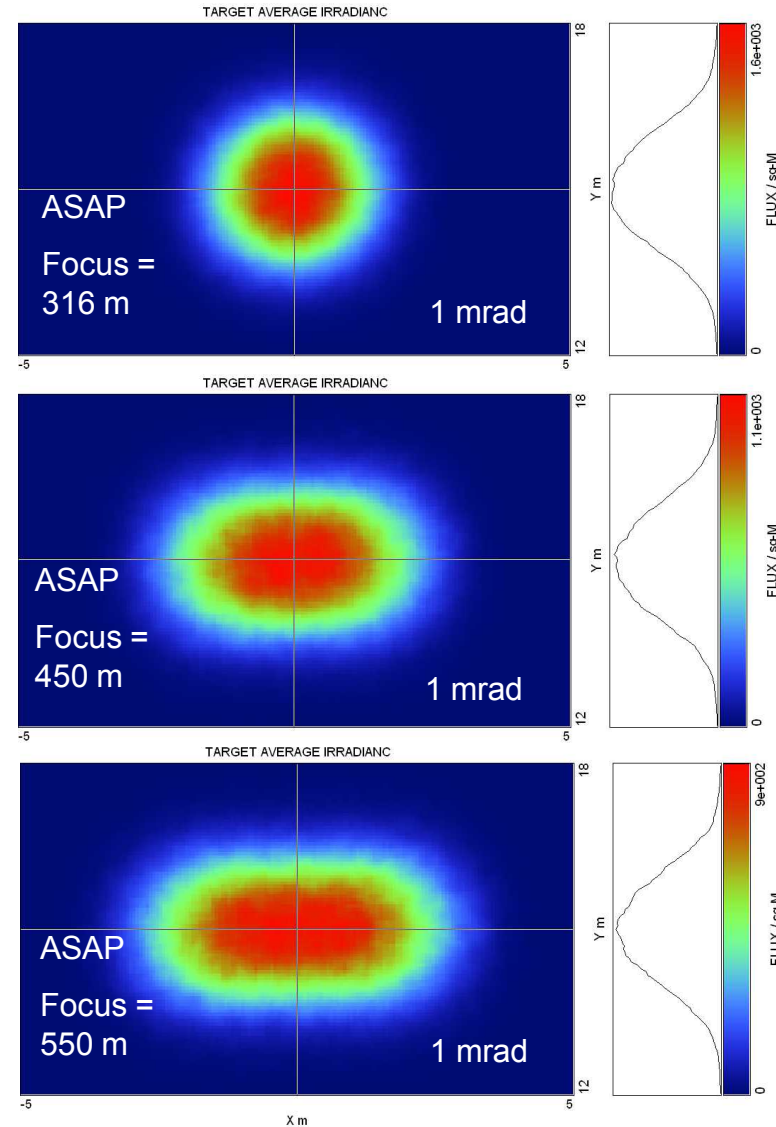
1:00 PM, June 5, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m

