



PROJECT HELIOS

(GREEK GOD OF SUN)

Group 29

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Speaker: Cory Bianchi



Motivation

- ▶ To acquire international engineering experience
- ▶ To design a solar power system
- ▶ To experience new cultures and explore new international horizons
- ▶ To promote the use of new, clean, and sustainable energy sources for humanitarian efforts



Speaker: Cory Bianchi



Pomolong Township



Speaker: Cory Bianchi



South Africa Demographics

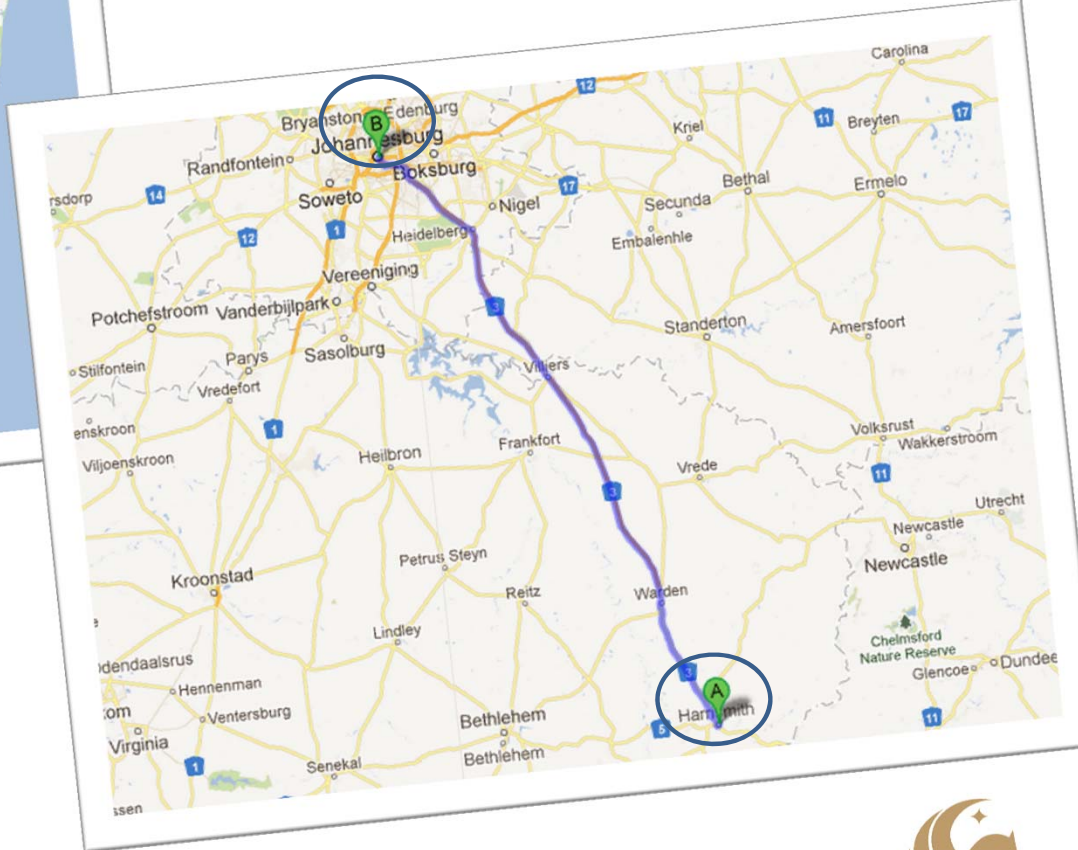
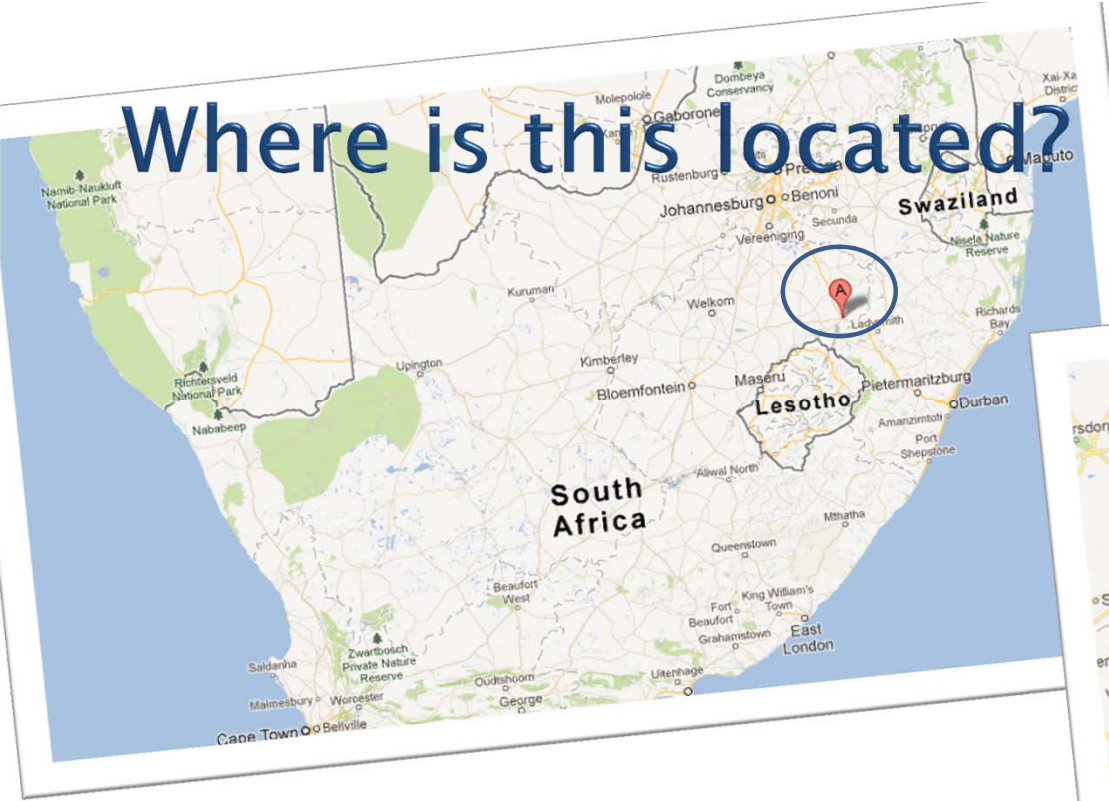
- ▶ Rural population: 38% (2010)
- ▶ Population: 48,600,000
- ▶ Internet users: 4.4 million (2009)
- ▶ Life Expectancy: 50 years
- ▶ Unemployment rate age 15–24: 48.2% (2009)
- ▶ Literacy: 86.4% (4 out of 5)
- ▶ Population Growth Rate: -0.412%
- ▶ Poverty Rate: 50% (2000)
- ▶ HIV/AIDS: 17.8% (2009) (1 out of 5)



