

Photovoltaic

Services & Technology

Solutions Partner



GW IBC-Production: Integration, Technology and Cost

Dr. Wolfgang Jooss

RCT Solutions GmbH Germany

21.11.2022

Konstanz, Germany

Agenda

- **Integration**
- **Technology selection**
- **Cost analysis**
- **Conclusion**



About RCT Group at a Glance



Owners & Basic Engineering



Full Value Chain



Conceptual & Basic Design



Feasibility Studies



Training Academy

2012

Founded, privately owned

30 GW

Installation, Owner's engineering worldwide

World's First

Fully integrated 1.2 GW Factory installation

20 GW

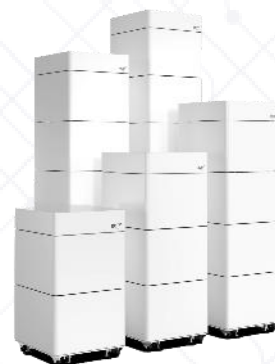
Pipeline outside of China

12 GW

Active projects in India

5x GW Scale

Factory Project Integrator



RCT Power Residential Batteries

2015

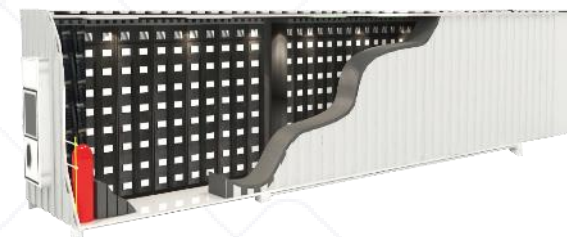
Founded, privately owned

11.4kWh

Modular concept development

Mass Production

Residential & battery pack for container solutions



RCT Power Utility Battery Storages

>3GWh

Total shipment

Best Storage

Awarded in Germany

EU&USA Based

Battery production & Operation



RCT Power Inverters





A new era on
global manufacturing

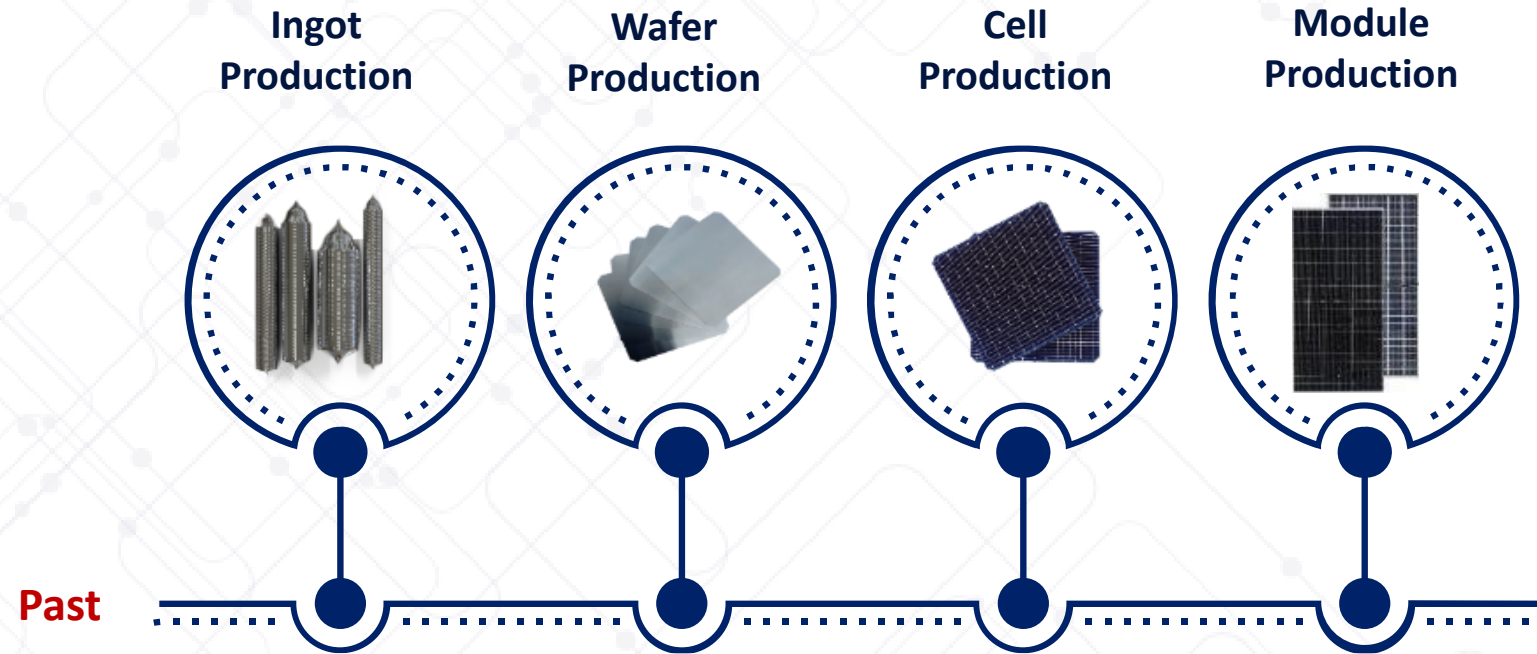


Integration: 2.0

Vertical integration into Giga scale PV production

Industry moved forward and we are able to see more and more of integrated ingot, wafer, cell and module production.

Should we stop here?



