

European Twinning for research in Solar energy to (2) water (H2O) production and treatment technologies  
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# Sol2H2O



UNIVERSIDADE  
DE ÉVORA



Università  
degli Studi  
di Palermo



# Fast Track School #2

**Beyond State of the Art in Solar-driven Water production & Treatment technologies and brine treatment processes**

# Sol2H2O



**Solar-driven wastewater treatment -  
Pilot plant installed within  
the Sol2H2O project**

# Outline

**Reactor Design  
and  
Construction**

**Assessment of  
solar-driven  
wastewater  
treatment  
processes**

**Assessment of  
the Sol<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O  
photoreactor**

# WP2 Solar driven wastewater treatment



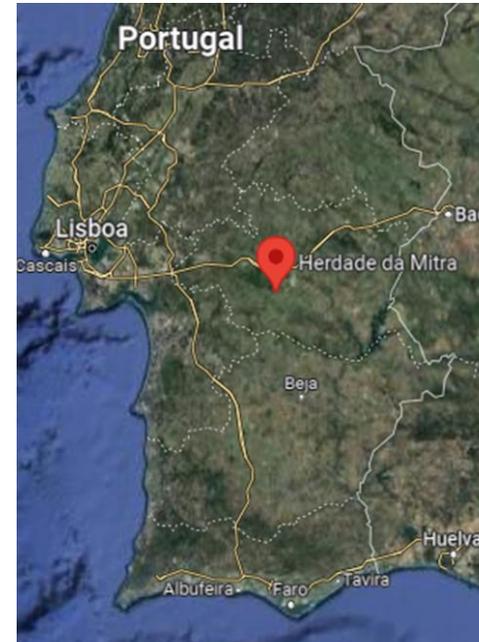
The two main research lines **(JRA)** that will be tackled in coordination with the widening partner are:

- Improvement and optimization of photoreactors, like the absorber tube diameter of the CPC or the agitation mechanism in raceway pond reactors (RPR), to better fit the AOP to be applied, the raw characteristics of the wastewater to be treated and the water quality required depending on final reuse purposes;
- combination with PV systems for renewable energy supply to the electrical parts of the solar photoreactors.

# Solar Concentrators Testing Platform



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- Tubular photoreactor with high pathlength
- Inclination:  $40^\circ$  / South-facing (east-west mounting)
- **150 L total volume; 62.32 L illuminated volume (ratio: 0,42)**
- Operating in batch mode with water recirculation (flow rate: 25 – 130L/min)

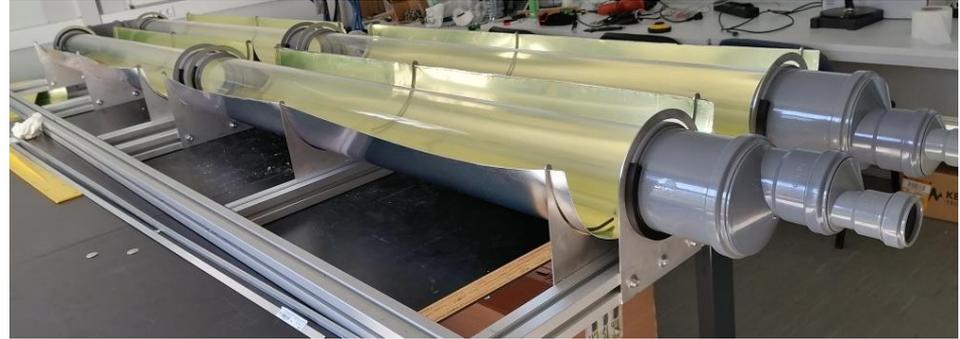
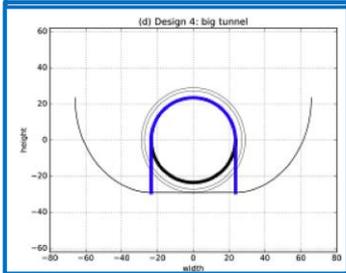
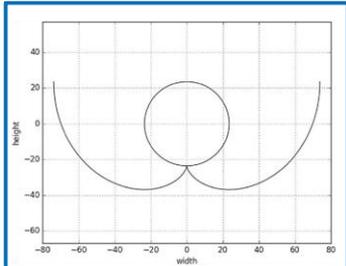
# One-Sun Compound Parabolic Collectors (CPC)

simplified design for low cost production (“big tunnel”), Osório et al. (2019)



