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Solar water geysers - a South African perspective

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Abstract content
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It is generally agreed that a solar water geyser represents both a moral and financial asset to a household. Yet it is very difficult to determine what financial benefits such a system delivers, and there are numerous incorrect approaches, which generally aim to hype the system and justify its large capital outlay. In this presentation, I attempt to answer the question of thermodynamic benefit precisely by determining an upper limit to the usefulness of a solar geyser, and further highlight shortcoming of existing systems' philosophy by comparing the geyser's performance relative to hot water consumption patterns. I finally present an outline of how the financial benefits of a solar geyser can be estimated in the current financial climate.

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