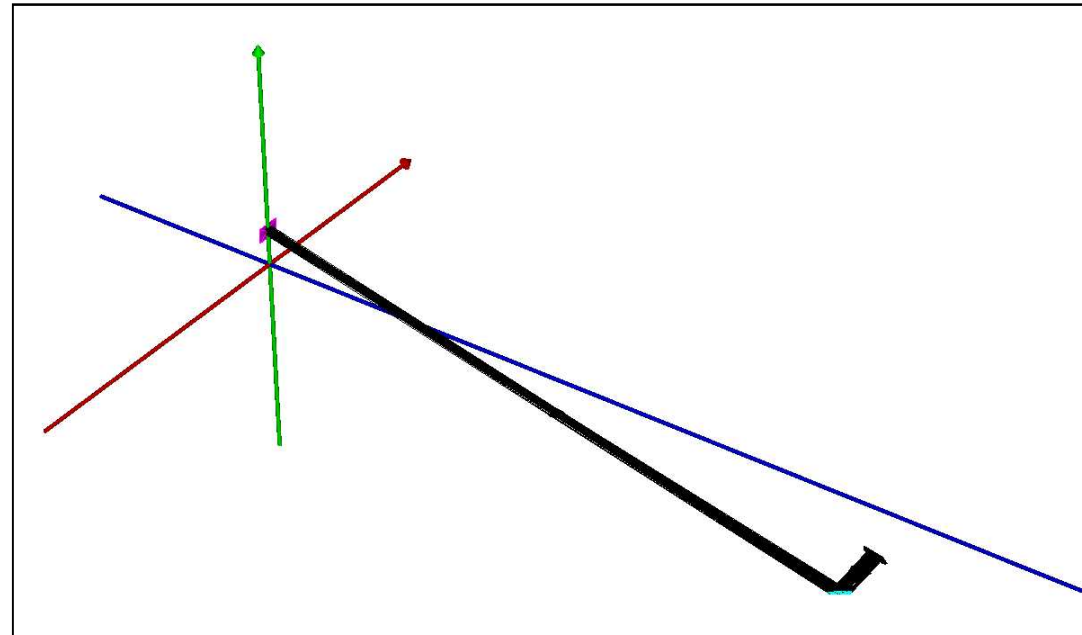
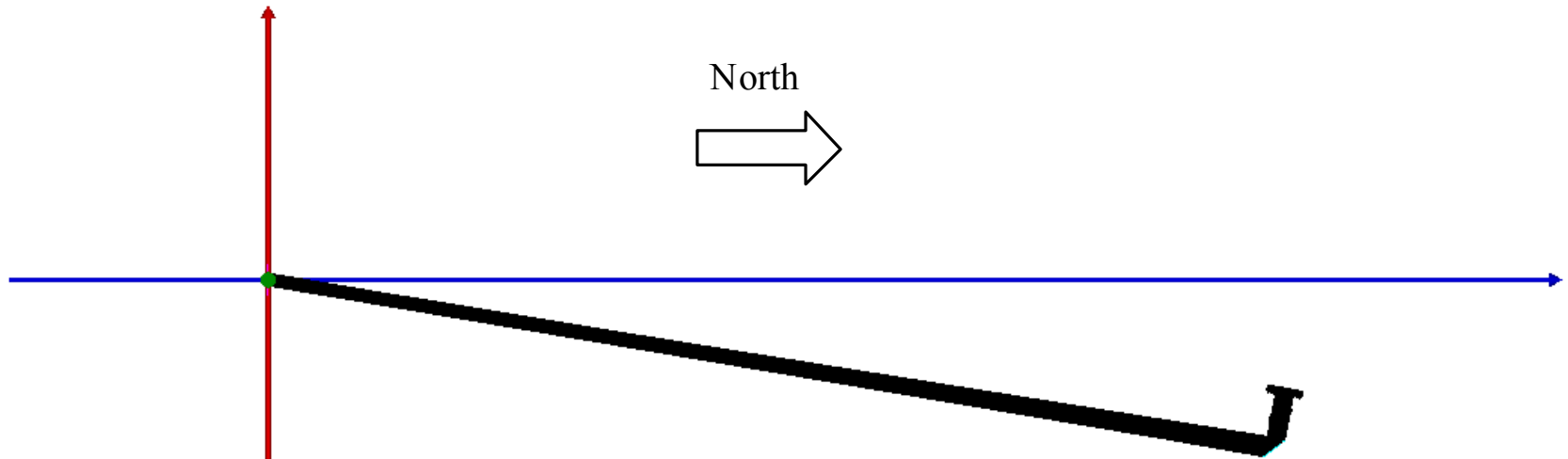


- **Actual focal length of modules appears to be less than 550 m**
 - Consistent with module profiles shown in June 10 peer-review presentation (slides 52 and 53)