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Solar collector was obtained by molding the CPC-type profile over the receiver length



## Electro-brightened pre-coated mirror finished aluminium (SWR686)

- $\geq 84\%$  Total solar reflectance
- $\geq 87\%$  Total solar reflectance “visible range”
- $< 3\%$  Diffuse reflectance
- $\geq 80\%$  Specular reflectance

## Dimensions:

- $A_a = 305.64 \text{ mm}^2$
- Perimeter = 453.23 mm
- Aperture area = 1.83 m<sup>2</sup>



## **Tubular horizontal receivers connected in series**

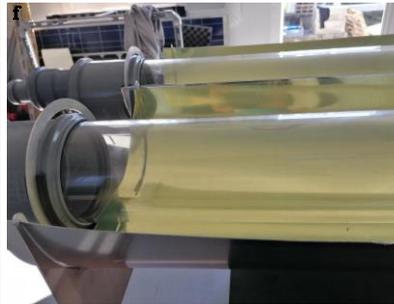
4 tubes

- borosilicate glass 3.3 DURAN®
- 125 mm outer diameter
- 5 mm wall thickness
- 1.5 m length
- with tubes and valves made of HDPE





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# Assessment of solar-driven wastewater treatment processes



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- **wastewater characterization**

- chemical contaminants, mineral and organic matter concentrations
- physico-chemical parameters as pH, EC, turbidity
- microbial characterization

- **reactor design and operation**

- type and configuration of the collector
- reflector design and material
- optical efficiency
- geometrical concentration factor
- receiver geometry, dimensions and material
- the operating mode
- tilt
- flow rate
- oxidant loading method, reactor capacity
- the ratio between the illuminated volume/total volume

# Assessment of solar-driven wastewater treatment processes

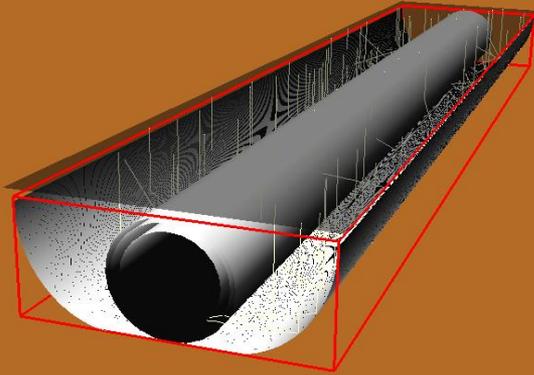


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- **characterization of the Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP)**
  - type of Advanced Oxidation Process
  - oxidant agent and concentration
  - catalyst type and concentration
- **overall assessment of the photoreactor efficiency**
  - degradation time,
  - TOC and chemical contaminants removal,
  - toxicity of degradation products,
  - microbial inactivation
  - energy consumption per volume of treated water
- **economic assessment**
  - reactor cost CAPEX
  - treatment cost OPEX
  - specific treatment cost along system lifetime

# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor

- **Optical efficiency**

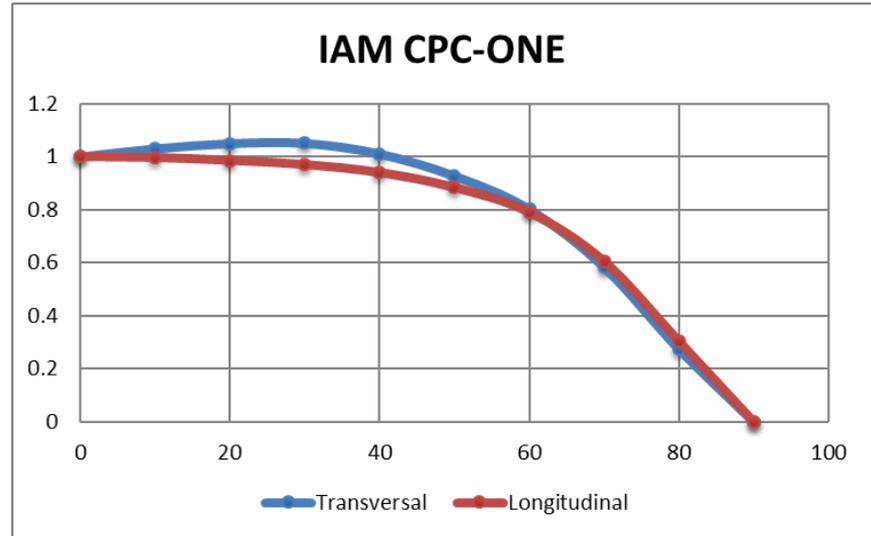


Open source ray-tracing software Tonatiuh <sup>®</sup>

Enables the calculation of the expected optical performance of the collector, through the ratio between the total amount of power absorbed by the receiver and the total amount of power hitting the entrance of the collector