Speaker: Cory Bianchi



Where is this located?



- ▶ Johannesburg to Harrismith
 - Approx. 2.5 hrs
 - Approx. 150 miles



Speaker: Cory Bianchi



Goals & Objectives

- ▶ To generate, store, and distribute power
- ▶ Self-sustaining reliable system
- ▶ To improve the quality of life of the Pomolong Township
- ▶ To deliver AC power



Speaker: Patrick O'Connor

System Specifications and Requirements

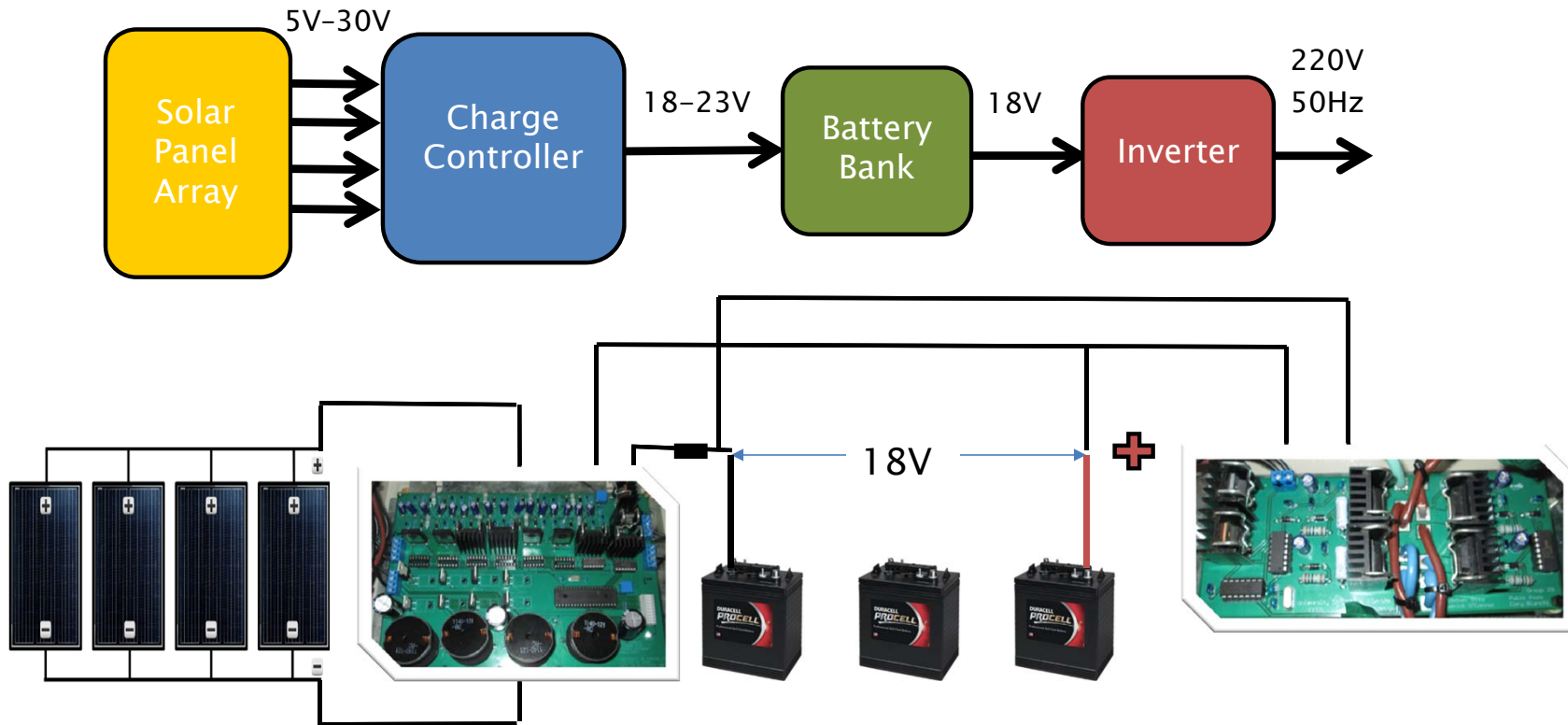
- ▶ Produce 1000W
- ▶ Input up to 30V and up to 32A
- ▶ Output 220V at 50Hz
- ▶ 7.5 hours at 10A without charging
- ▶ Work at temperatures from 0 – 125°F