Different focal lengths in ASAP

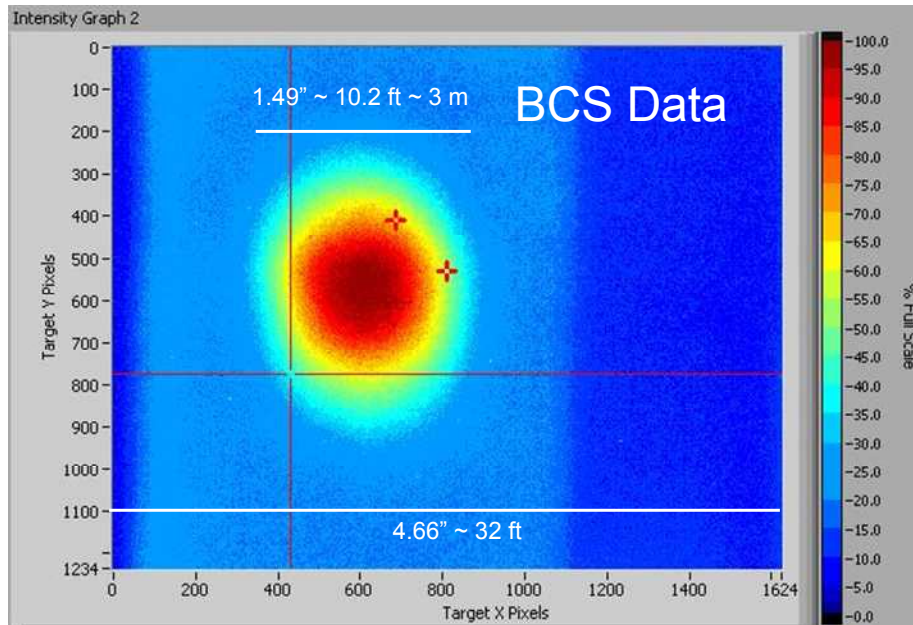


6:01 PM, June 5, 2010

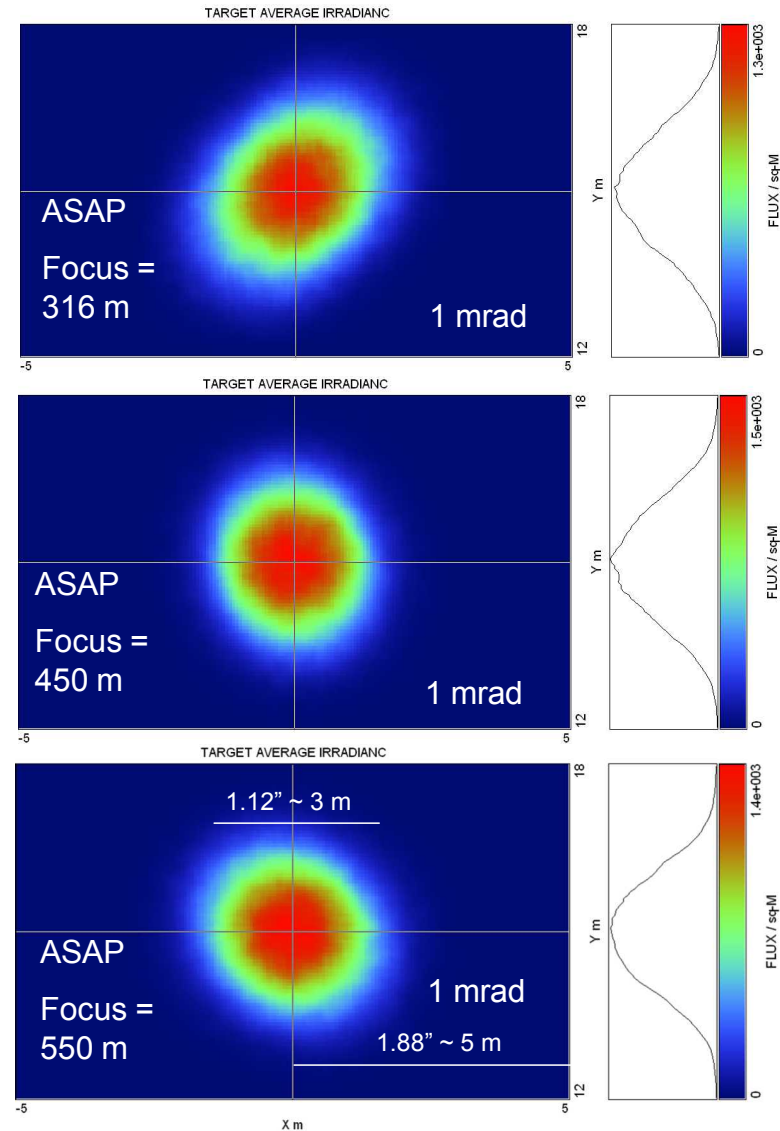


6:01 PM, June 5, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m

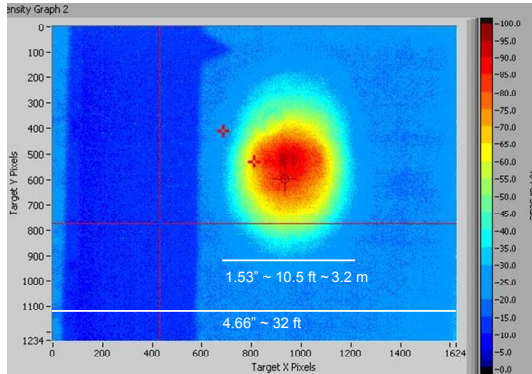


Different focal lengths in ASAP