## Incidence Angle Modifier Curves (IAM)

variation of the optical efficiency of the collector as a function of the incidence angle of the sunlight, both on the longitudinal and transversal plane of the collector



The ideal optical efficiency is **0.9** (Osório et al. 2019)  
Real optical efficiency of the collector **0.6**

# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor

- Solar irradiance measurements
- Flow rate



Microflow sensor for magnetic flow meters MS600 ISOMAG, with a Flow rate of 0 to 12.500 l/h with a converter MV110 ISOMAG



Data on **Direct Normal Irradiance (DNI)**, **Global horizontal irradiation (Ghi)** and **Diffuse horizontal irradiation (Dhi)** are acquired at a nearby (~100 m) meteo station (CMP11, CHP1, Kipp & Zonen)



SUV-A Kipp & Zonen **UV Radiometer** (315-400 nm) and a CMP11 Kipp & Zonen **pyranometer** (285 to 2800 nm) to gather data on the Global irradiation on the plane (Gplane\_i)

# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor

- **Electrical consumption**
- **Average 0,6 KWh per hour**



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Magnetic drive pump ADM 10, delivery rates up to 13 m<sup>3</sup>/h, with a motor of 0.75HP and 2800 RPM



Microflow sensor for magnetic flow meters MS600 ISOMAG, with a Flow rate of 0 to 12.500 l/h

# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor

- Phenol

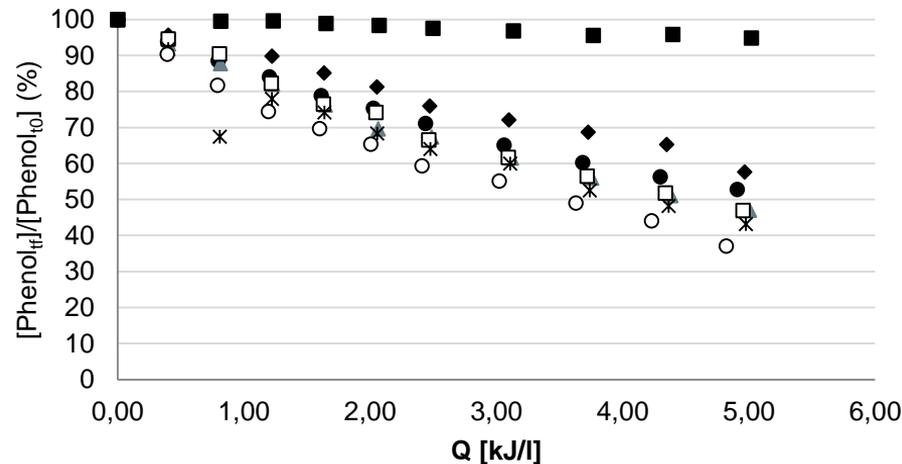
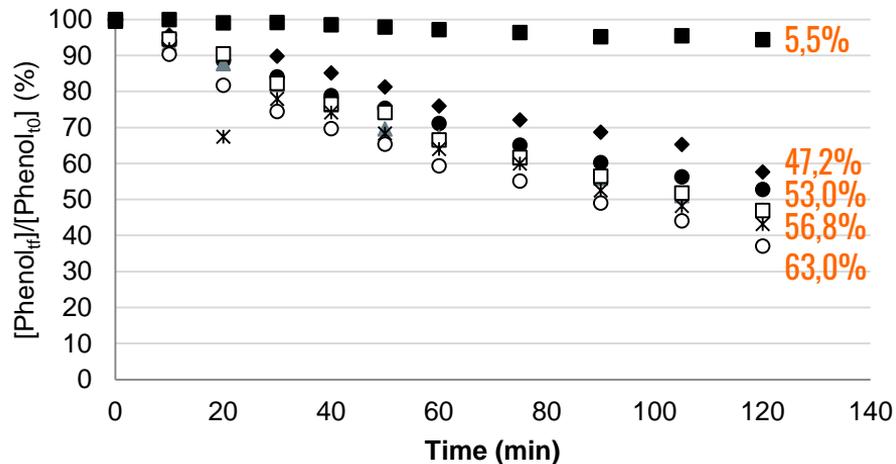