Speaker: Patrick O'Connor



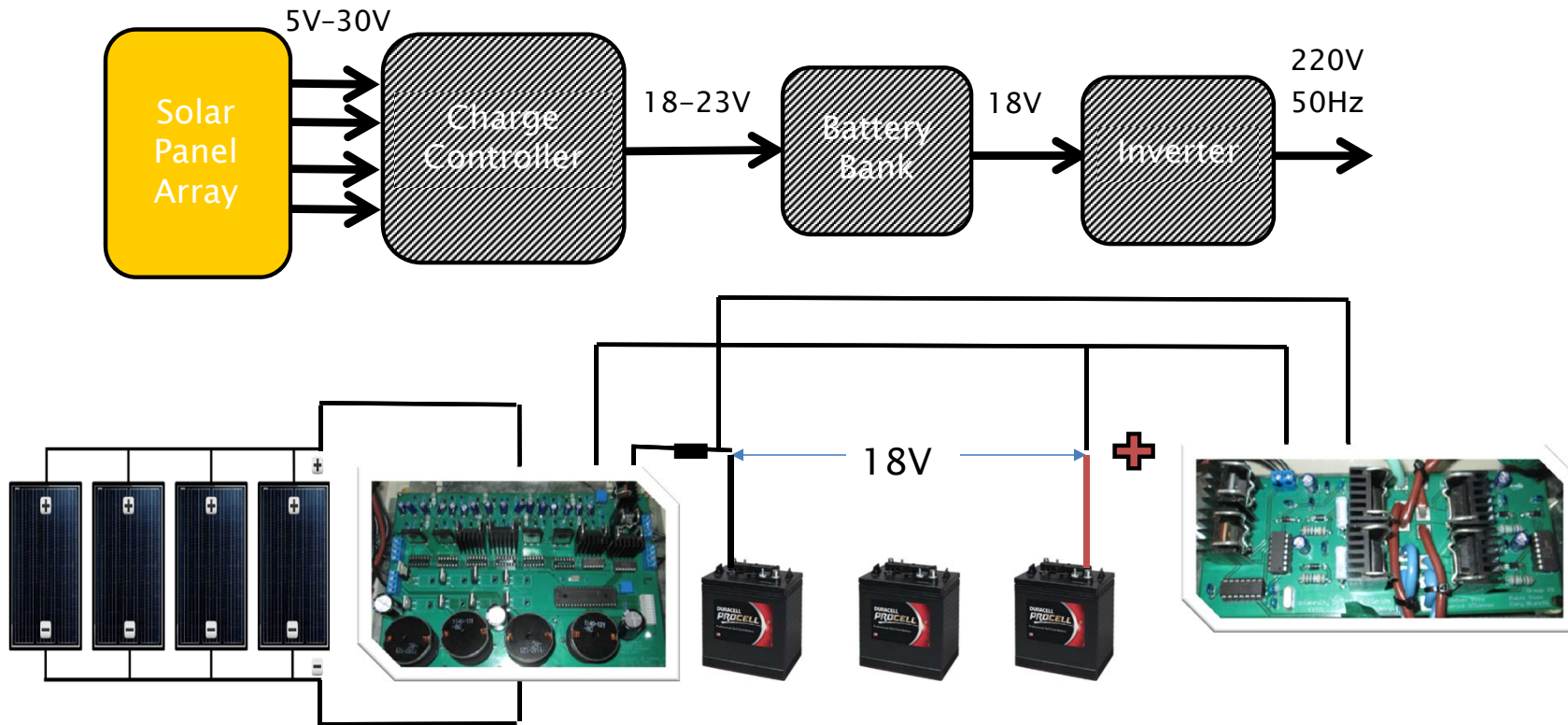
General Block Diagram



Speaker: Patrick O'Connor



General Block Diagram

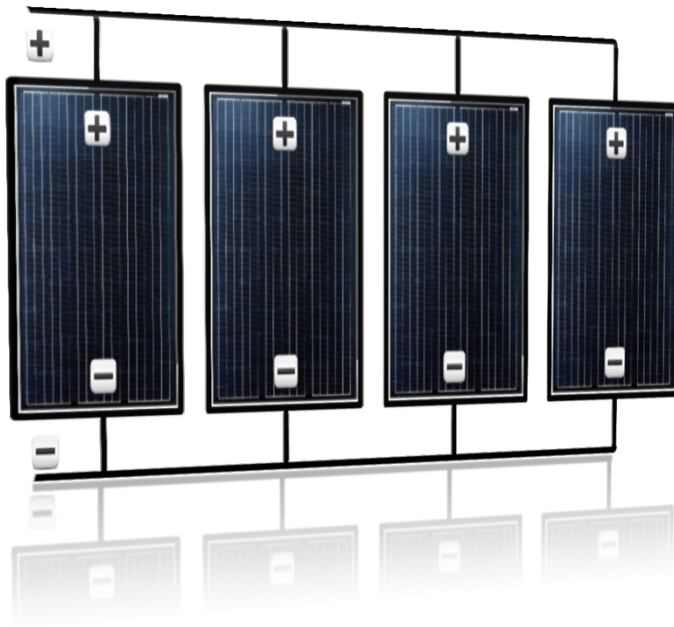


Speaker: Patrick O'Connor

