

Operational research for urban solar development

“PV failure detection based on operational time series”

05/12/2023 - Morning
Alexandre Mathieu



Agenda



Curriculum

PV performance model steps

Curriculum Plan

Today →

Day	Time	Duration	Content
Monday 27/11/2023	9h45-11h15 12h30-14h	1h30 + 1h30	50% Lecture / 50 % Hands-on
Tuesday 05/12/2023	8h-9h30 9h45-11h15	1h30 + 1h30	50% Lecture / 50 % Hands-on
Thursday 07/12/2023	8h-11h 12h45-15h45	6h	25% Lecture / 75 % Project
Monday 11/11/2023	8h-11h 12h30-15h30	6h	10% Lecture / 90 % Project
Friday 22/12/2023	8h-9h30	1h30	100 % Project

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Monday 11/11/2023	8h-11h 12h30-15h30	6h	10% Lecture / 90 % Project
Friday 22/12/2023	8h-9h30	1h30	100 % Project

For next time.
Make groups of 2
for the project.

Agenda

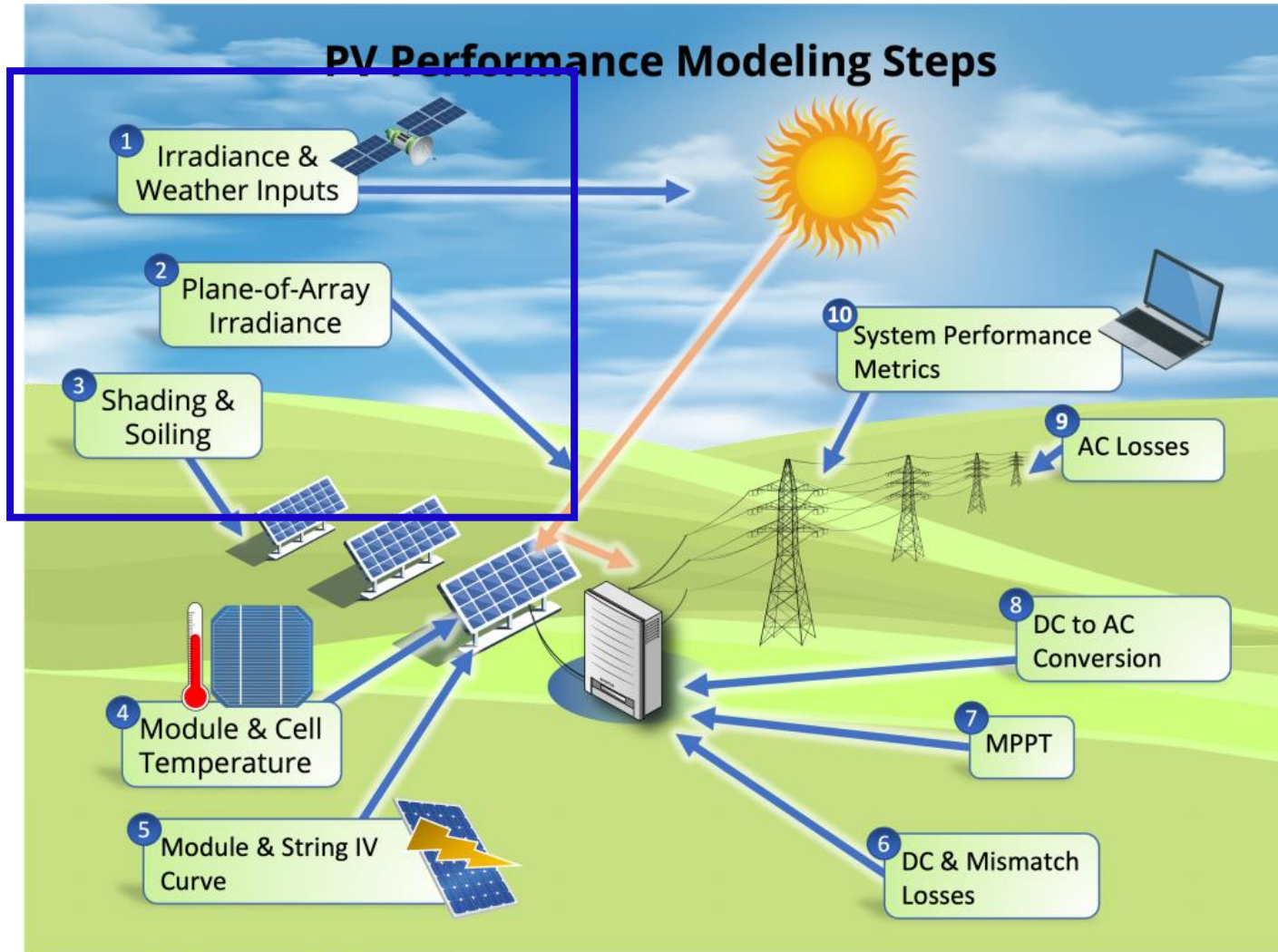


Curriculum

PV performance model steps

Modeling steps

27/11/2023

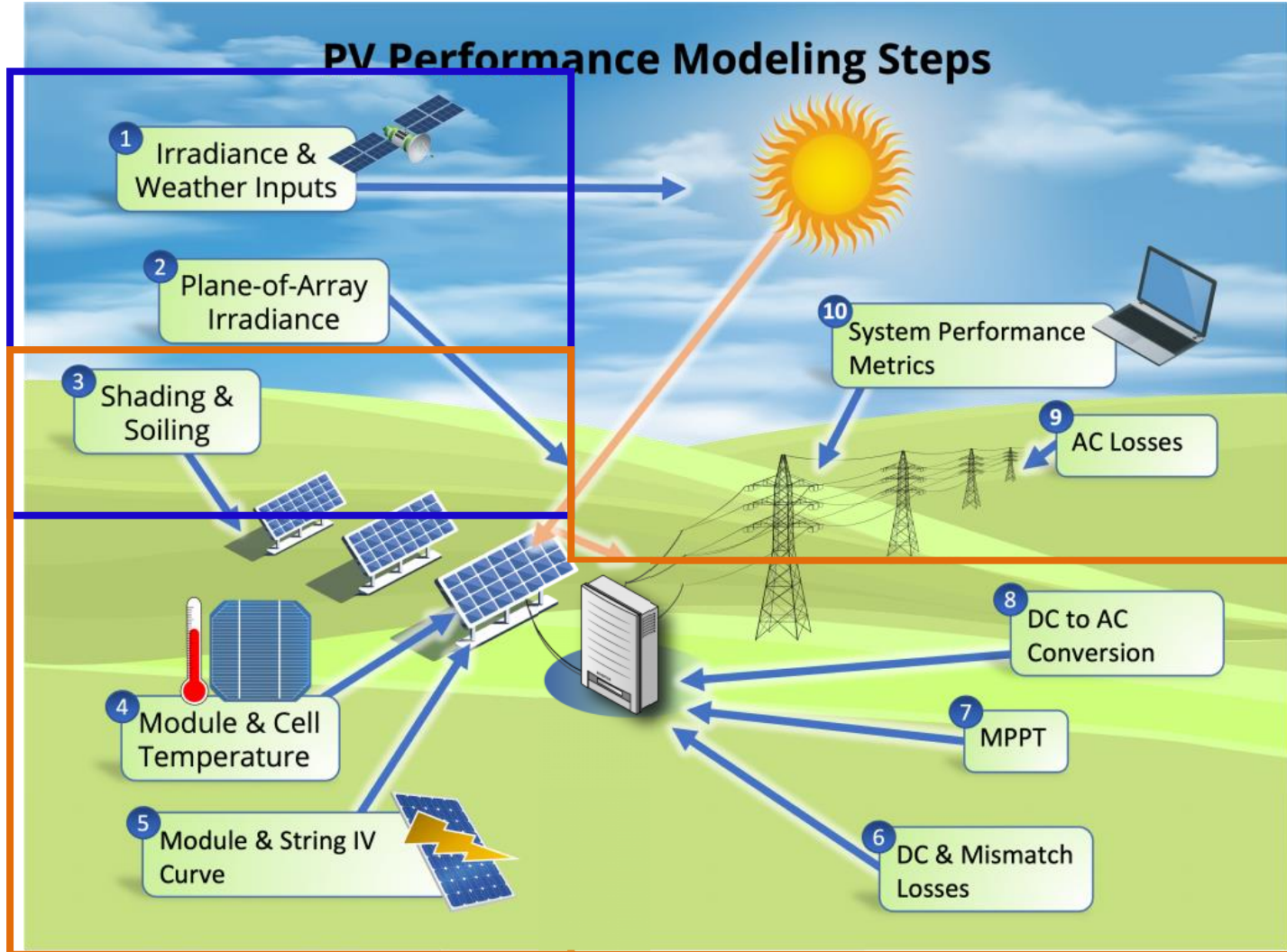


*image from: PVSC48 python tutorial

Modeling steps

27/11/2023

Today



*image from: PVSC48 python tutorial

Modeling steps

Notebook recap 27/11/2023

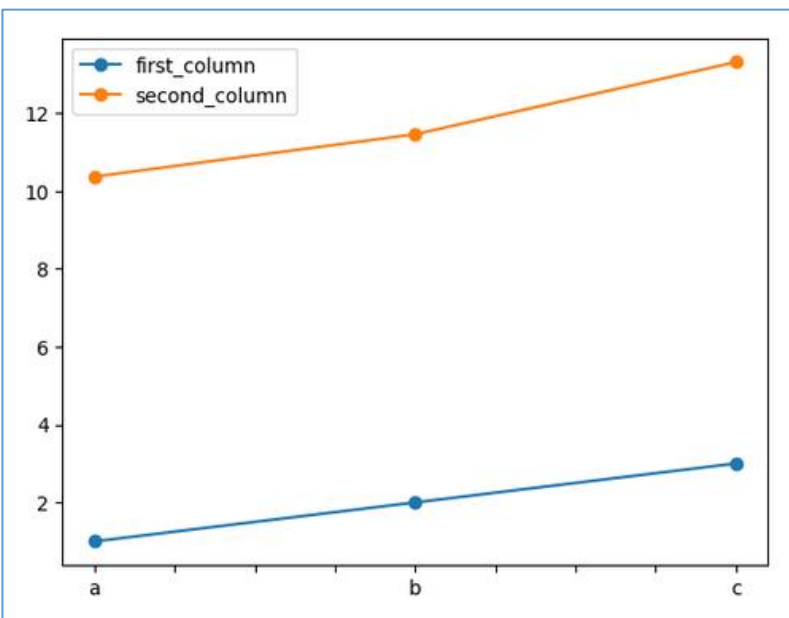
The notebook is now corrected and can be read online:

https://github.com/AlexandreHugoMathieu/pvfault_detection_solar_academy/blob/master/notebooks/python_intro_poa.ipynb

Modeling steps

Notebook recap 27/11/2023

Python commands 1/2



ts

a	1
b	2
c	3

index values

df

a	1	2
b	2	4
c	3	6

index

`import numpy as np` # import to your python instance the package "numpy" and rename it "np" (helpful for math calculations)

`import pandas as pd` # import to your python instance the package "pandas" (helpful for data structure and calculations)

`ts = pd.Series([1, 2, 3], index=['a', 'b', 'c'])` # Initiate a pandas serie into variable "ts"
`ts2 = ts + ts/2 + np.cos(ts) + np.pi` # Make calculate with "ts" and store it into "ts2"
`print(ts2)` # print serie ts

`ts.plot(marker="o")` # Make a plot of ts with "o" (circle) marker

`df = pd.DataFrame()` # Initiate an empty dataframe into variable "df"
`df["first_column"] = ts` # Store "ts" serie in a column labeled "first_column"
`df["second_column"] = ts2 * 2` # Store "ts2" serie in another column labeled "second_column"

`df.plot(marker="o")` # Make a plot of df with "o" (circle) marker

`df.loc["a", :]` # Select the entire row with "a" as index

`df.loc["a", "first_column"]` # Select the value with "a" as index and "first_column" as column

Pvlib ref

*William F. Holmgren, Clifford W. Hansen, and Mark A. Mikofski. "pvlib python: a python package for modeling solar energy systems." Journal of Open Source Software, 3(29), 884, (2018).

<https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.00884>