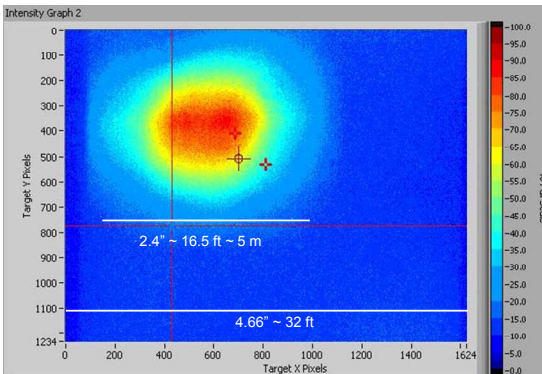


Comparison of Peak Fluxes

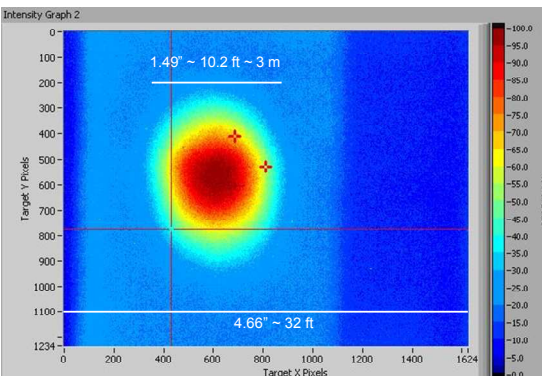
8:04 am
DNI=850 W/m²



1:00 PM
DNI=990 W/m²



6:01 PM
850 W/m²



- 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

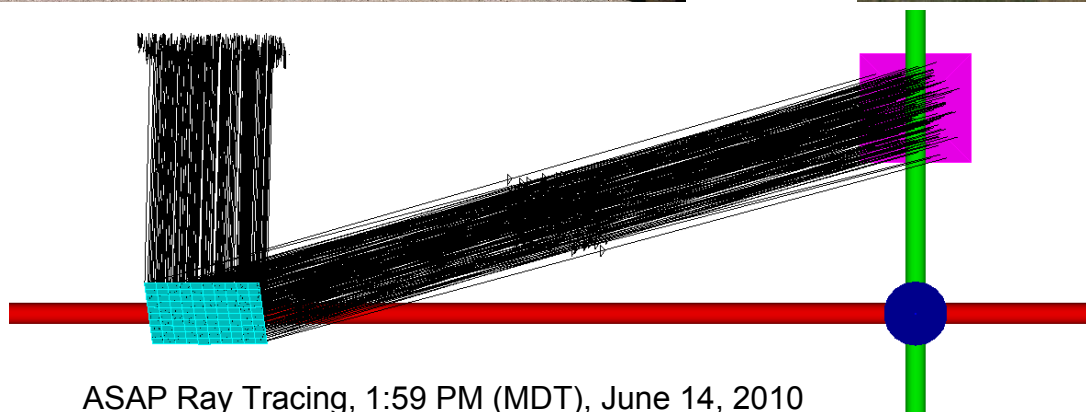
*Included atmospheric attenuation (0.963)