Introducing Integration: 3.0

Vertical **full** integration into Giga scale PV production

MG Si
Production



Polysilicon
Production



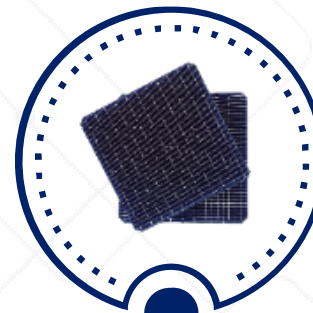
Ingot
Production



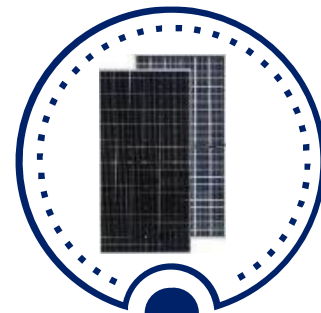
Wafer
Production



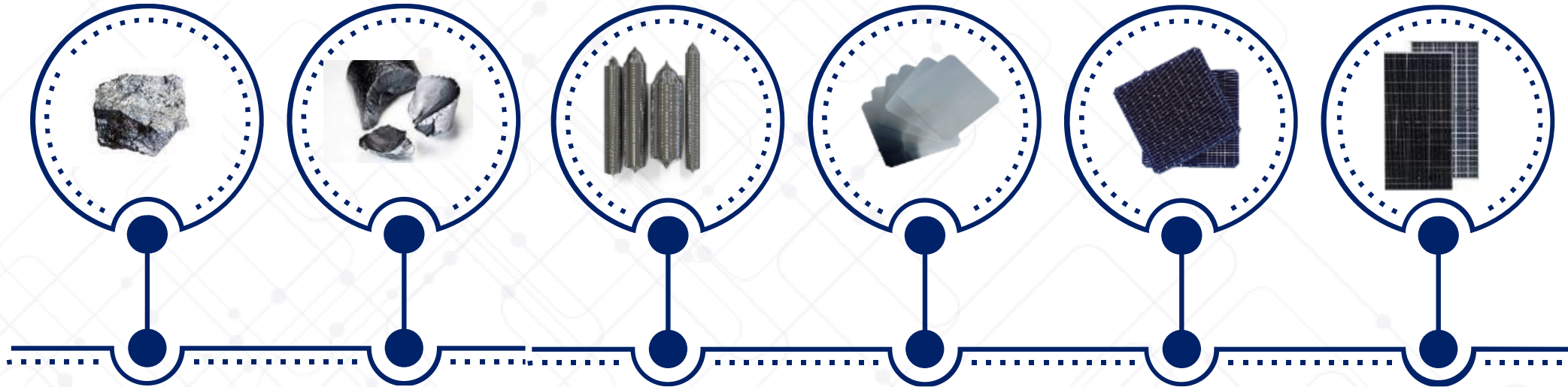
Cell
Production



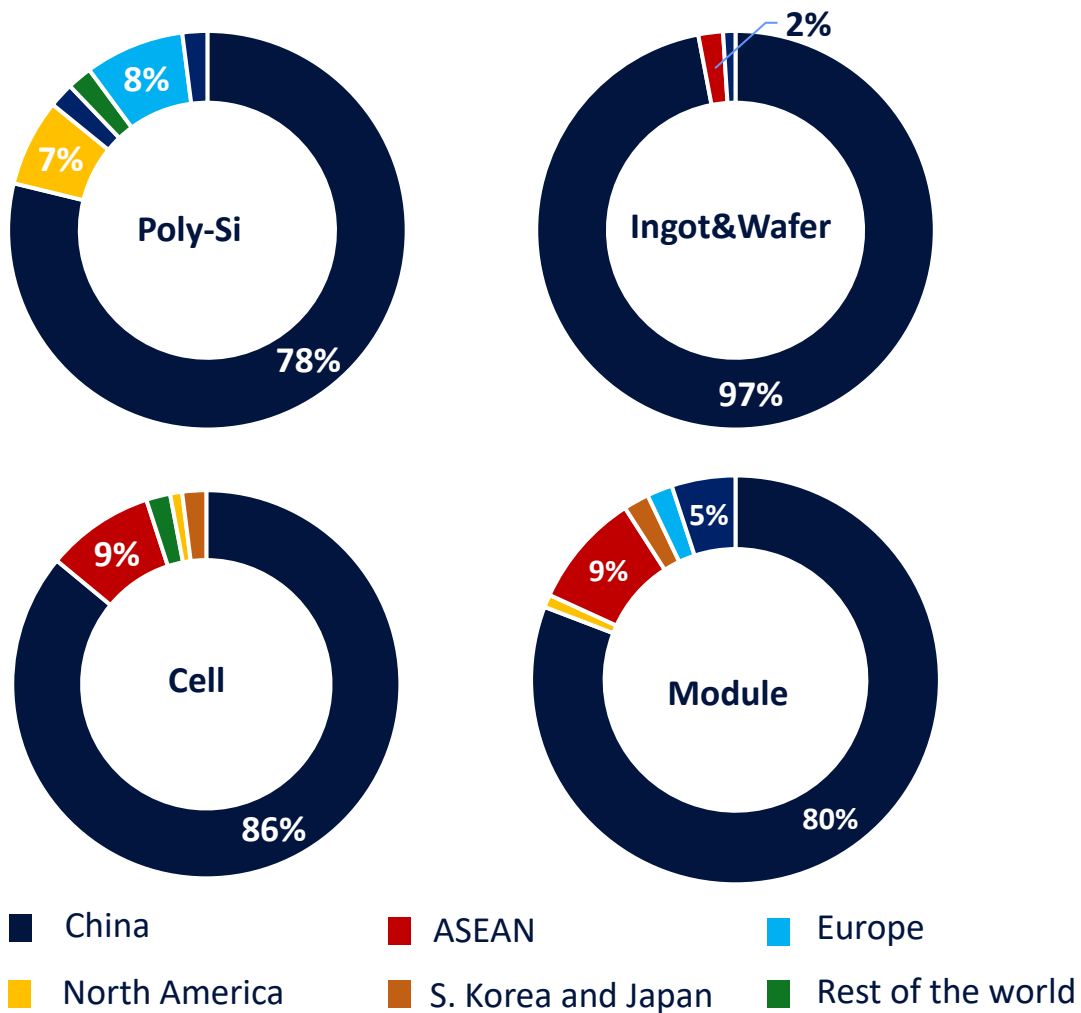
Module
Production



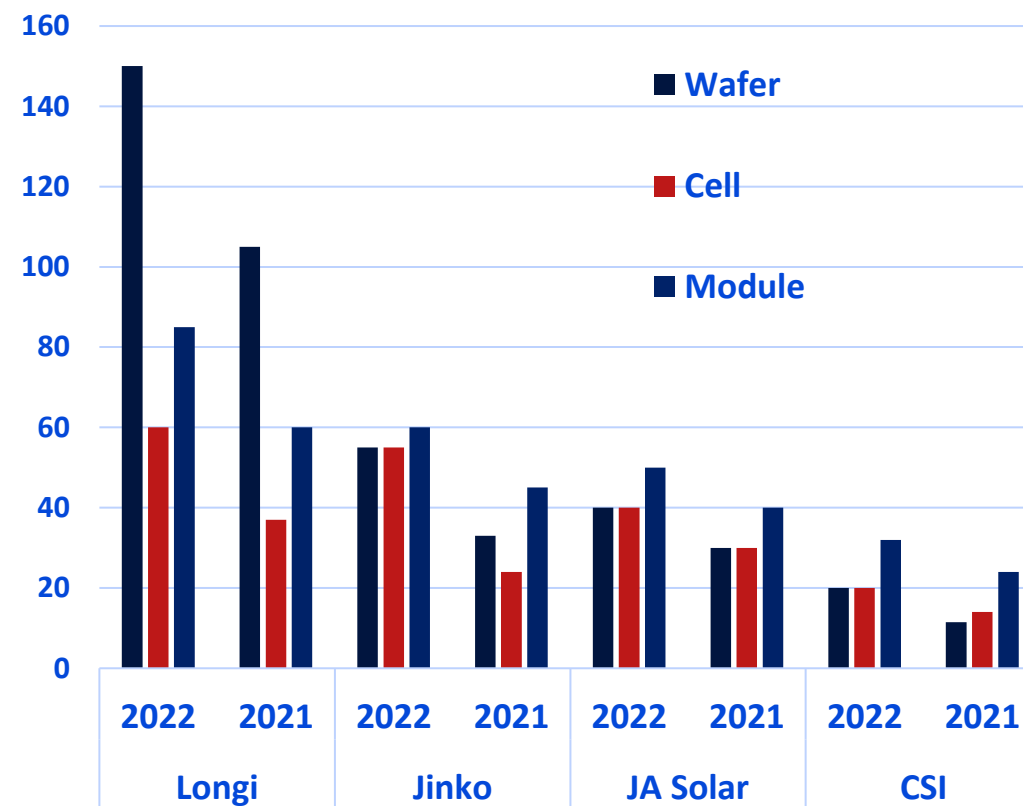