Modeling steps

Notebook recap 27/11/2023

Python commands 2/2

	poa_global	poa_direct	poa_diffuse	poa_sky_diffuse	poa_ground_diffuse
2022-01-01 00:00:00+01:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
2022-01-01 01:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 02:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 03:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 04:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 05:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 06:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 07:00:00+01:00	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
2022-01-01 08:00:00+01:00	0.593235	0.000000	0.593235	0.589085	0.004150
2022-01-01 09:00:00+01:00	71.788066	46.706296	25.081770	24.724777	0.356993
2022-01-01 10:00:00+01:00	210.546485	150.470436	60.076049	59.167899	0.908150
2022-01-01 11:00:00+01:00	376.976885	313.961064	63.015821	61.519000	1.496821

Calculate POA, the lazy way

from pvlib.irradiance import get_total_irradiance # import the function "get_total_irradiance from pvlib"

On another note, pvlib* is a very useful package for PV modeling with plenty of convenient functions, do not hesitate to look it up on the web

beta = 20 # tilt [°]

azimuth = 180 # azimuth [°]

rho = 0.2 # albedo

values

solar_position = pd.read_csv("solarpos_data.csv") # Import the data file "solarpos_data.csv" which contains the sun path (azimuth and elevation) with datetime index

weather_data = pd.read_csv("sat_data.csv", index_col=0) # Import the data file "sat_data.csv" which irradiance (dni, ghi, dhi) with datetime index

data = get_total_irradiance(beta, azimuth, solar_position["zenith"], solar_position["azimuth"], weather_data["dni"], weather_data["ghi"], weather_data["dhi"], albedo=rho) # Directly apply the isotropic models

print(data.head(12)) # Show the first 12 lines of the DataFrame

Pvlib ref

*William F. Holmgren, Clifford W. Hansen, and Mark A. Mikofski. "pvlib python: a python package for modeling solar energy systems." Journal of Open Source Software, 3(29), 884, (2018).

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Modeling steps

3. Shading / Terrain horizon mask

PVGIS: Website/Online Tool to estimate power production:

- Enables to extract the horizon mask with a Digital Surface Model (DSM).

Go to: https://re.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pvg_tools/en/

Time for some
hands-on exercises,
Again !



Modeling steps

3. Shading / Terrain horizon mask

PVGIS: Website/Online Tool to estimate power production:

https://re.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pvg_tools/en/

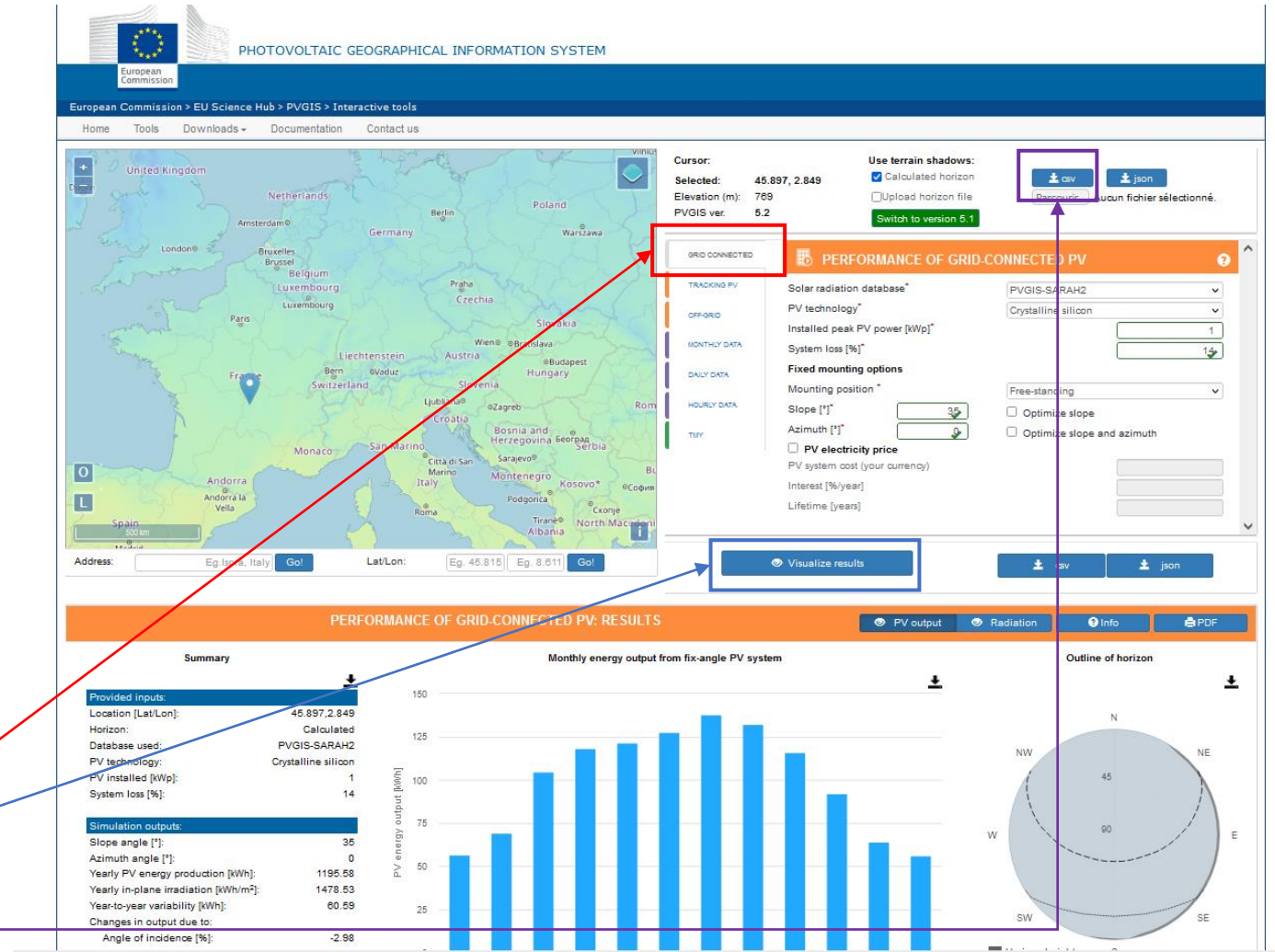
- Enables to extract the horizon mask with a Digital Surface Model (DSM).