Official Use Only

Four Modules

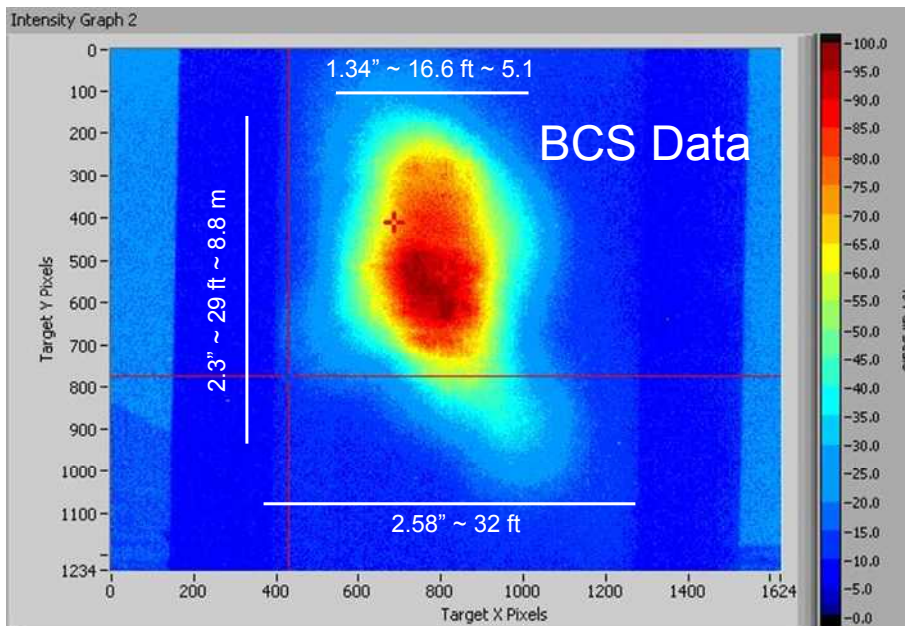
June 14, 2010



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

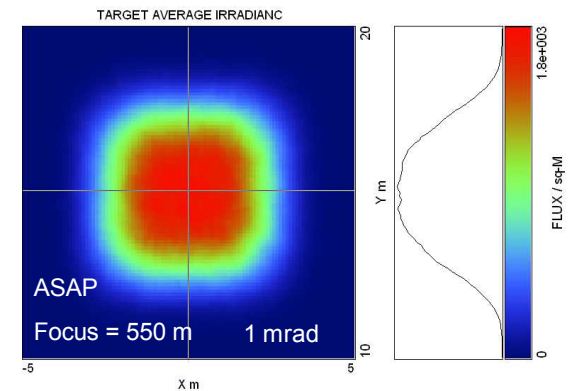
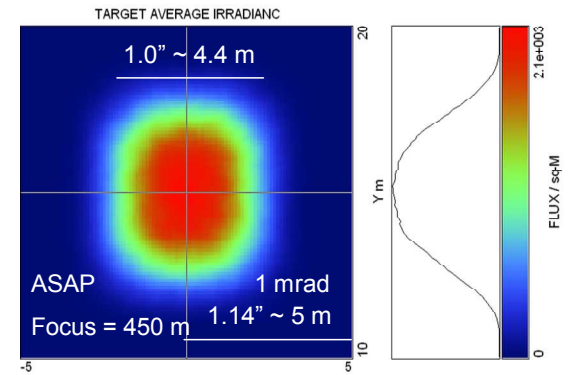
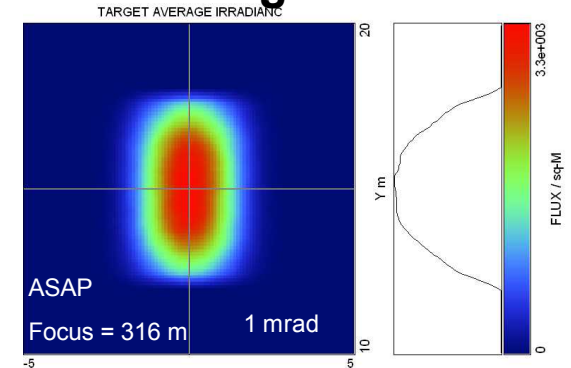
1:59 PM (MDT), June 14, 2010