Now



Production locations - Status



Leading Chinese PV manufacturer production capacities (GW)



Benefits of Integrated Production

long term predictable **production costs**



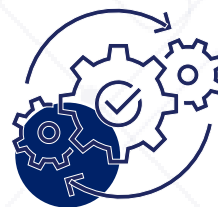
Quality Assurance



Packaging & shipping



Product Optimization



Process Optimisation

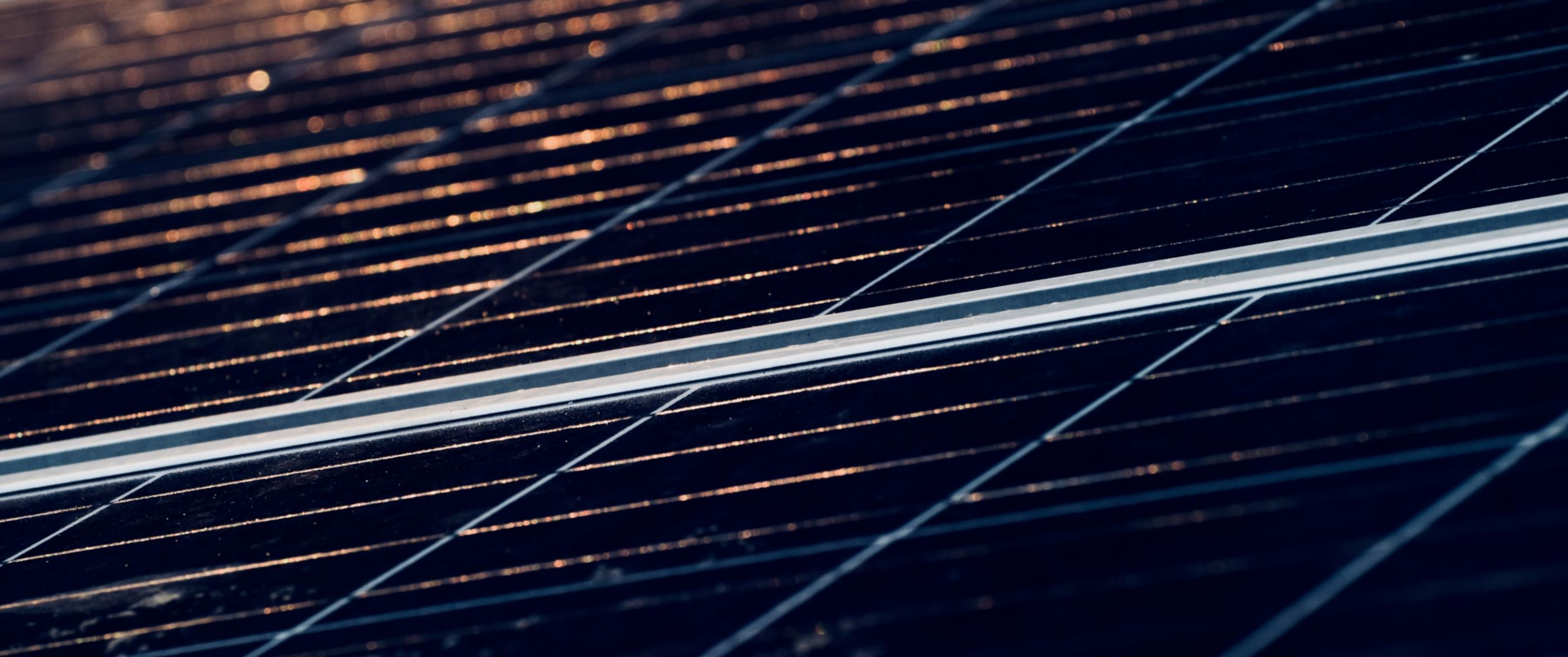


Cost Reduction (OPEX)