Instructions:

- Generate a simulation on PVGIS
 - Click on the map on Grenoble and select the « Grid connected tab »
 - Vizualize
 - Extract the horizon file in csv format

2. Follow the instructions on the jupyter notebook and calculate the modified POA on one year.

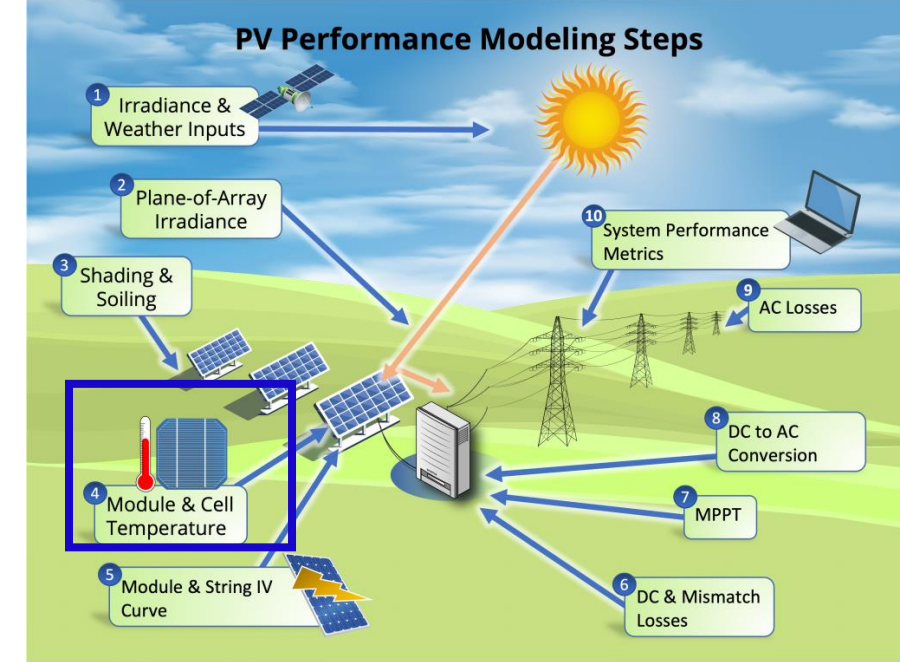
https://github.com/AlexandreHugoMathieu/pvfault_detection_solar_academy/blob/master/notebooks/python_intro2_horizon_mask.ipynb



Modeling steps

4. Module and Cell temperature

The hotter a module is, the less efficient it is !



Modeling steps

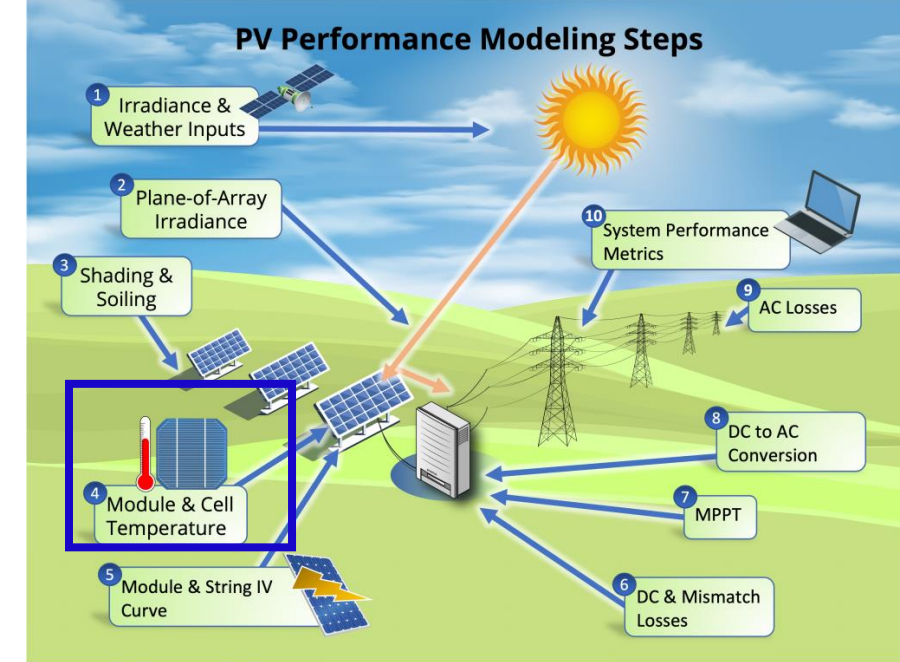
4. Cell temperature

Ross model:

Model to estimate the cell temperature T_c [°C] as function of ambient temperature and irradiance G_{POA} [W/m²].

$$T_c = T_a + G_{POA} \cdot k_{Ross}$$

k_{Ross} , typically in the range 0.02-0.05 K/m²/W.



Modeling steps

4. Cell temperature

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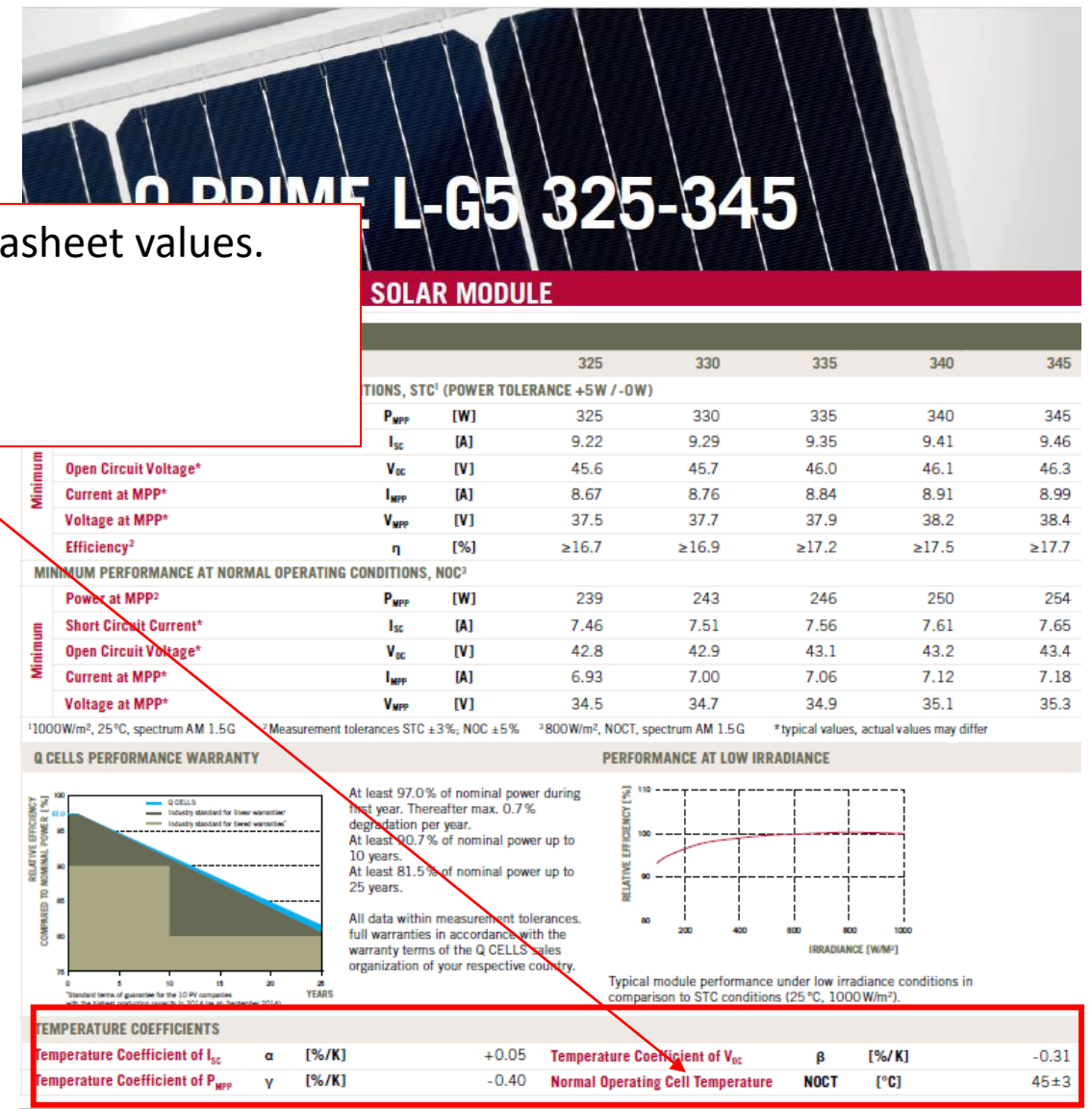
k_{ROSS} , typically in the range 0.02-0.05 K/m²/W.