Slant range to tower = 316 m



BCS Data, 1:59 PM (MDT), June 14, 2010 (F/10)

Different focal lengths in ASAP



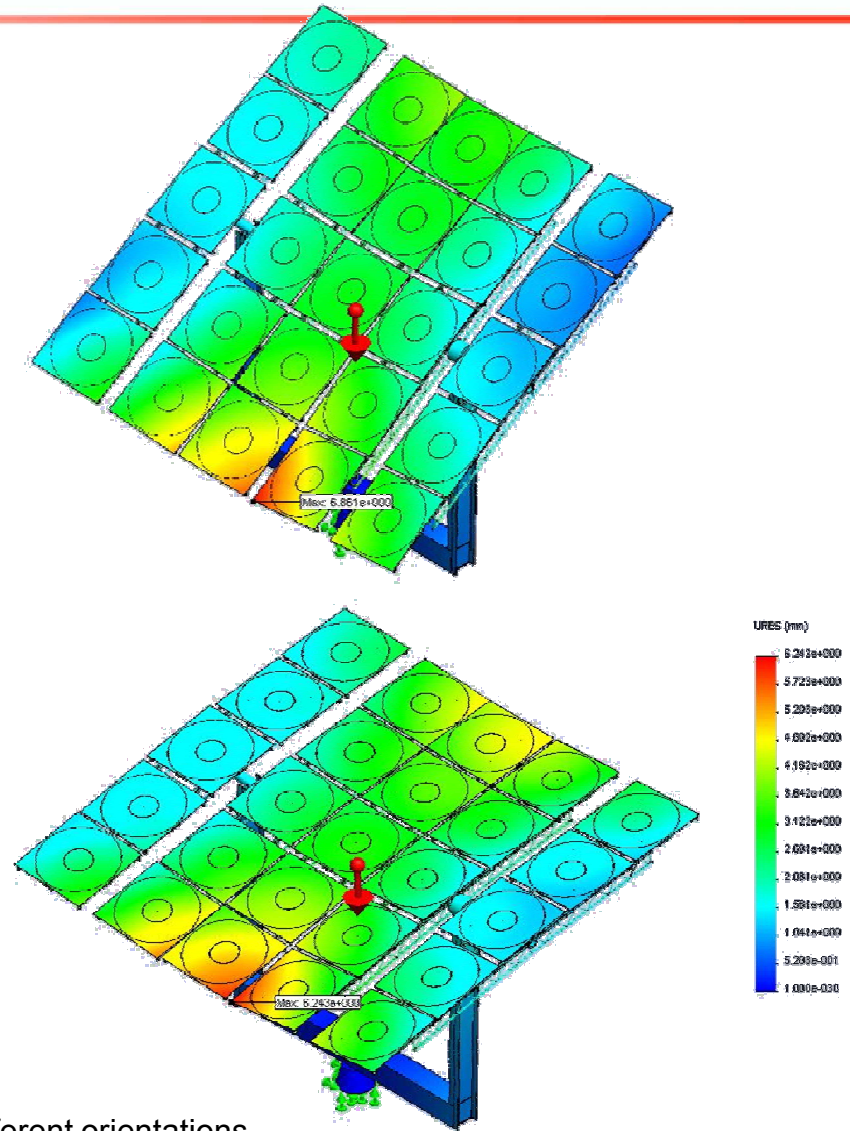


Overview

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

Gravity Sag

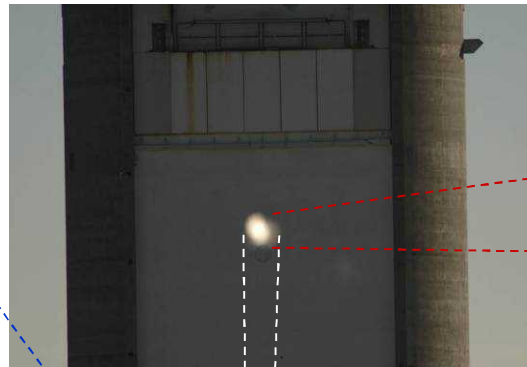
- Integrate deformed shapes from gravity loads into ray-tracing analysis
 - Sun shape and limb darkening
 - Slope errors at multiple scales
 - Small-scale distortions
 - Larger-scale errors from loads