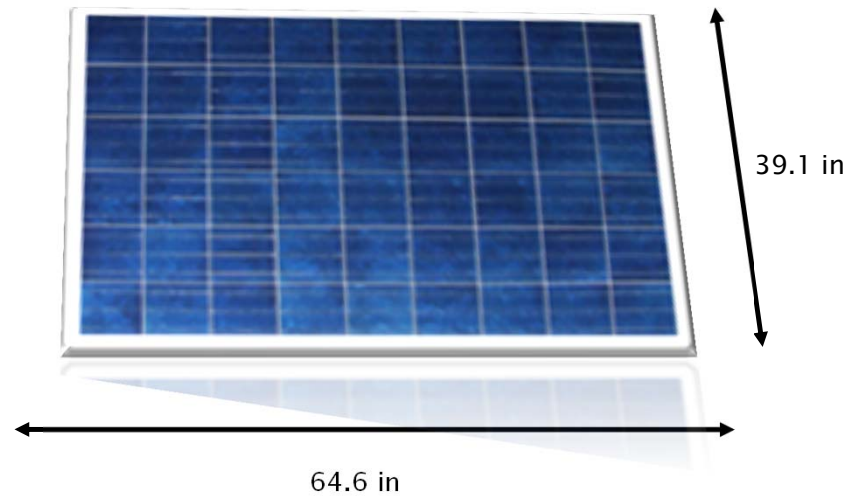


Solar Panel

- ▶ 4 Solar Panels in parallel



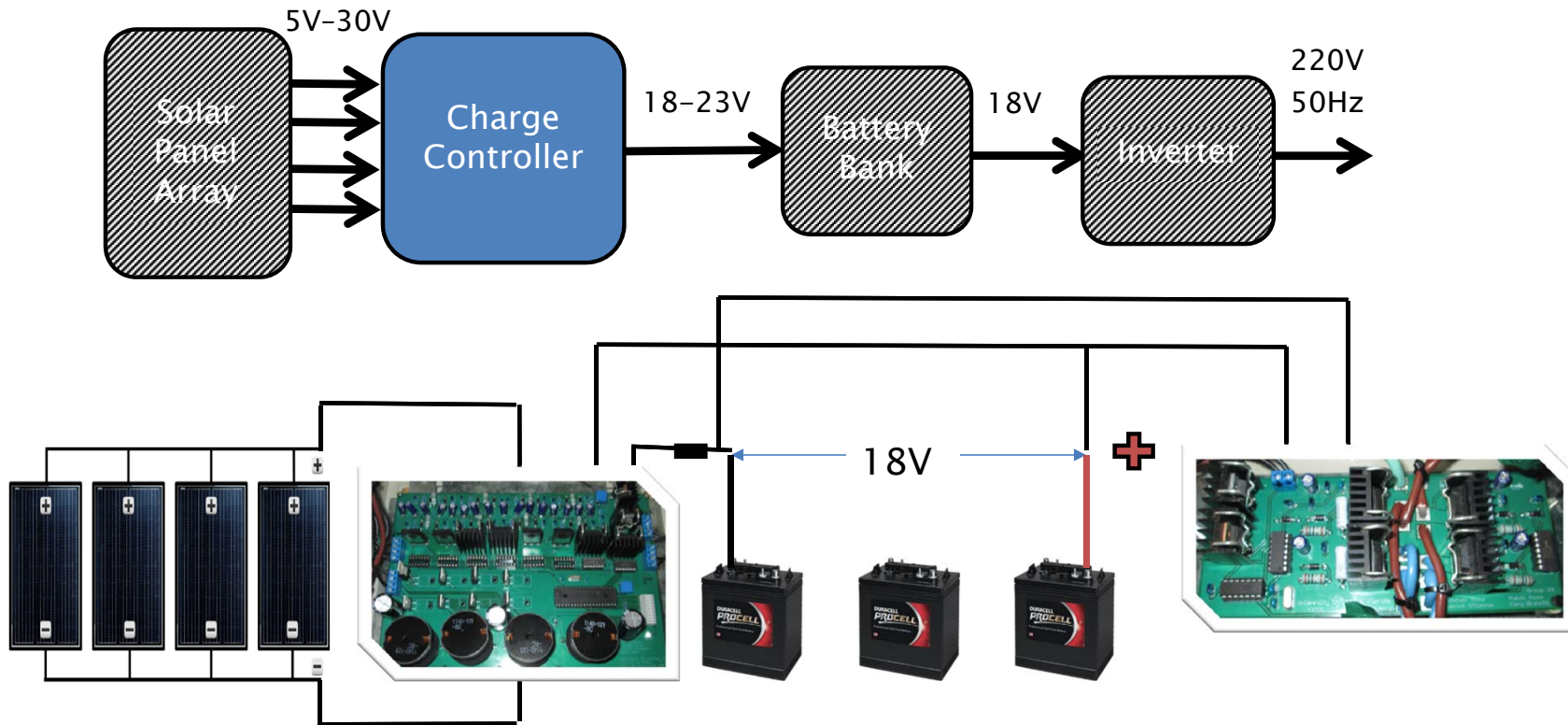
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Speaker: Patrick O'Connor