k_{ROSS} can be fitted from datasheet values.

NOCT conditions:

$$G_{POA} = 800 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$T_a = 20^\circ\text{C}$$



Modeling steps

4. Cell temperature

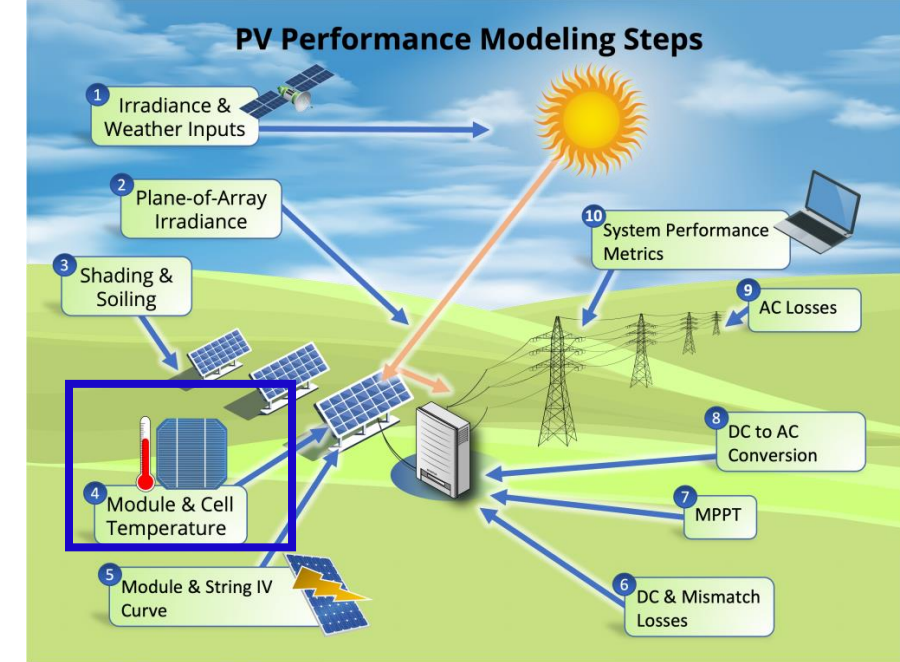
Faiman model:

Model to estimate the cell temperature T_c [°C] as function of ambient temperature and irradiance G_{POA} [W/m²] AND wind WS [$\frac{m}{s}$].

$$T_m = T_a + \frac{G_{POA}}{U_0 + U_1 \cdot WS}$$

U_0 is the constant heat transfer component [$\frac{W}{Km^2}$]

U_1 is the convective heat transfer component [$\frac{W}{Km^2(\frac{m}{s})}$]



Modeling steps

4. Cell temperature

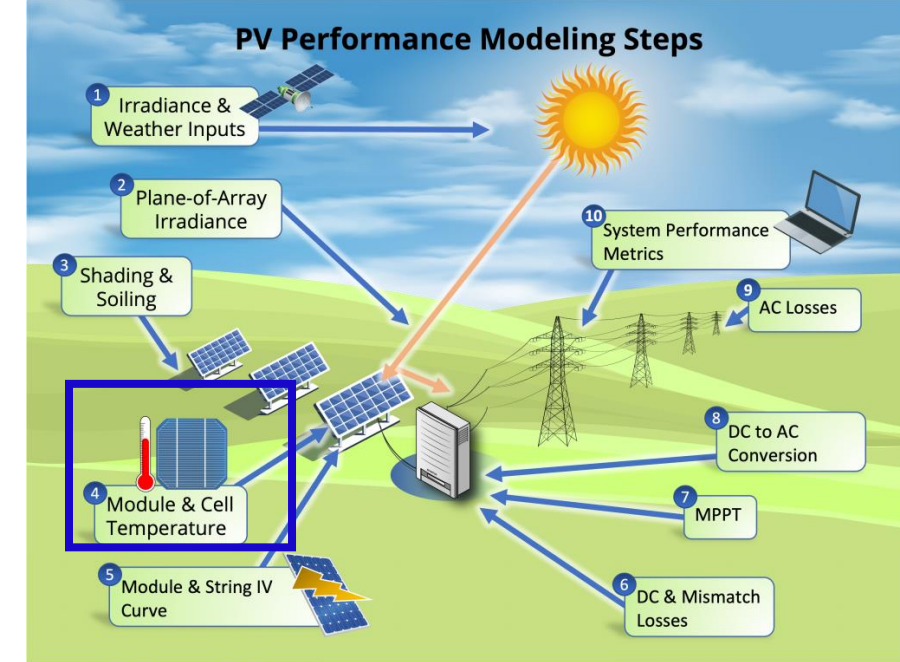
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In some cases, $T_c \simeq T_m$ can be assumed
Between T_c and T_m , only few degrees of difference

Modeling steps

4. Cell temperature

Use the following notebook:

https://github.com/AlexandreHugoMathieu/pvfault_detection_solar_academy/blob/master/notebooks/dc_power_estimation.ipynb

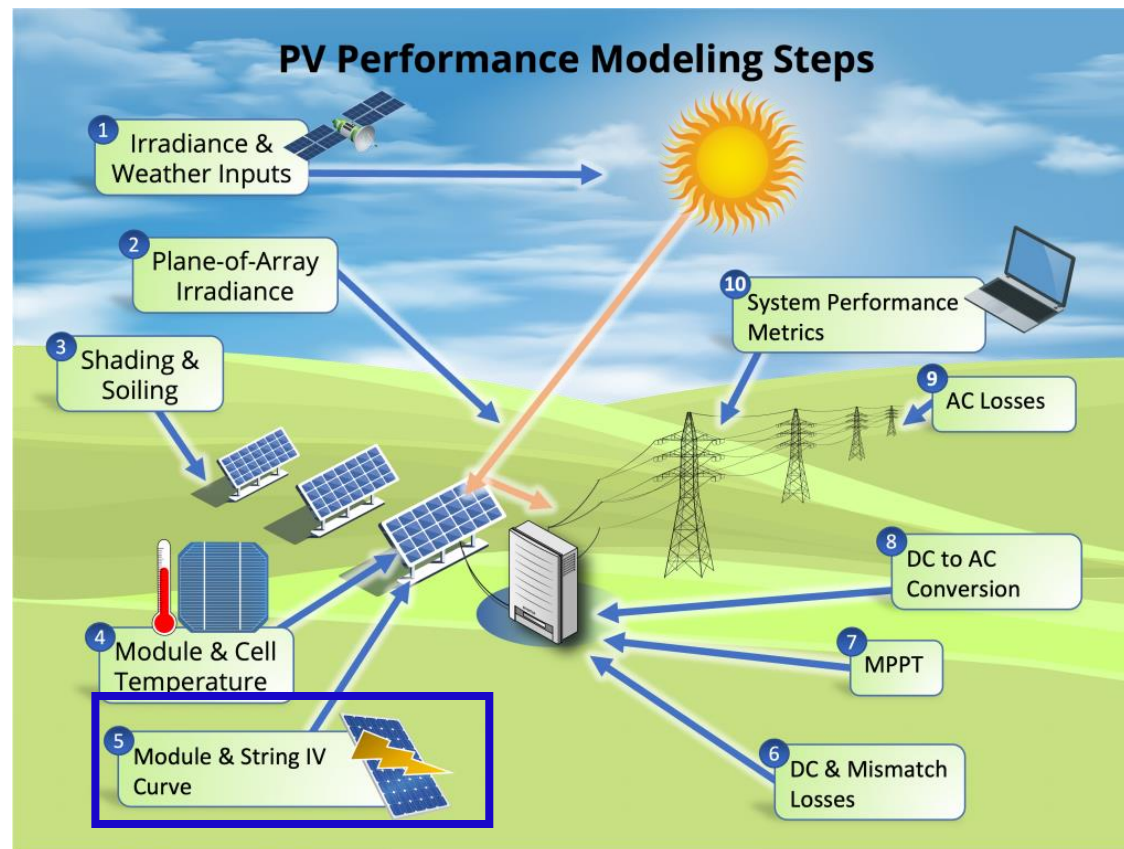
Follow the python tutorial and estimate the cell temperature for one year.