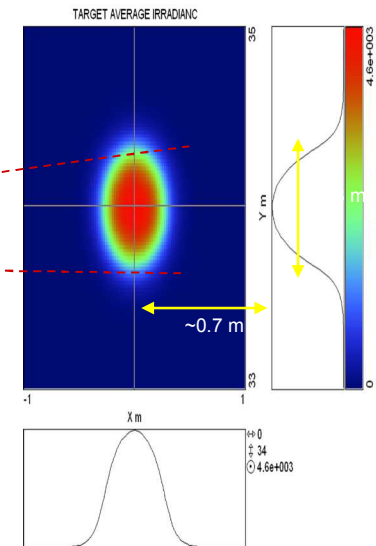
Gravity-induced deformation of NSTTF heliostat in different orientations

Single Facet Testing for Model Validation

Test

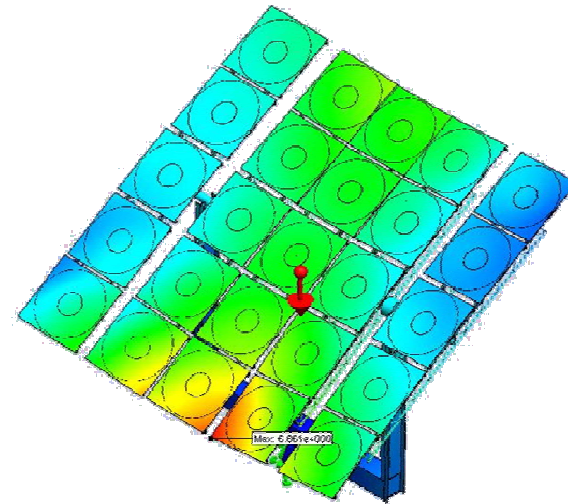
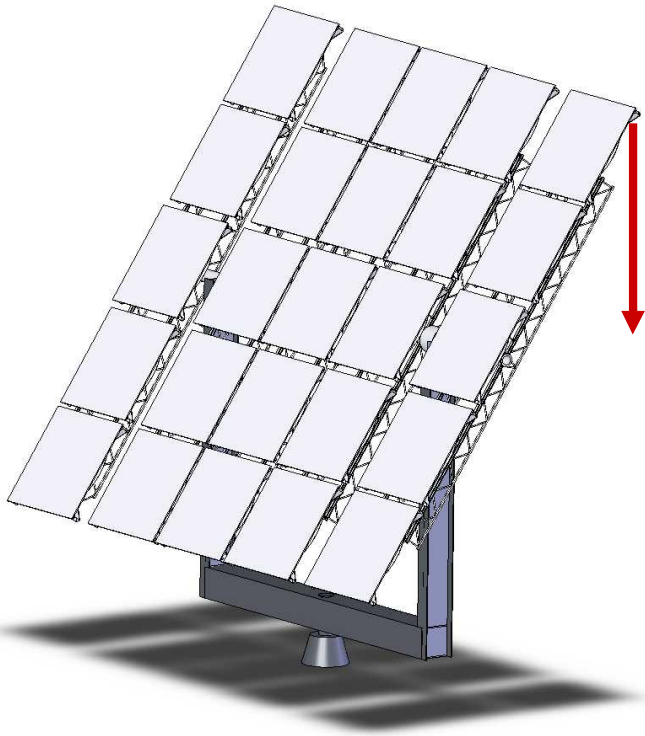