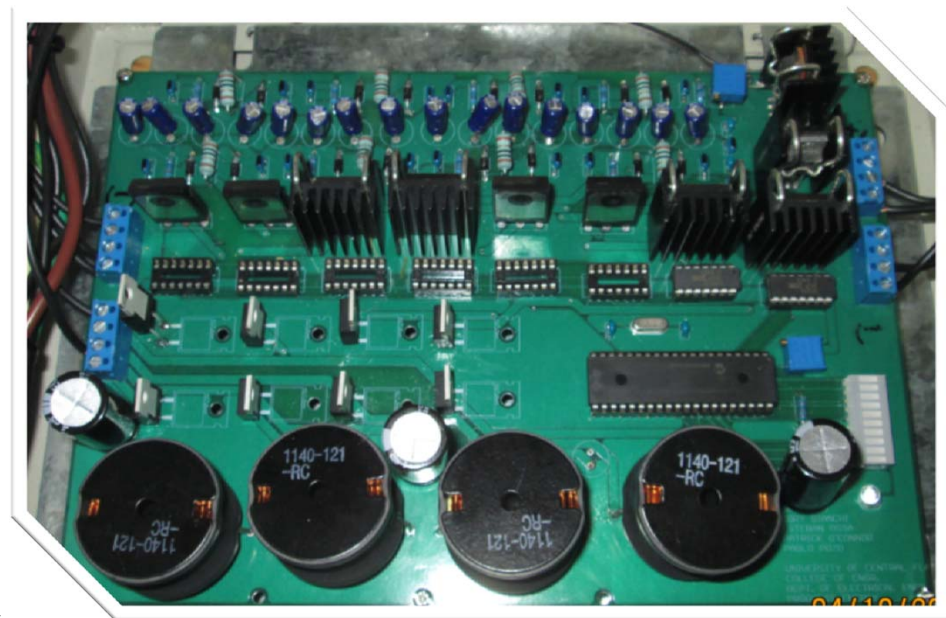
General Block Diagram





Charge Controller

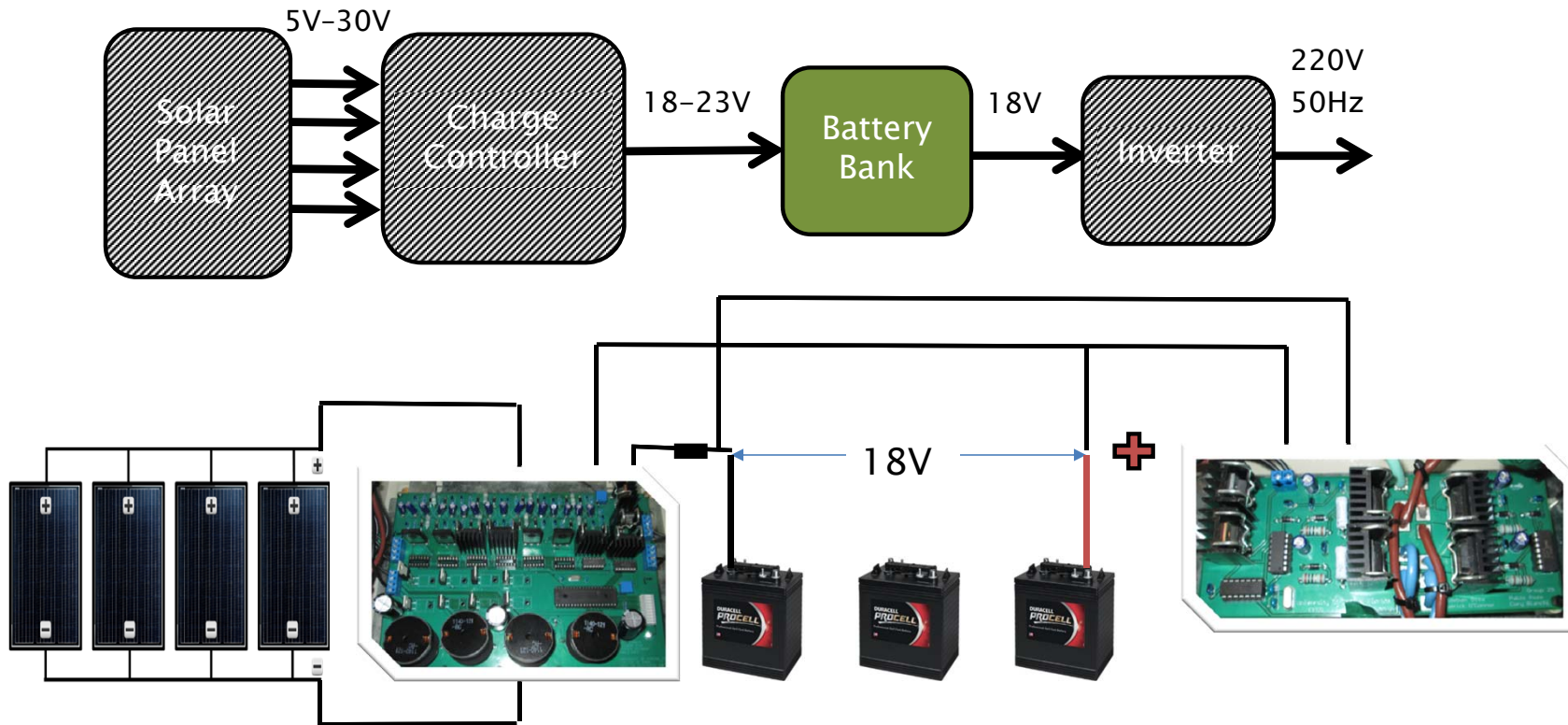
- ▶ Specifications & Requirements
 - 5–30V input
 - Max 32A input
 - Constant output 20V
- ▶ Functionality
 - Manages the power from the solar panel, and stores energy to the battery bank