Time for some
hands-on exercises !



Modeling steps

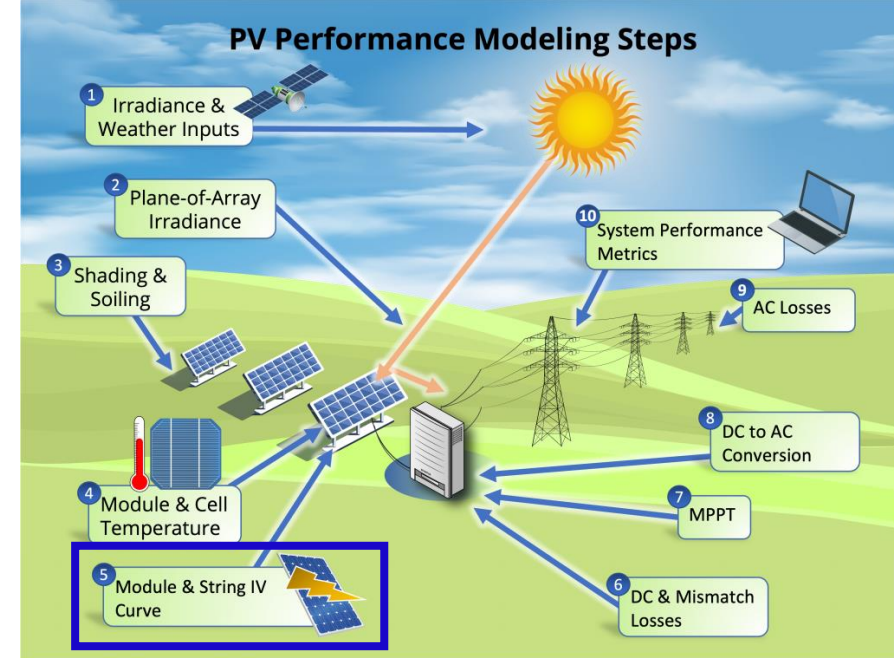
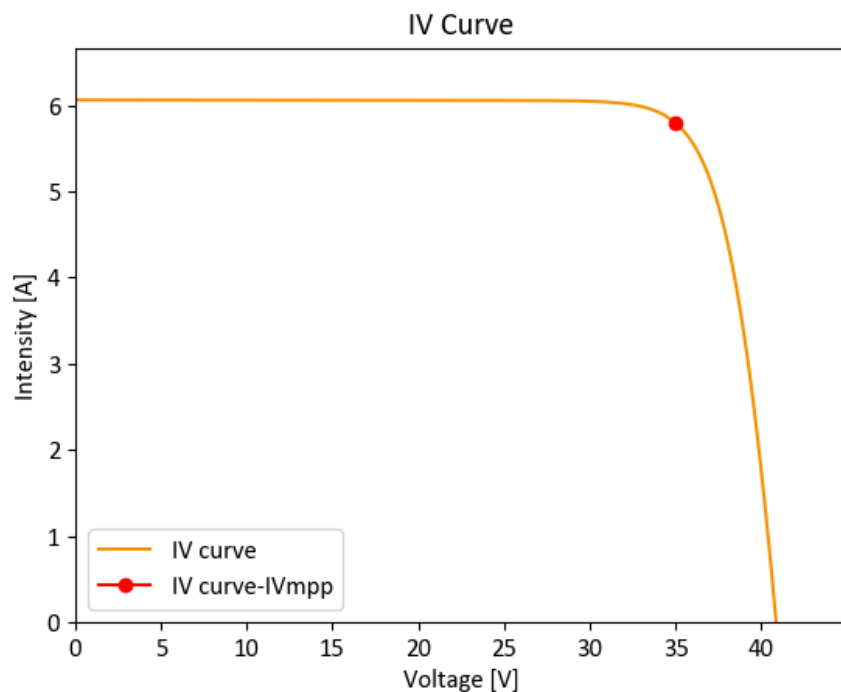
5. Module and String IV Curve



Modeling steps

5. Module and String IV Curve

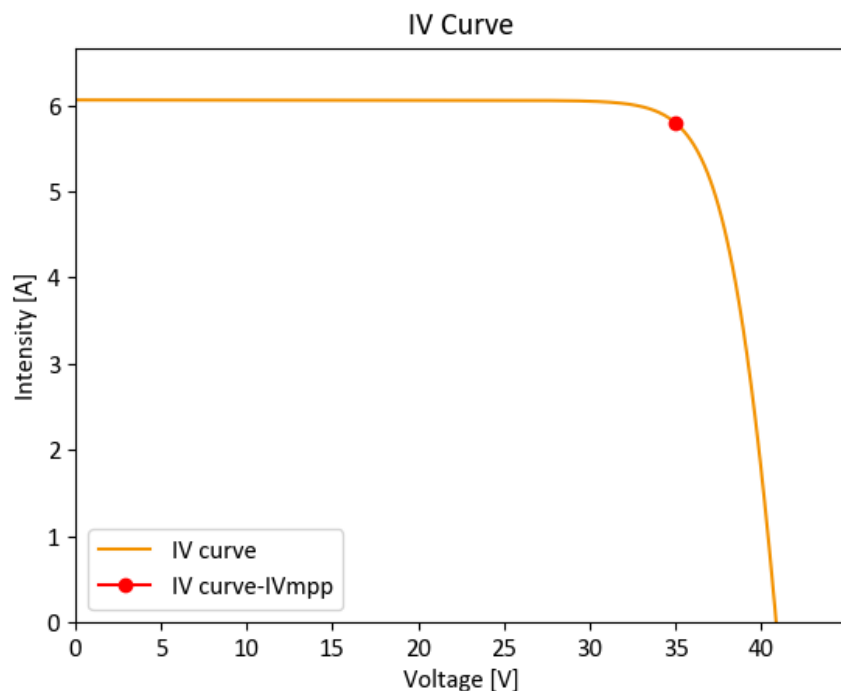
For a fixed irradiance and module temperature, the PV module has its I , current which depends on V , voltage and it can take many operating points.



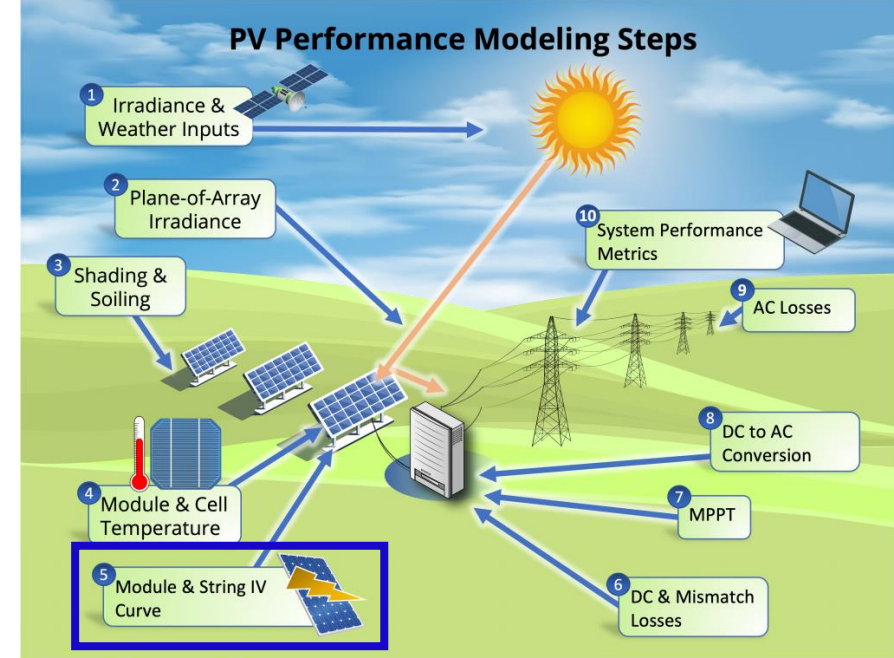
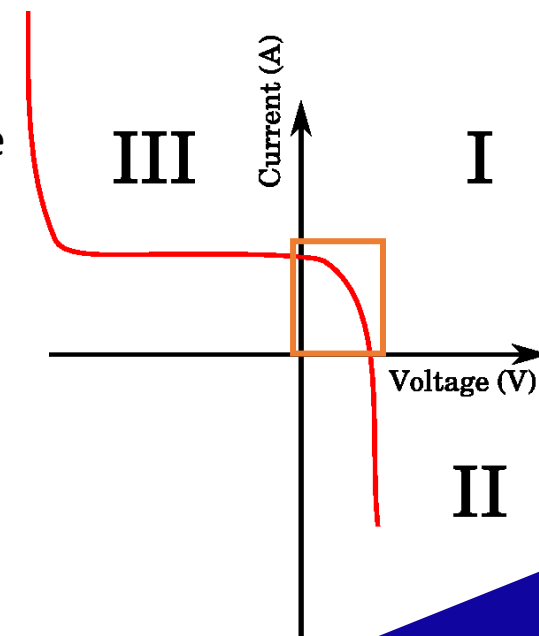
Modeling steps