Recycling

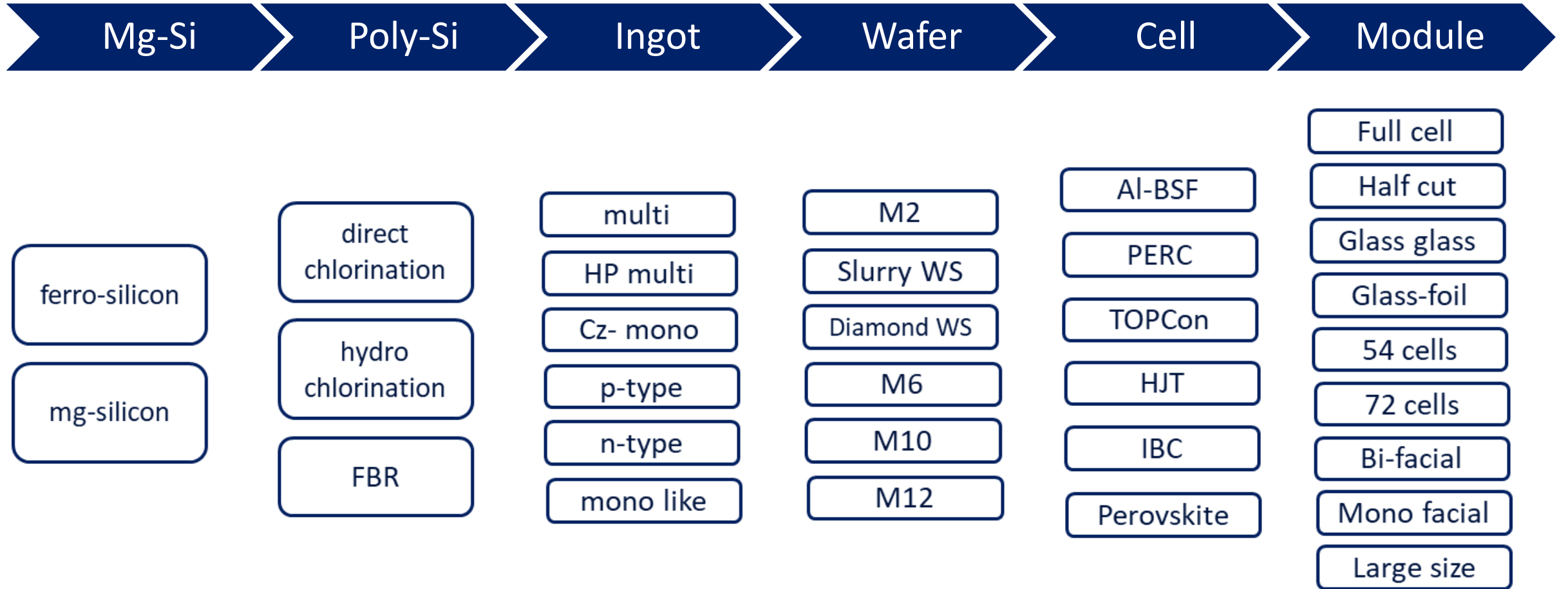




Technology selection



Technology options



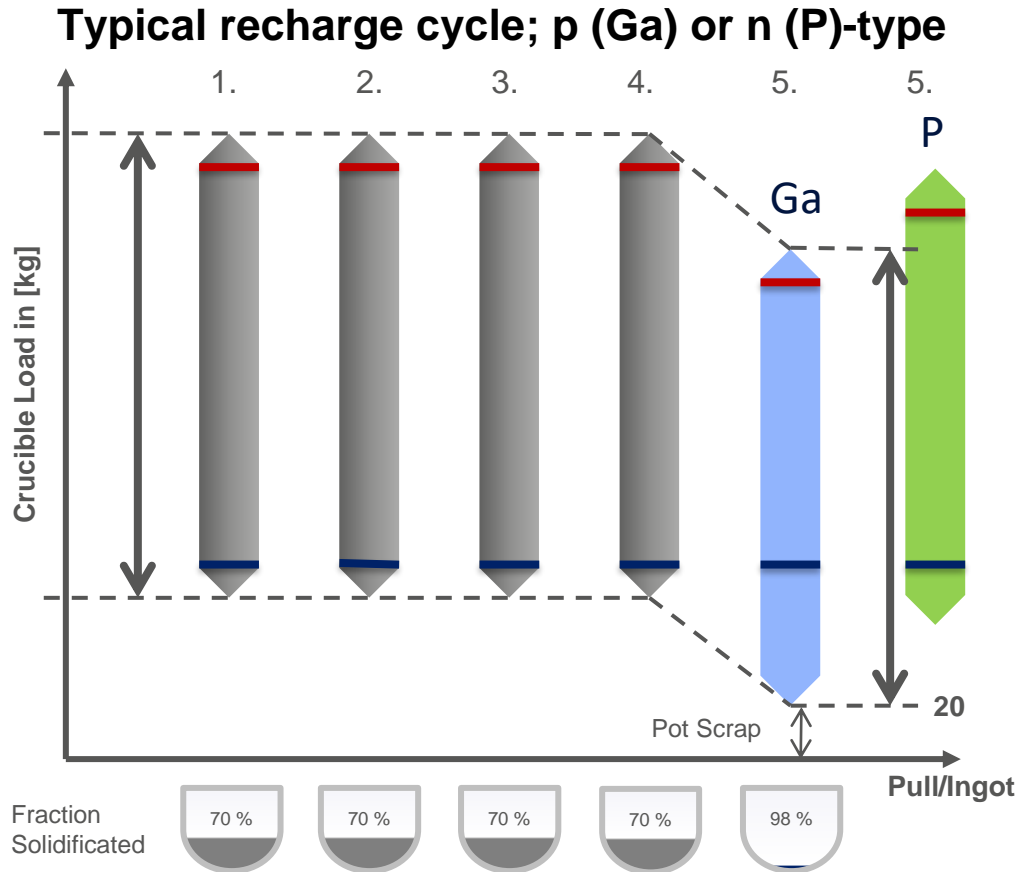
How to select the right technology for your PV factory?

1. What are your target markets?
2. Required product portfolio: utility, C&I or residential market
3. Factory size
4. Time to market expectation
5. Investor profile: low risk versus higher risk but front runner
6. Upgradeability – is important when a technology is at the end of its cycle
7. Access to technology and engineering staff
8. Availability of equipment, material supply chain and technology provider (for new entrant)

Various technologies are available!