Speaker: Esteban Ossa



General Block Diagram





Battery Bank

► Specifications

- Three 6V batteries to be able to store 1000W
- Lead Acid and Deep Cycle batteries

► Functionality

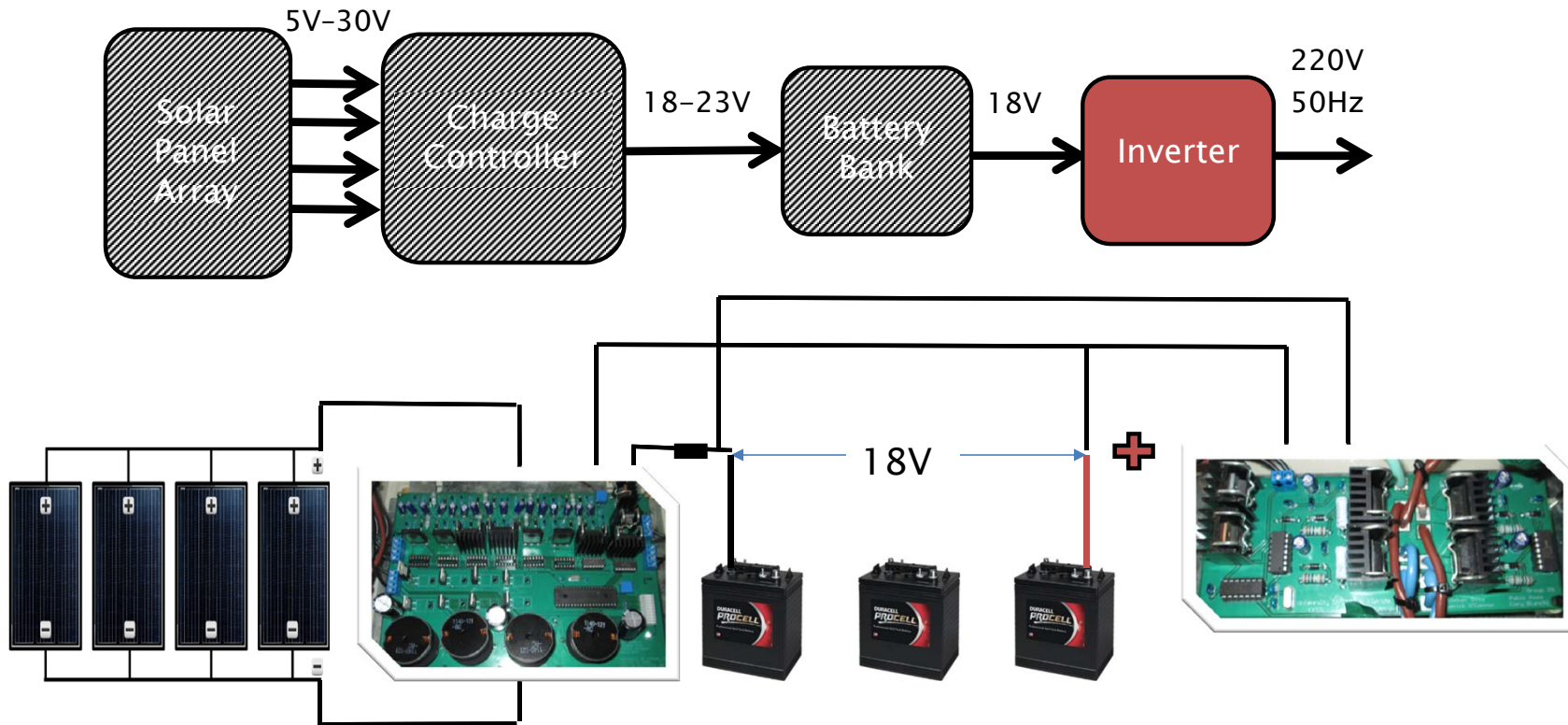
- Stores DC energy produced by the panels for later use