# Heterogeneous photocatalysis with TiO<sub>2</sub>

## Phenol (10 mg L<sup>-1</sup>); 120 L/min



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## Mineralization rate

Photolysis	10 mg/l TiO <sub>2</sub>	25 mg/l TiO <sub>2</sub>	50 mg/l TiO <sub>2</sub>	75 mg/l TiO <sub>2</sub>	100 mg/l TiO <sub>2</sub>	200 mg/l TiO <sub>2</sub>
3%	18%	10%	24%	28%	31%	35%

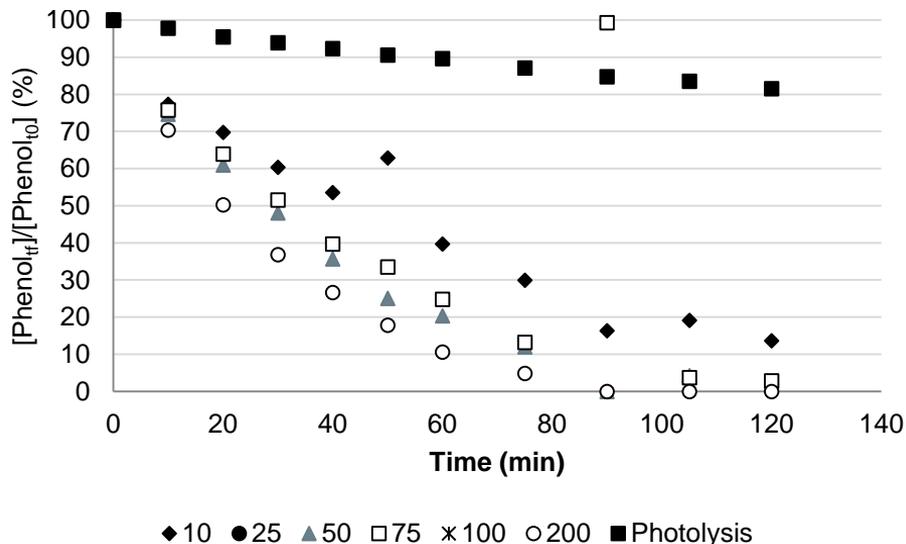
# Heterogeneous photocatalysis with $\text{TiO}_2$