Select the right technology from the bunch of choices and move forward

Ingots & Wafer Manufacturing – p- vs n-type



Difference in segregation coefficient leads to different qualifying ratio

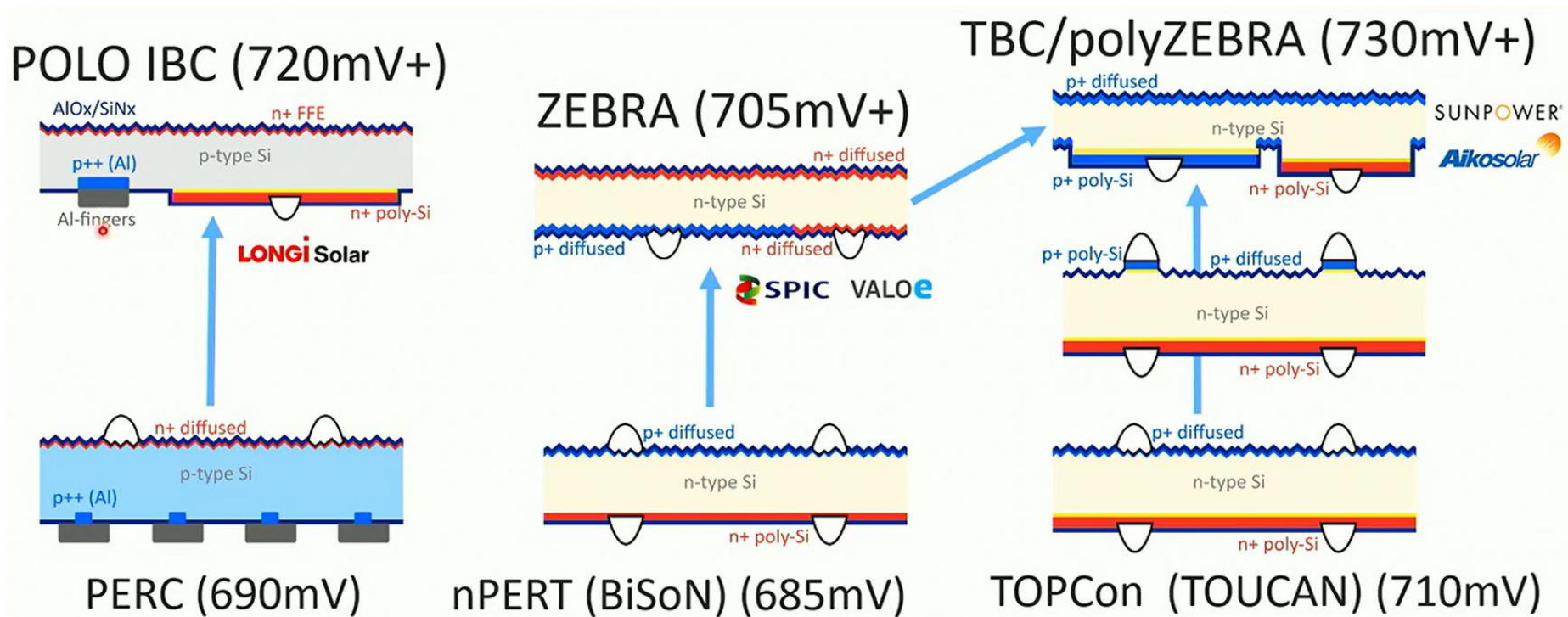
Key cost contributors

1. Wafer specification (qualifying ratio: lower for Ga)
 1. Lifetime MCLT
 2. Base doping range
 3. Impurity concentration
2. Wafer thickness
3. High lifetime requires good poly-Si quality (virgin and recycled)

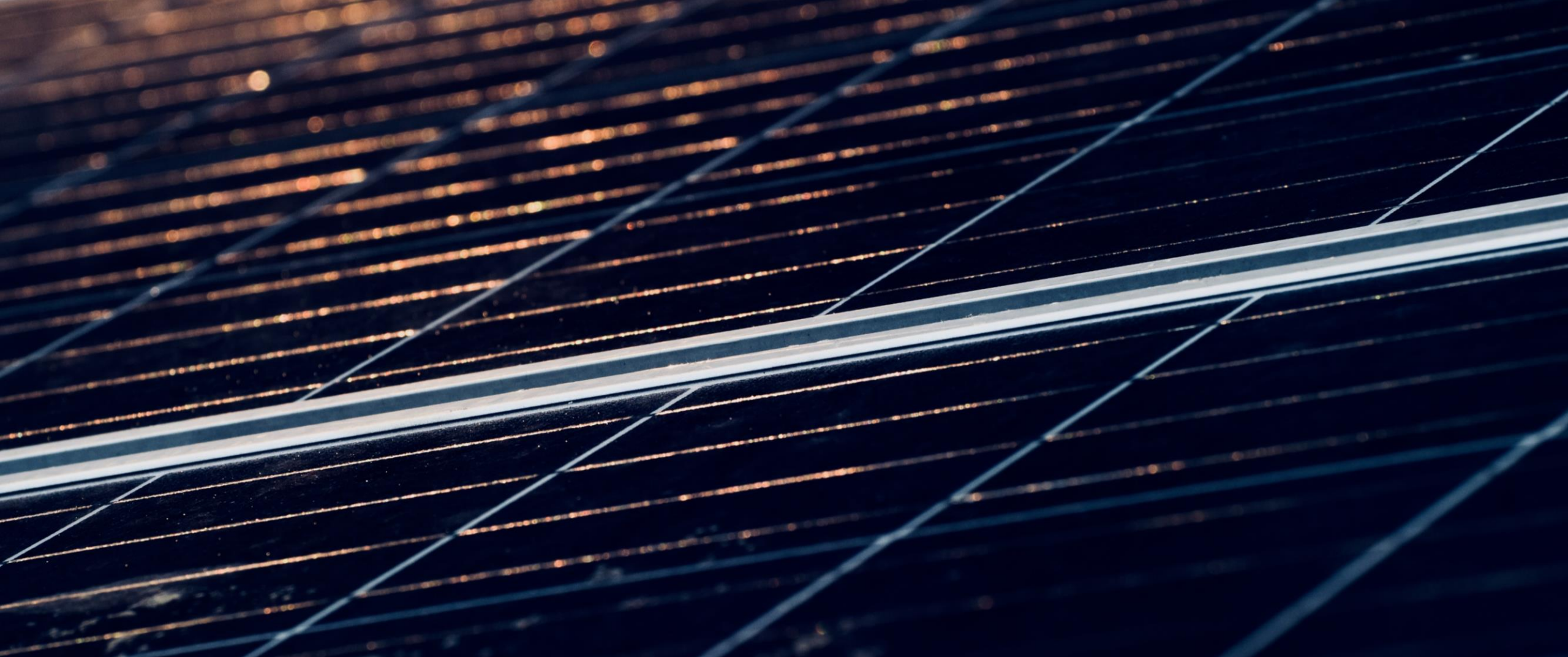
Cell design allowing thin wafer is advantageous to lower wafer cost

IBC Solar Cells

Unlike other solar cells (PERC, TOPCon), various device designs are available with different process flows and complexities

