Contents

1 Introduction **1**
- 1.1 Motivation . . . 1
- 1.2 General Structure of This Thesis . . . 5

2 General Concept and Experimental Facilities **7**
- 2.1 Literature Overview on Collector Testing Procedures . . . 7
- 2.2 Basic Concept of Testing Procedures . . . 11
  - 2.2.1 Quasi-Dynamic Testing QDT . . . 12
  - 2.2.2 Dynamic Testing DT . . . 13
  - 2.2.3 Collector Performance Parameters . . . 15
- 2.3 Evaluated Test Collectors and Their Facilities . . . 16

3 Specific Aspects of the Dynamic Testing Procedure **21**
- 3.1 Comparison to the Current Testing Standard . . . 21
  - 3.1.1 Extension of the QDT Method for LFC . . . 21
  - 3.1.2 Comparison of QDT and DT Results . . . 22
- 3.2 Optimization Procedure . . . 24
  - 3.2.1 Variable of the Objective Function . . . 25
  - 3.2.2 Optimization Algorithm . . . 27
- 3.3 Heat Loss Equation . . . 28
  - 3.3.1 Ambient Parameters . . . 28
  - 3.3.2 Polynomial Order . . . 30

4 Expansion to Direct Steam Generating Collectors **31**
- 4.1 Adaptation of the Simulation Model . . . 32
  - 4.1.1 Currently Used Plug-Flow Model PFM . . . 32
  - 4.1.2 Existing DSG Models in Literature . . . 34
  - 4.1.3 Extended Plug-Flow Model EPFM . . . 36
  - 4.1.4 SIMPLER Algorithm . . . 38
  - 4.1.5 Steam Drum Model . . . 41
- 4.2 Validation of the Simulation Models . . . 43
  - 4.2.1 Comparison of EPFM to SIMPLER . . . 43
  - 4.2.2 Comparison of PFM to EPFM/SIMPLER . . . 47
- 4.3 Adaptation of the Evaluation Procedure . . . 49
  - 4.3.1 Adaptation to Steady-State Conditions . . . 49
  - 4.3.2 Adaptation to Dynamic Conditions . . . 51

5 Statistical Methods to Assess the Identification Quality 55
5.1 Basic Concept of Confidence Levels . . . 56
5.1.1 Linearization Methods . . . 56
5.1.2 Alternative, Non-Linear Methods . . . 57
5.1.3 Bootstrapping BS . . . 58
5.1.4 Random Sub-Sampling RSS . . . 61
5.2 Implemented Bootstrapping Approach . . . 61
5.2.1 Adapted Procedure for the DT Method . . . 61
5.2.2 Application to Measurement Data . . . 63

6 Measurement Instrumentation 73
6.1 Measurement Uncertainty . . . 74
6.1.1 Uncertainty Calculation for Line-Concentrating Solar Collectors . 74
6.1.2 Application to Evaluated Test Collectors . . . 76
6.1.3 Uncertainty Case Study . . . 76
6.2 Recommendations for the Measurement Instrumentation Selection . . . 80
6.2.1 Recommended Selection Procedure . . . 80
6.2.2 Conclusions Concerning Measurement Instrumentation . . . 81

7 Testing Strategy 83
7.1 Analysis of Artificial Measurement Data . . . 85
7.1.1 Theoretical Concept . . . 85
7.1.2 Study of General Aspects . . . 90
7.1.3 Study Concerning Heat Loss Identification Quality . . . 94
7.1.4 Study Concerning Optical Identification Quality . . . 102
7.2 Validation to Real Measurement Data . . . 105
7.2.1 Reduced Study without Identification of IAM . . . 106
7.2.2 Advanced Study with Identification of IAM . . . 112
7.2.3 Influence of Evaluation Time Step and IAM Angle Step . . . 114
7.2.4 Influence of Number of Measurement Days . . . 117
7.2.5 Data Frequency and DNI Criteria . . . 121
7.2.6 General Remark and Conclusion . . . 122
7.3 Recommendation for Testing and Evaluation Strategy . . . 123

8 Application and Validation of the Elaborated Testing Procedure 125
8.1 Recommended Overall Proceeding for Collector Test . . . 125
8.2 Application to Collectors Operating Without Phase Change . . . 131
8.2.1 Process Heat Collectors . . . 131
8.2.2 Power Plant Collector Loop . . . 134
8.3 Application to Collectors Operating with Steam . . . 137
8.3.1 Parabolic Trough Collector . . . 137
8.3.2 Linear Fresnel Collector . . . 138
8.4 Remaining Challenges . . . 139

9 Conclusion of Procedures and Results 141
9.1 Summary . . . 141
9.2 Overall Conclusions and Outlook . . . 143

Bibliography **147**

A Basics and Particularities of Line-Concentrating Solar Collectors **155**
A.1 General Characteristics 155
A.1.1 Parabolic Trough Collectors 155
A.1.2 Linear Fresnel Collectors 155
A.2 Optical Properties 156
A.2.1 Optical Efficiency 156
A.2.2 Optical Efficiency at Normal Incidence 158
A.2.3 IAM and its Solar Angle Definition 158
A.3 Thermal Behavior 164
A.3.1 Heat Loss Parameters 164
A.3.2 Heat Transfer Fluid 164

B Further Details on Evaluated Test Collectors **167**
B.1 Exemplary Sketches of Test Facilities 167
B.2 Measurement Instrumentation of Test Collectors 169

C Complements to the DSG Simulation Models **173**
C.1 Derivation of the PFM Equation 173
C.2 Derivation of the EPFM Equation 174
C.3 Main Procedure of SIMPLER 176
C.4 Complete Discretization Equations Used in SIMPLER 177
C.4.1 Discrete Momentum Conservation Equation 177
C.4.2 Pressure Equation 178
C.4.3 Pressure Correction Equation 179
C.4.4 Discrete Energy Conservation Equation 179

D Further Results of BS Verification **181**

E Uncertainty Calculation **185**
E.1 Specific Uncertainty Equations 185
E.2 Nominal Operating Conditions for Uncertainty Calculation 187

F Complements to the Testing Strategy **189**
F.1 Supplementary Information 189
F.2 Justification of Using Ten Forks 189
F.3 Calculation of Reference Heat Loss Standard Deviation 191
F.4 Extended Results 192

G Basic Characteristics of Artificial Data **193**