Speaker: Esteban Ossa



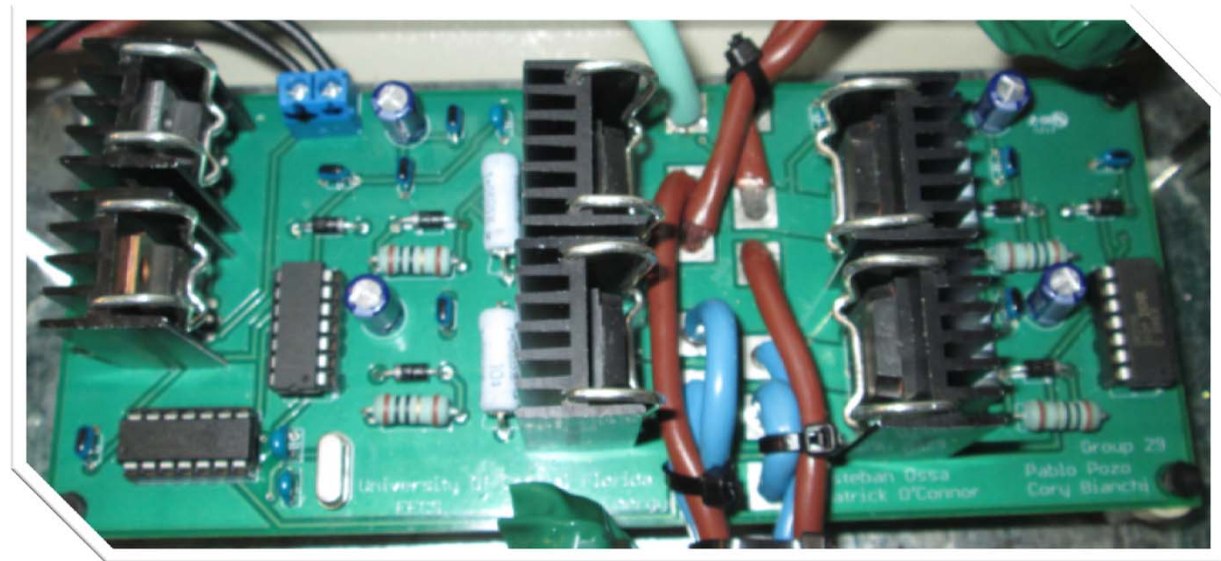
General Block Diagram





Inverter

- ▶ Specification & Requirements
 - Input voltage 18VDC
 - Pure sine wave output
 - Output 220VAC at 50Hz
 - Deliver 1000W
- ▶ Functionality
 - Converts DC power (stored) to AC power (usable) for distribution





Challenges

- ▶ **Technical**
 - Driving the gate of the DC-DC converter
 - Creating a high power LC filter
 - Installing system abroad
- ▶ **Administrative**
 - Getting funding to travel to South Africa
 - Collaboration with the other groups and the Honors College





Inverter Efficiency

- ▶ Voltage Input: 18.36V
- ▶ Current Input: 6.5A
- ▶ Power Input: 119.34W

- ▶ Voltage Output: 223.2V
- ▶ Current Output: 0.406A
- ▶ Power Output: 90.62W

- ▶ 76% Efficiency (efficiency range of 50% to 97%)