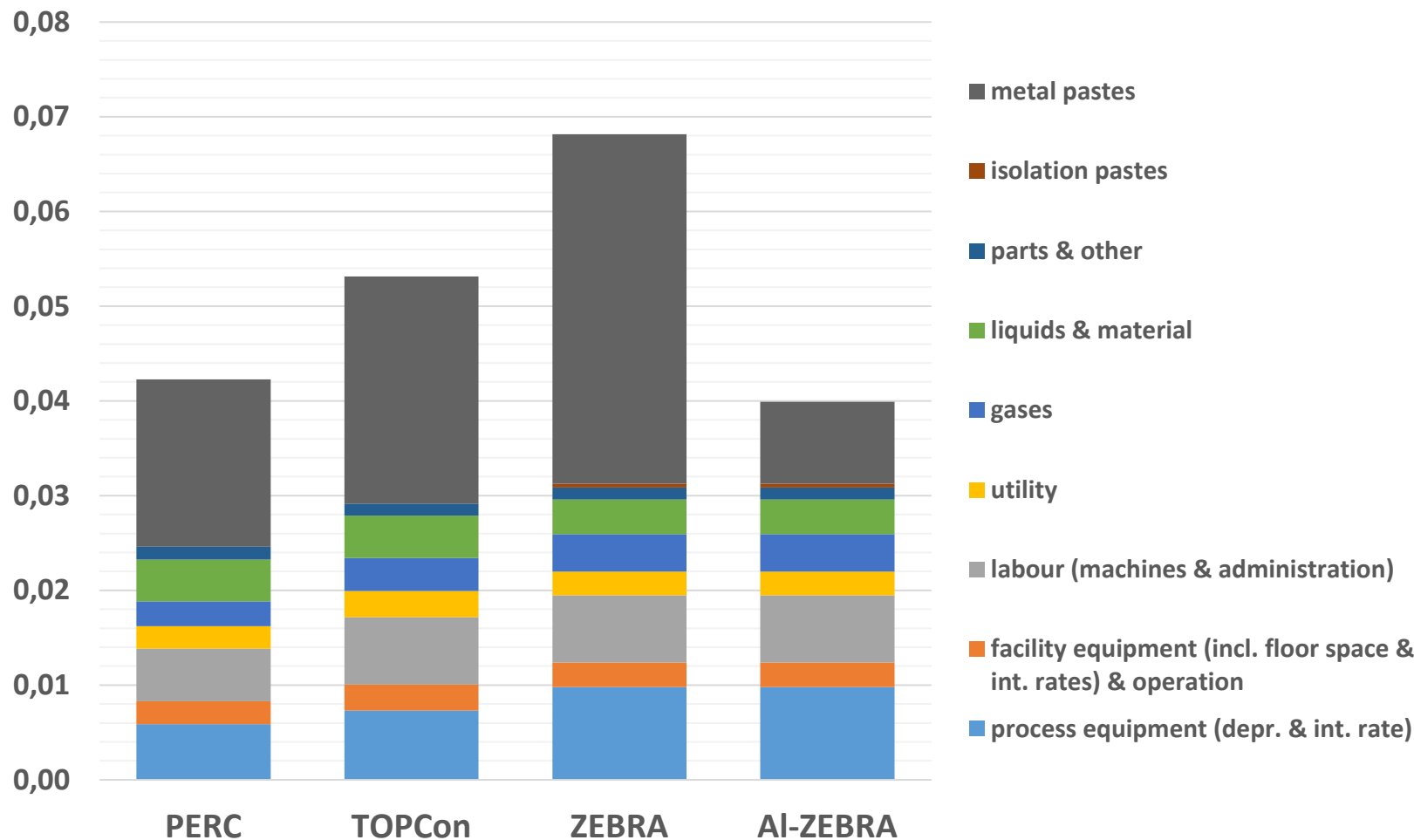


Source: R. Kopecek, WCPEC 2022

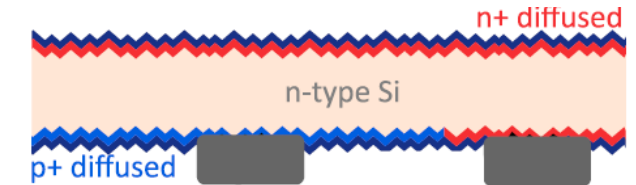


Comparison of true costs and different cell technologies





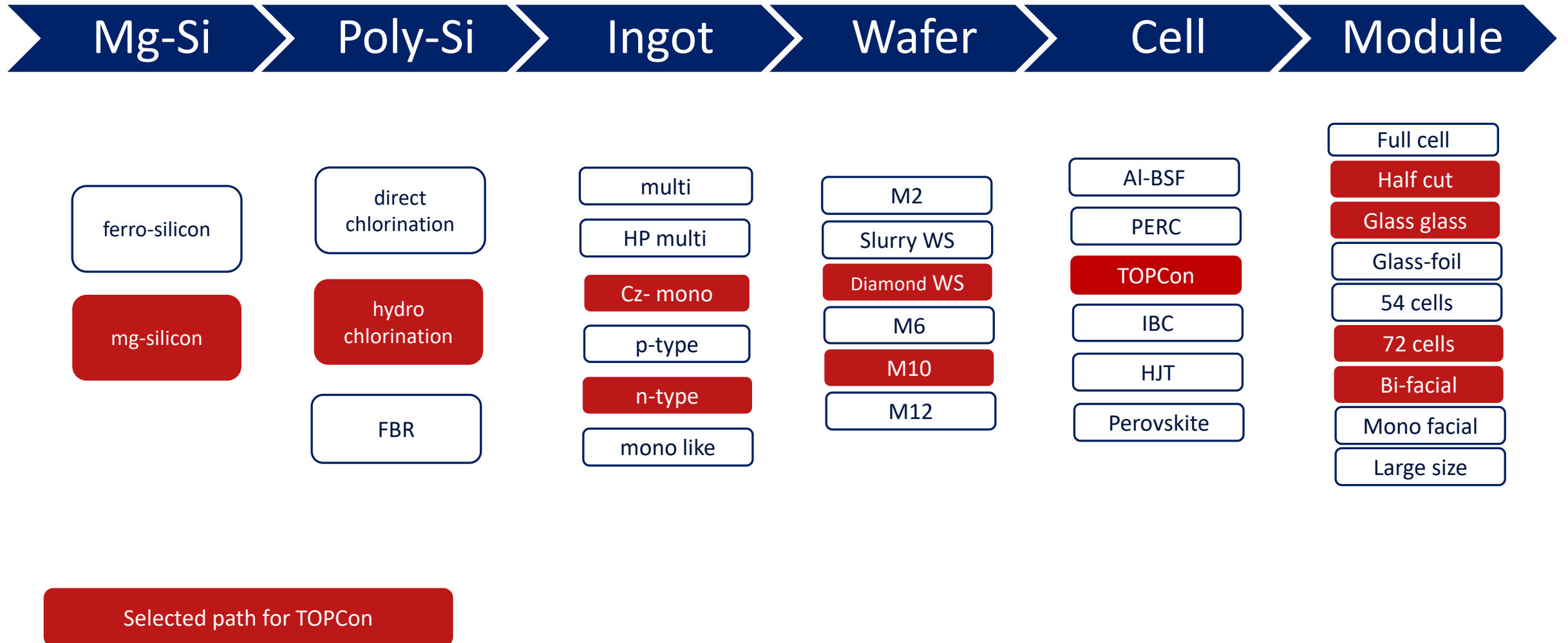
Al-ZEBRA cell design



700mV+ only Ag dots

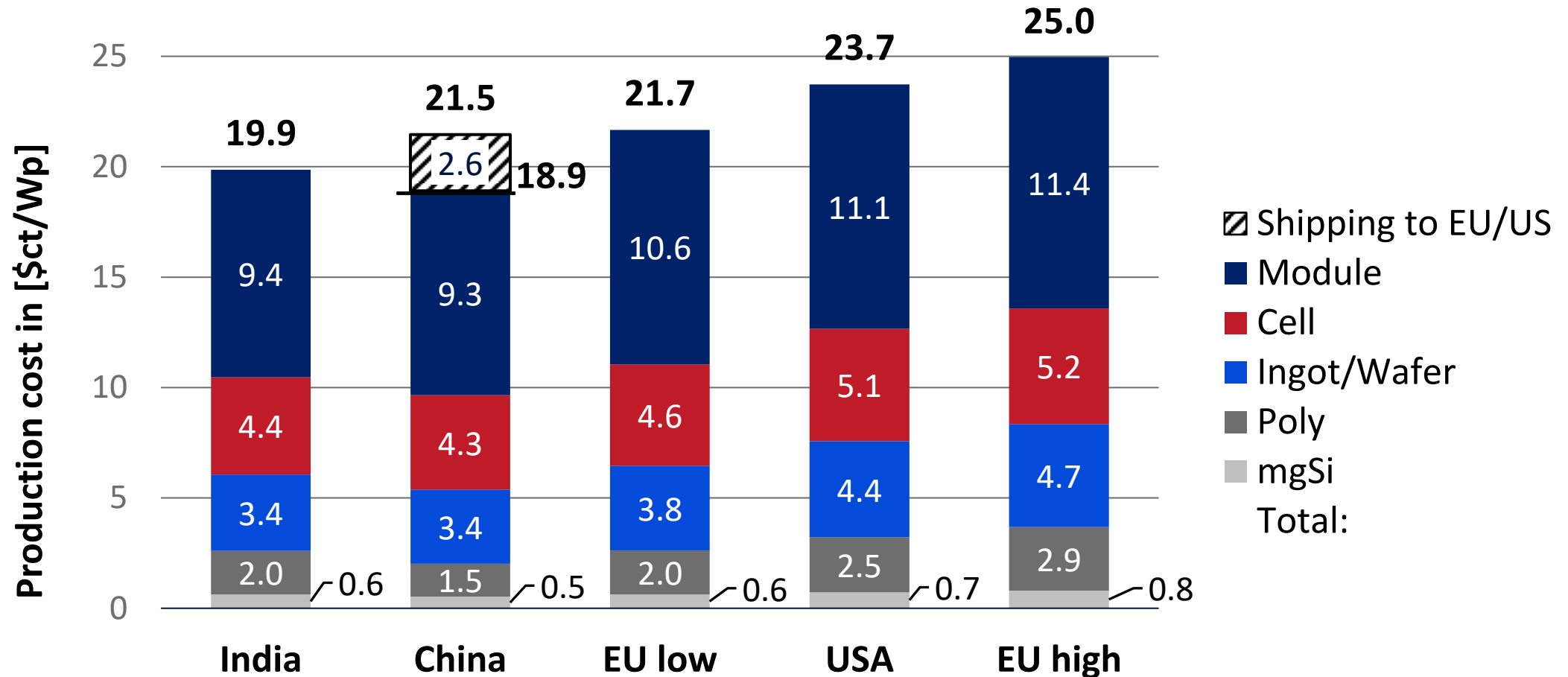
- TCO provided by ISC Konstanz, as part of a joint funded project „FlexFab2“
- Manufacturing location: Europe (high)
- Al-ZEBRA at same level as PERC

Technology options and selected technology for following TCO modelling



The real costs of PV manufacturing for different locations

Factory wise (for TOPCon, similar for AI ZEBRA)