## Phenol ( $10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ )

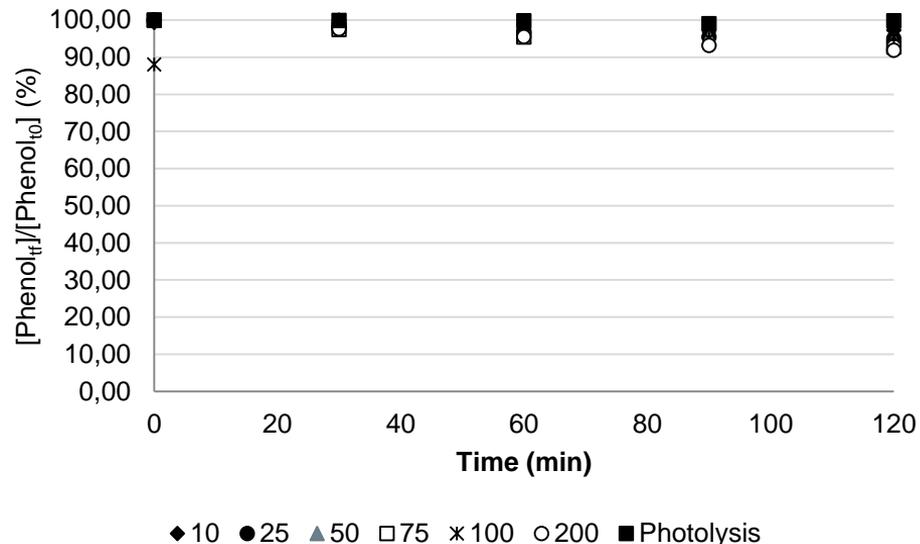


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### Illuminated Control

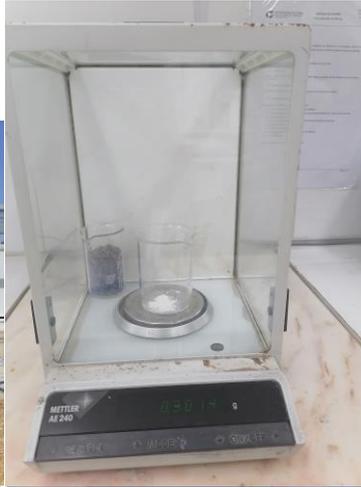


### Control in the dark



# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor

- Sulfamethoxazole



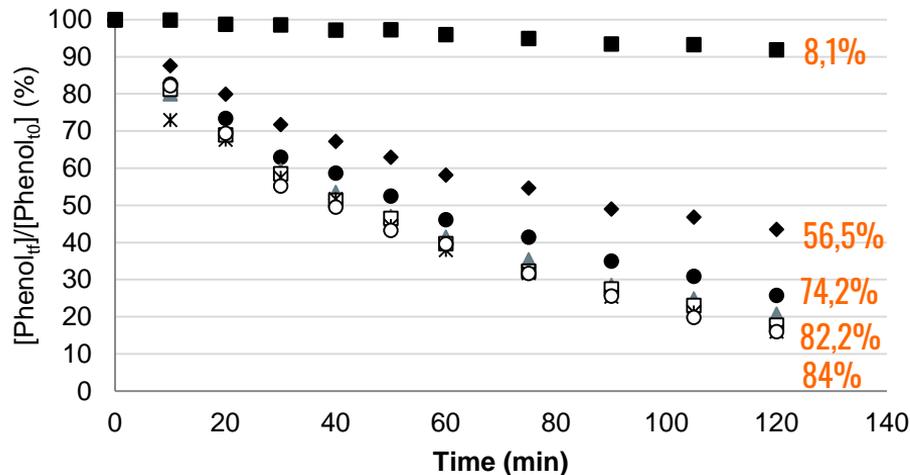
# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor

Heterogeneous photocatalysis with  $\text{TiO}_2$



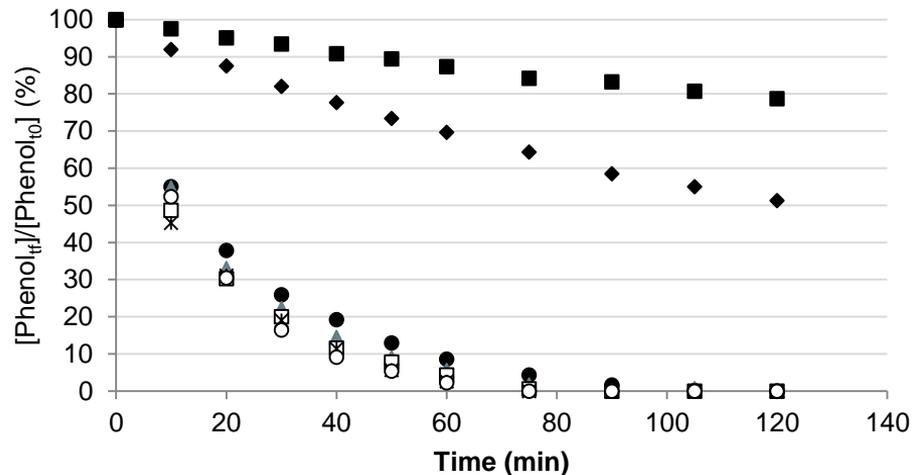
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Sulfamethoxazole ( $10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ )



◆ 10 ● 25 ▲ 50 □ 75 × 100 ○ 200 ■ Photolysis

Illuminated Control



◆ 10 ● 25 ▲ 50 □ 75 × 100 ○ 200 ■ Photolysis

Mineralization rate

10 mg/l $\text{TiO}_2$	25 mg/l $\text{TiO}_2$
54%	59%

# Assessment of the Sol2H2O photoreactor



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- **Economic assessment**

<b>Reactor components</b>	<b>Costs (€)</b>
Control and operation equipment	4 195,00 €
Reactor structure	2 182,17 €
Tubing accessories	485,23 €
Reflector	4 341,60 €
Personnel	1 500,00 €
<b>Estimated costs for 1 m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>11,858.40 €</b>

OPEX - Maintenance and operation costs will be also calculated at the end of the project

# Team



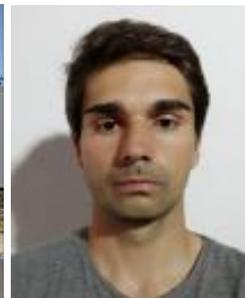
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