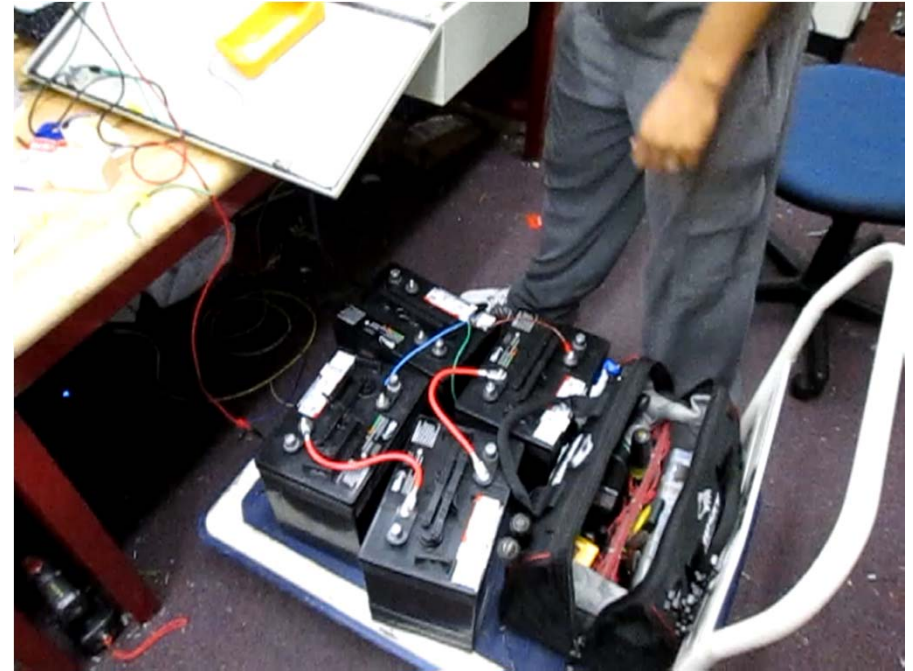
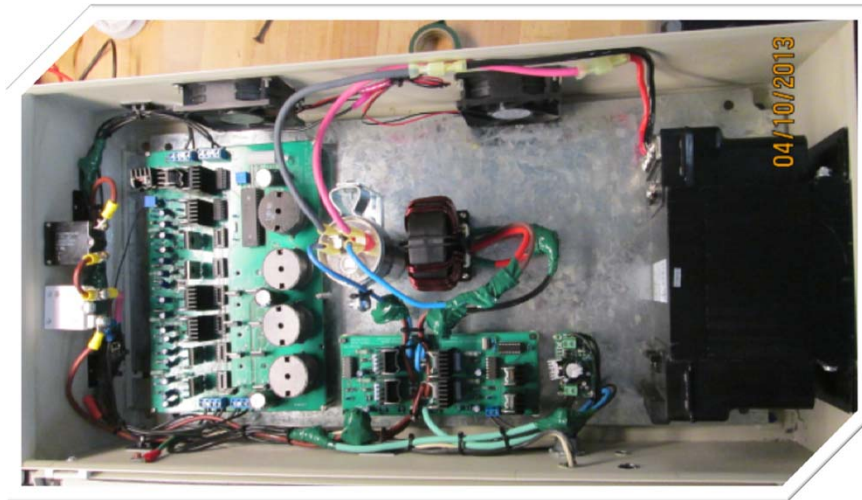


Speaker: Esteban Ossa



Testing & Results

- ▶ System Efficiency
 - The System Efficiency is 76%
- ▶ Battery Life
 - The Battery life time is 7.5 hours





Community Impact & Applications

- ▶ Extension of night time activities
 - Movies
 - Music
- ▶ Communication expansion
 - Television
 - Radio
- ▶ Education
 - Internet Access



Speaker: Pablo Pozo



Scaling and Uses

- ▶ Case 1
 - 1 Projector, 1 computer, 1 light bulb for a period of 2.5 hours
- ▶ Case 2
 - 5 Cellphone chargers, 2 computers, 1 light bulb for a period of 2.5 hours



Speaker: Pablo Pozo



Cost Breakdown

ITEM	COST
SOLAR PANELS	\$733.20
CHARGE CONTROLLER	\$200.00
BATTERIES	\$370.59
INVERTER	\$860.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$356.71
TOTAL COST	\$2,536.71

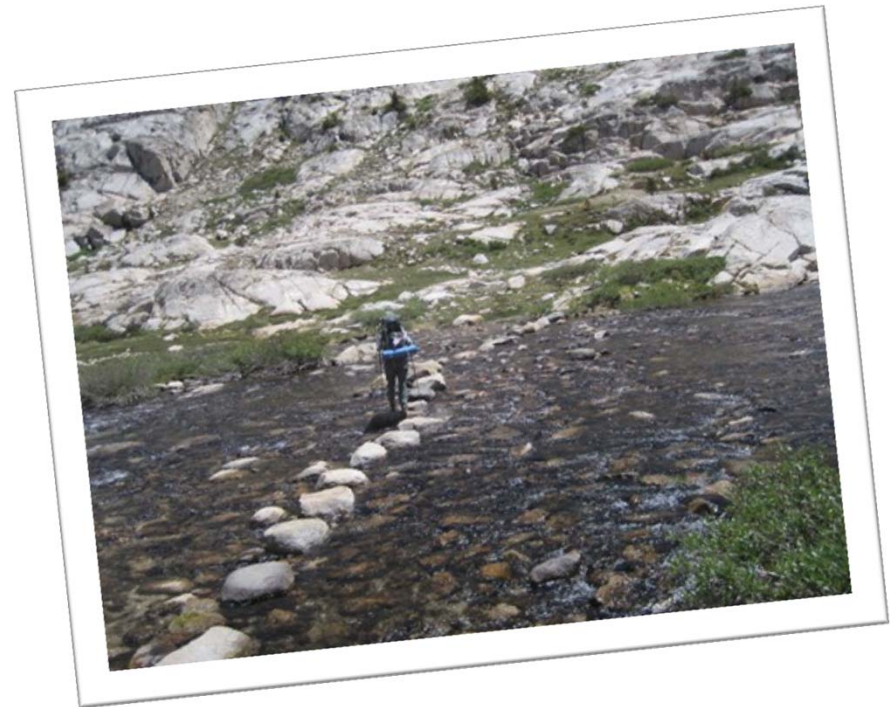


Speaker: Pablo Pozo



Stepping Stone

- ▶ This project will potentially open the doors for continuity on new projects dedicated to humanitarian work in South Africa or other parts of the world.



Sponsors



Progress Energy



- Special Thanks:
- Dr. Richie
 - CECS & EECS
 - Mike Tullbane
 - Honors College