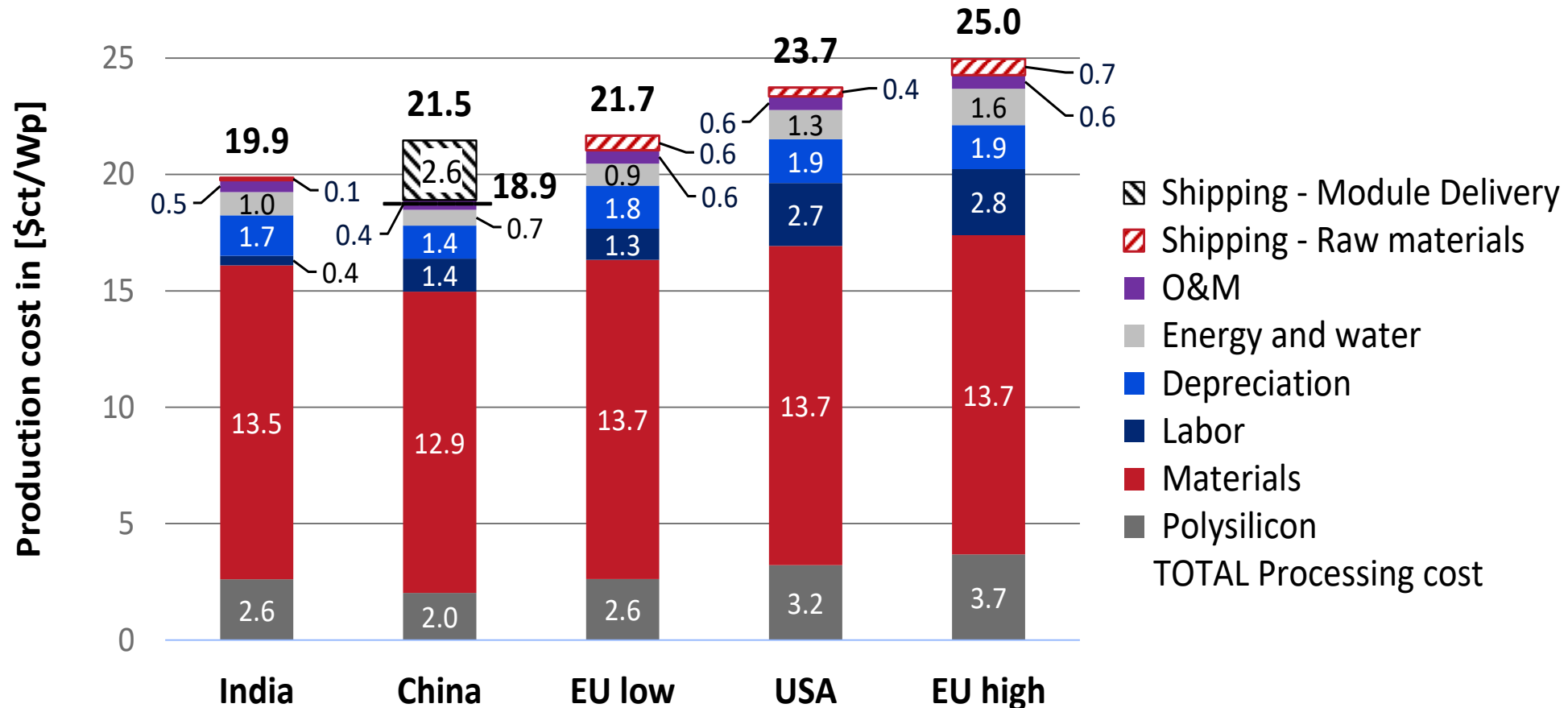


Differences in real costs between various economic regions are between 10 to 15%.

Pricing based on US cents

The real costs of PV manufacturing for different locations

Component wise (only ingot to wafer, for TOPCon, similar for Al ZEBRA)

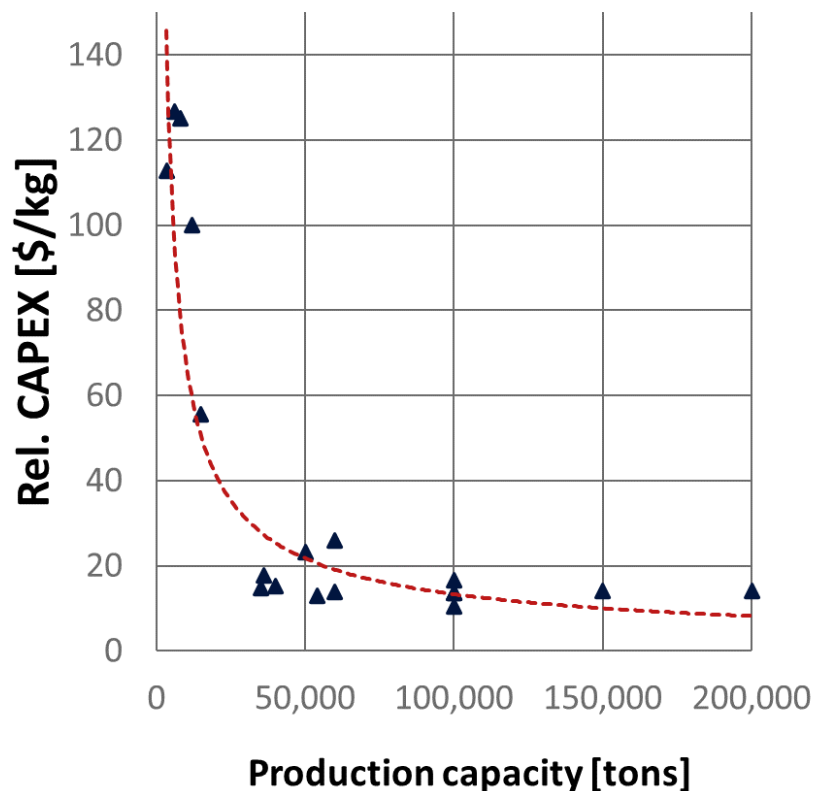


Major cost differences from electricity, labor and CAPEX.

Pricing based on US cents

Optimum factory sizing

Poly-Si



- CAPEX per unit decreases with capacity, especially for upstream manufacturing.
- Lowest dependency for module manufacturing

	mgSi (tons/y)	Polysilicon (tons/y)	Ingot/Wafer (MW/y)	Solar Cell (MW/y)	Solar Module (MW/y)
Downstream oriented scenario	18,000	15,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Full integration scenario: high CAP	48,000	40,000	13,200	13,200	13,200
Selling Poly, module	72,000	60,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Selling Poly-Si, wafer, module	72,000	60,000	10,000	5,000	5,000

Legend (Plant size):

Excellent

Medium suitable

Non appropriate

- Finally selected sizes will depend on investor's preferences and financial capability (markets, products to be sold, achievable margins along value chain, etc.)

Governmental support around the globe

Different policies, **one major objective in common**



REPowerEU

20 GW

Production in EU until 2025

1 TW

By the end of 2030

€210 billion

By 2027

40% to 45%

Increase in renewable energy targets

33% to 67%

Doubling the production capacity of renewables



IRA

50 GW

Production capacity

\$30 Billion

Investment in production

\$2 Billion

National Labs / R&D

100%

Manufacturing credit for solar supply chain

100%

Clean Energy by 2035



New Energy

450 GW

Solar's share

\$63 Billion

Government fund

20%

China's market share increase

71%

Amount of subsidies for all sectors



YEKA (1)

1+1 GW

Installed power on a single site

\$1 Billion

Investment

20%

Increase of renewable share

20 Million m²

Dessert Area

Superincentives

Energy, labor, tax, customs



PLI

45 GW

Capacity

\$3.2 Billion

Investment Combined

55 GW

Modules

250 GW

In 5 years

90%

Local production

Common goal



Integrated manufacturing

- Local manufacturing is required to accomplish TW manufacturing by 2030. Various countries are initiating support mechanisms to kick-start.
- Integrated manufacturing is a must, offering key advantages:
 - Supply chain independency and reliable module supply
 - Lowest cost
- Cost analysis for AI-ZEBRA shows lower TCO compared to PERC and TOPCon => high potential
- Integrated manufacturing can be realised in any economic region, requiring
 - > 5 GW manufacturing capacity
 - Availability of competitive electricity, local supply chain, qualified labour
- Differences in “true costs” for different economic regions are less than 15%, and differences in “published” can be a consequence of different support schemes
- Manufacturing needs to run on CO₂-neutral energy, be socially responsible and include green manufacturing

RCT Solutions GmbH

Line-Eid-Strasse 1

D-78467 Konstanz, Germany

Phone +49 7531 58470 12

info@rct-solutions.com

<http://www.rct-solutions.com>

Regd. HRB 708952,

Executive Board: Dr. Peter Fath

Thank you 