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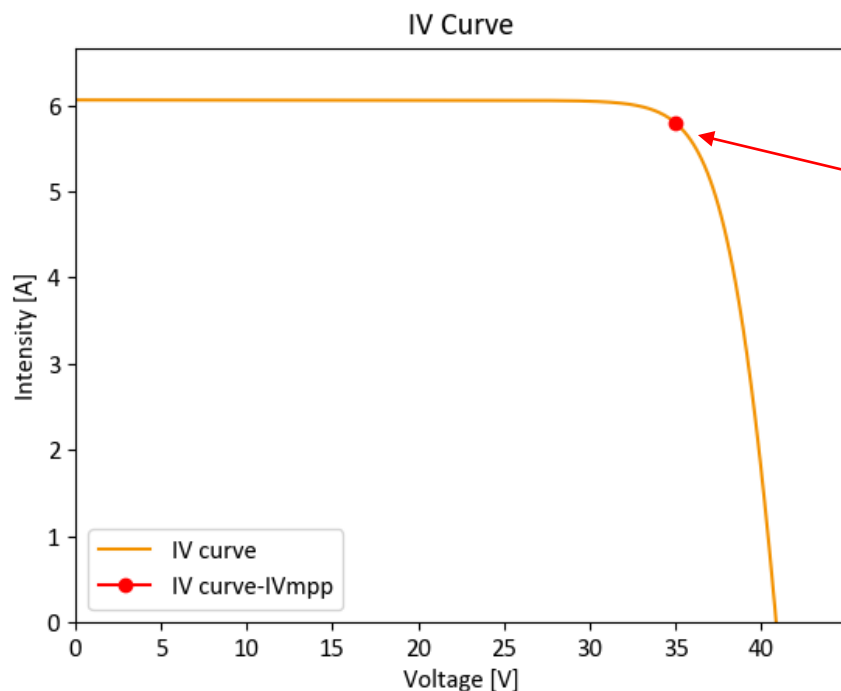
In reality, the IV characteristics go out of the 1st quadrant and the module can potentially consume power.



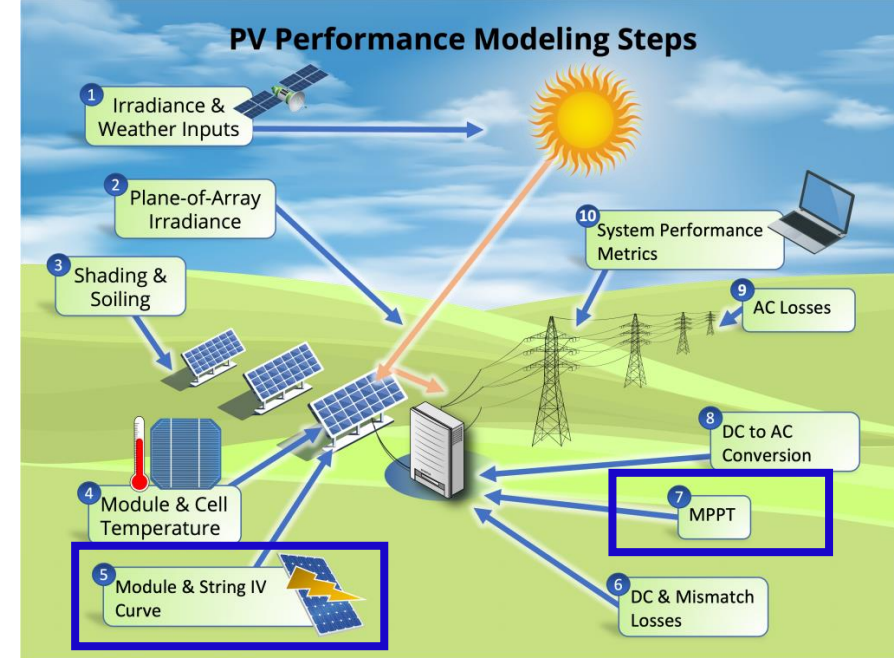
Modeling steps

5. Module and String IV Curve

For a fixed irradiance and module temperature, the PV module has its I , current which depends on V , voltage and it can take many operating points



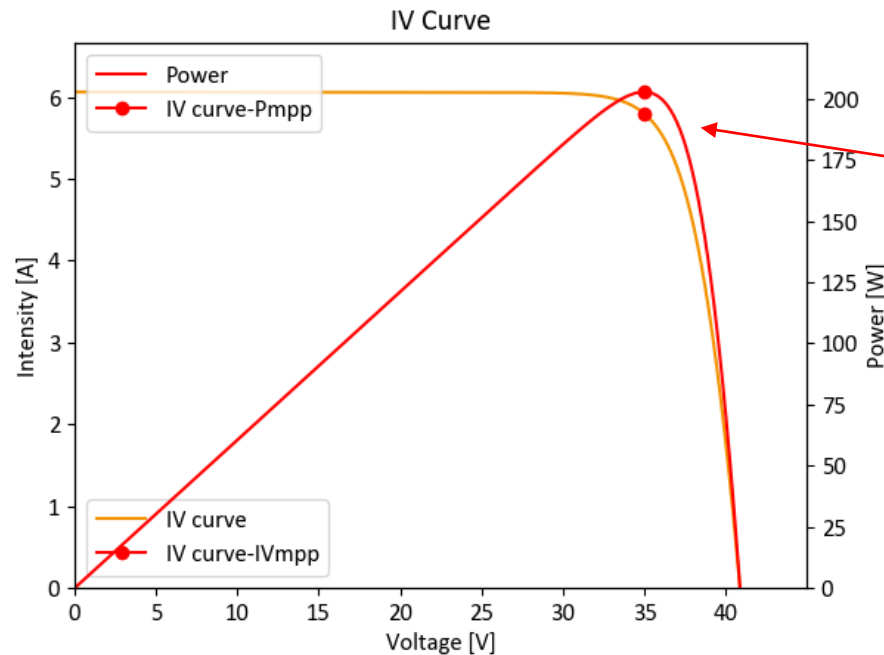
Then, the inverter is constantly searching for the operating point which maximizes the power MPP: Maximum Power Point.



Modeling steps

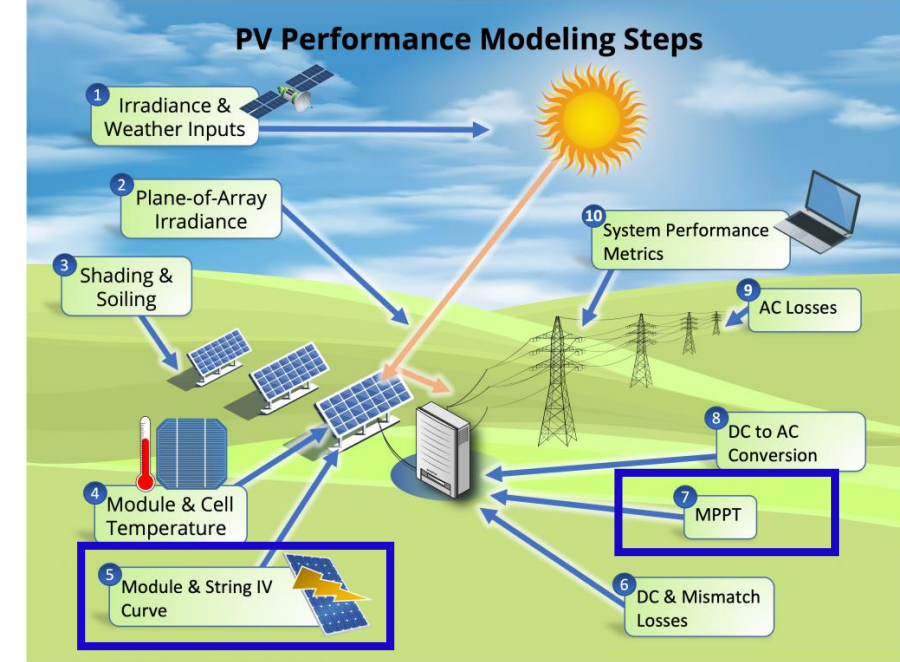
5. Module and String IV Curve

For a fixed irradiance and module temperature, the PV module has its I , current which depends on V , voltage and it can take many operating points.