Model



Static Loading Test

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

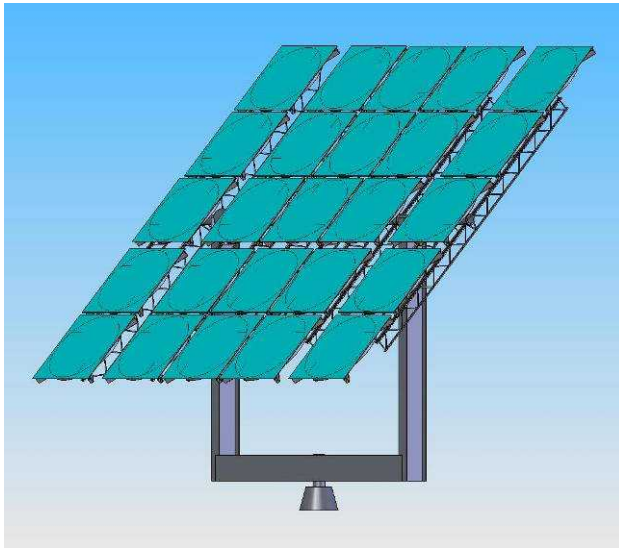




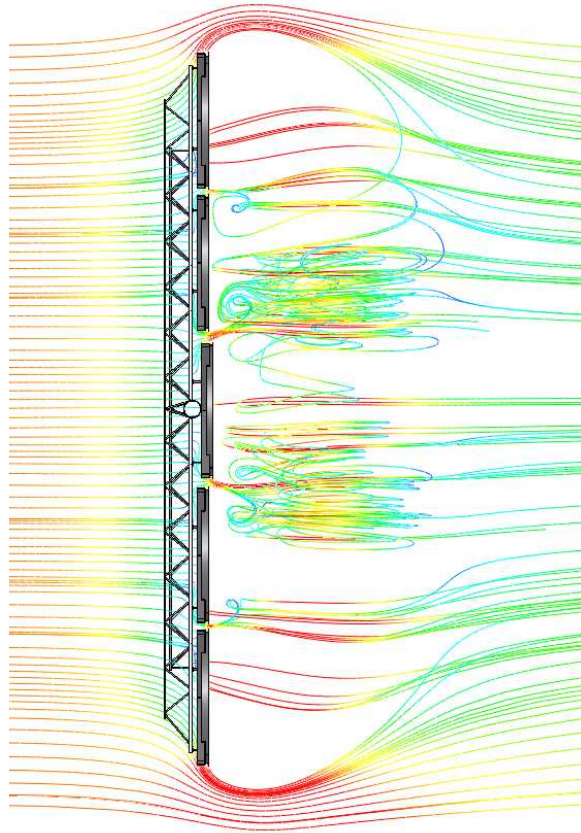
Overview

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

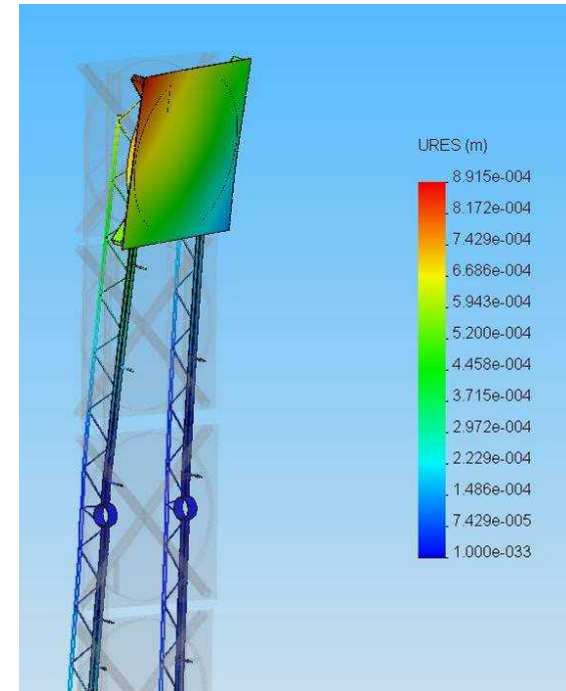
Static Wind Loading



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

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



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