Then, the inverter is constantly searching for the operating point which maximizes the power MPP: Maximum Power Point.

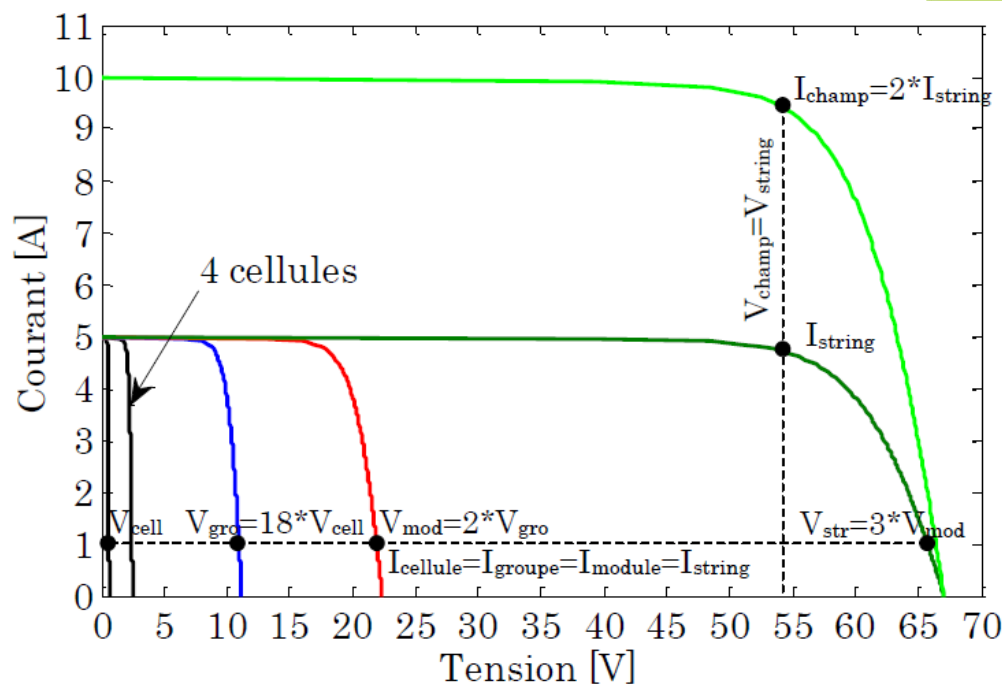
Especially, it changes the voltage with the MPP-Tracker (MPPT) to maximize power.



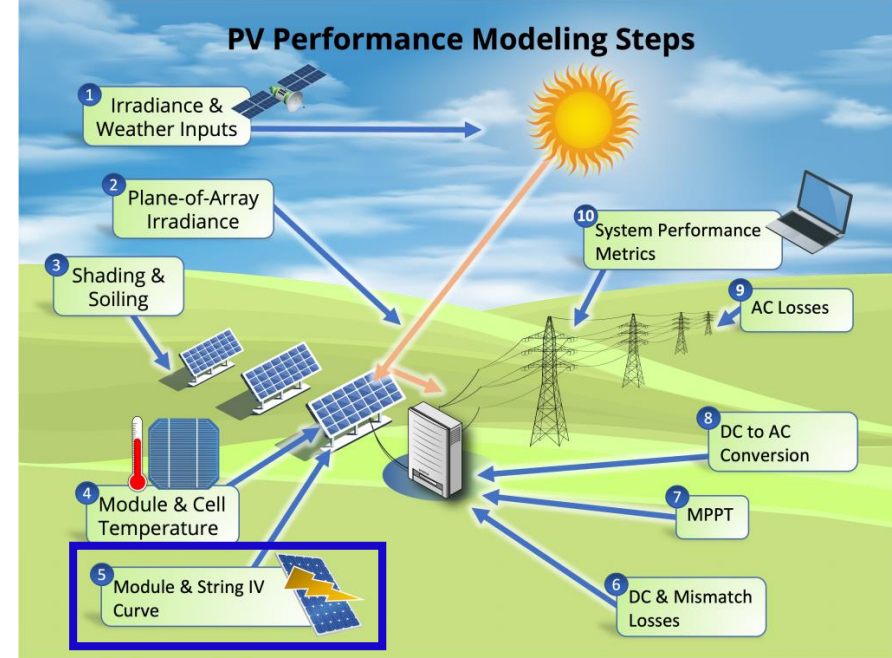
Modeling steps

5. Module and String IV Curve

By the way... the IV curves can be summed up when the modules are connected in series or parallel! The inverter, then, maximizes the power of the PV array IV curve.



Bun, L.. "Détection et localisation de défauts pour un système PV." (2011).



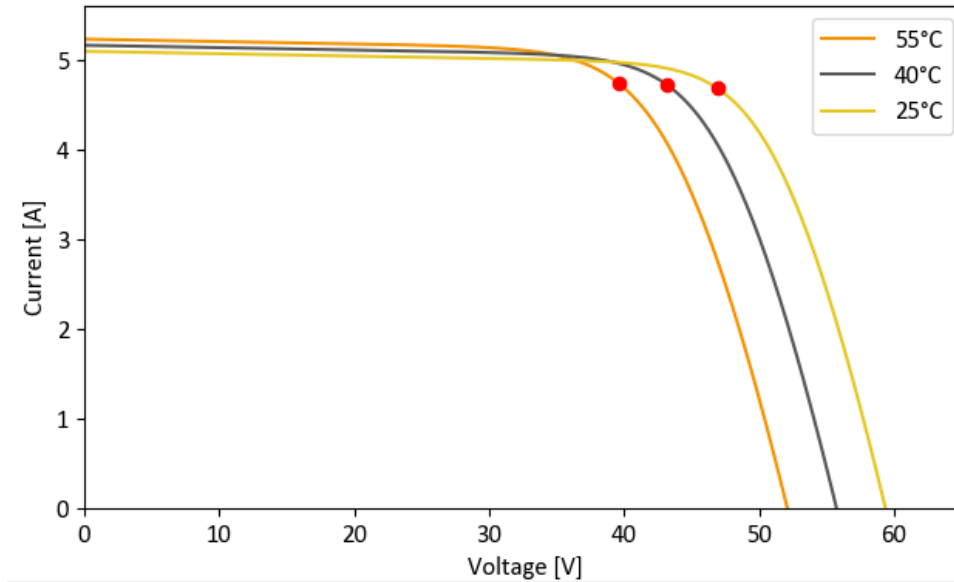
Modeling steps

5. Module and String IV Curve

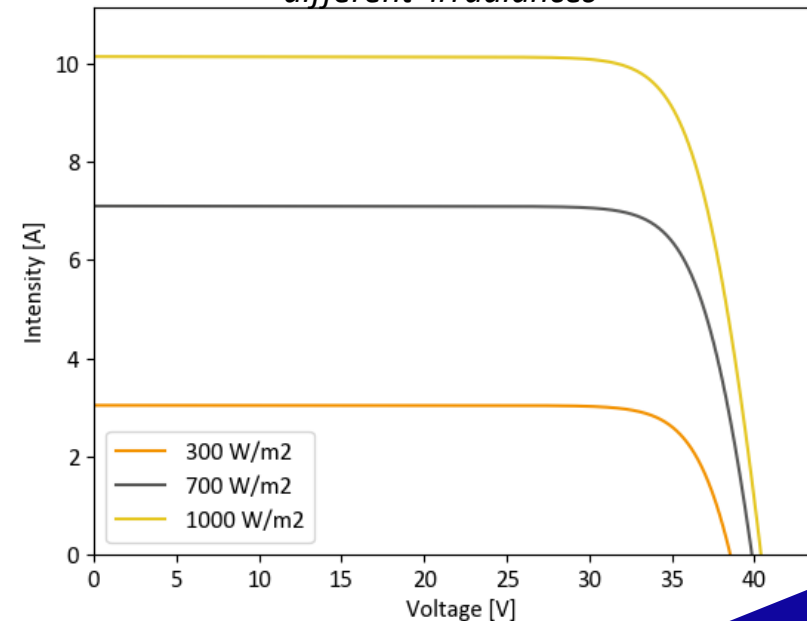
The IV curves' dependencies:

- Higher cell temperatures mostly decrease the voltage
- Higher irradiance level mostly increase the current

Example of I-V curves as function of different module temperature



Example of I-V curves as function of different irradiances

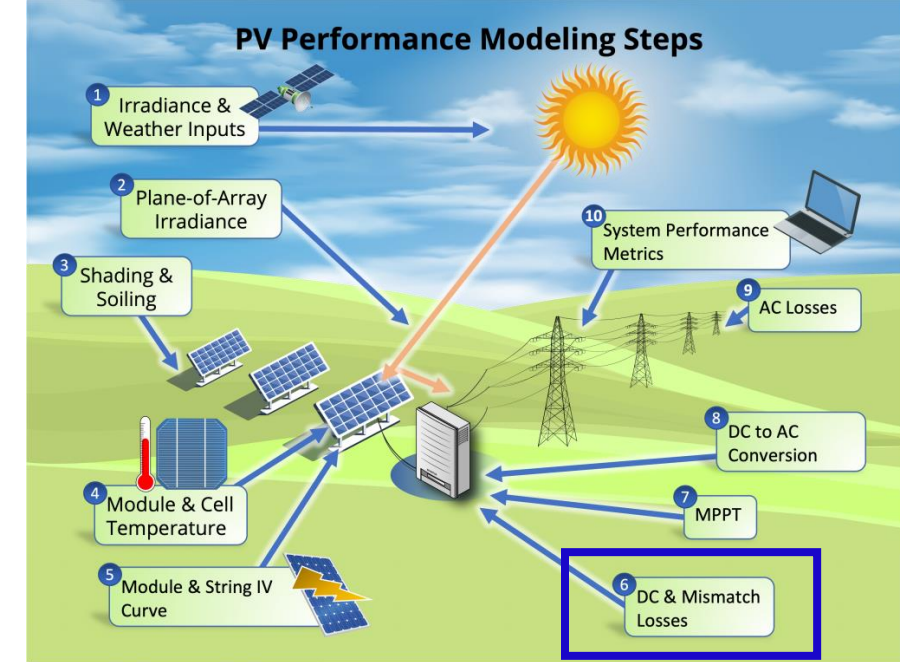


Modeling steps

6. DC & Mismatch Losses

Not the focus of this class. However, keep in mind that:

- **DC wiring losses** are around 0.5%-2%.
- **Mismatch losses** refer to the fact that PV modules have different IV curves and this can entail significant losses.

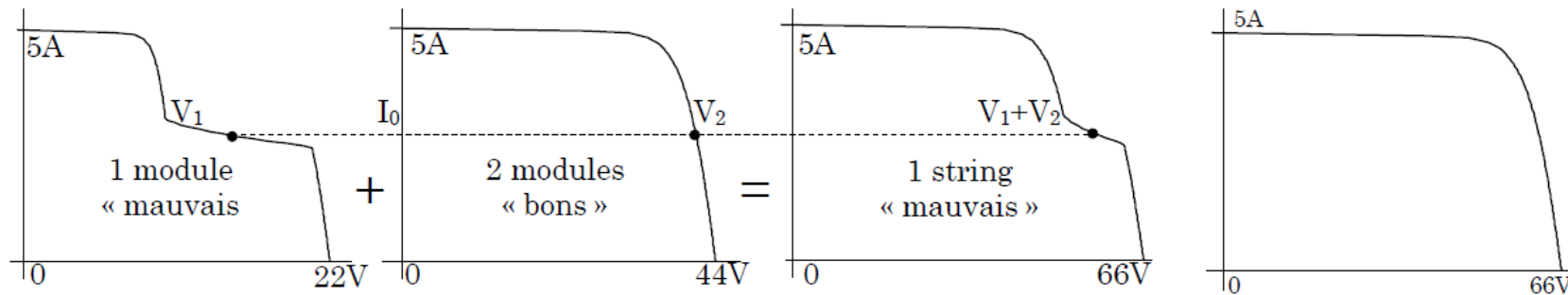
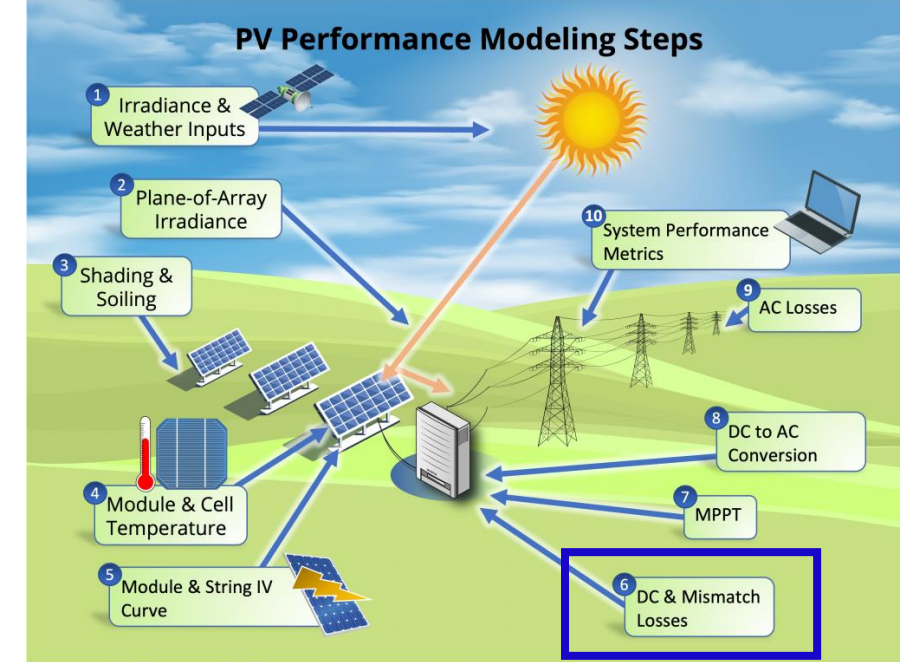


Modeling steps

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- **DC wiring losses** are around 0.5% and 2%.
- **Mismatch losses** refers to the fact that PV modules have different IV curves and this can entail significant losses.
For instance, if one of them has a very degraded IV curve (shading or other), it can significantly degrade the IV curve at the array level.



(a) string « mauvais »

(b) string « bon »

Modeling steps

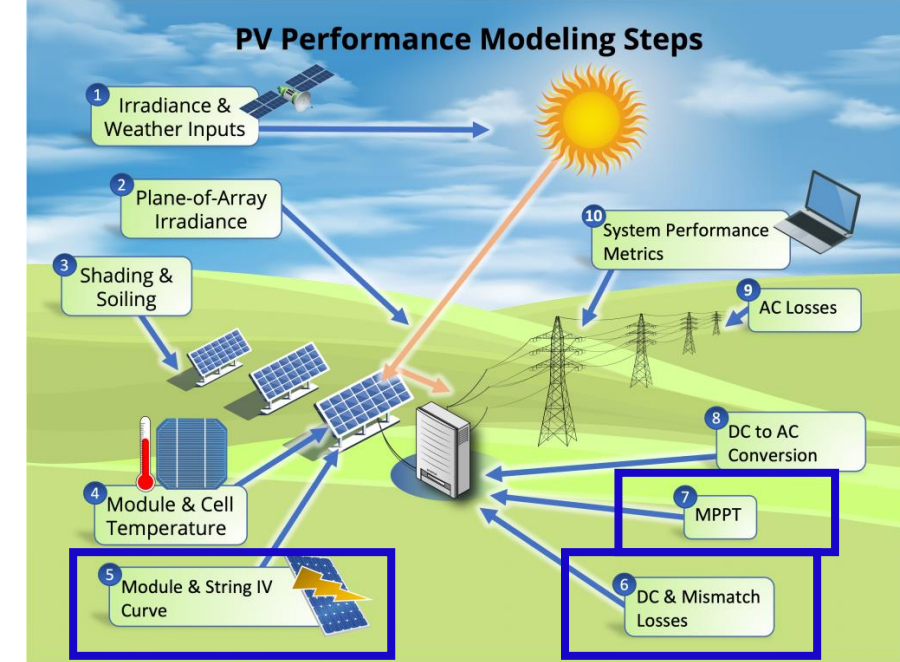
5./6./7. Power model

Constant efficiency model:

$$P_{dc} = \eta \cdot G_{POA} \cdot A$$

With:

- P_{dc} , DC power in [W]
- η efficiency around 20% (from datasheet)
- G_{POA} the irradiance in the plane of array [W/m²]
- A , the PV installation area [m²]



Modeling steps

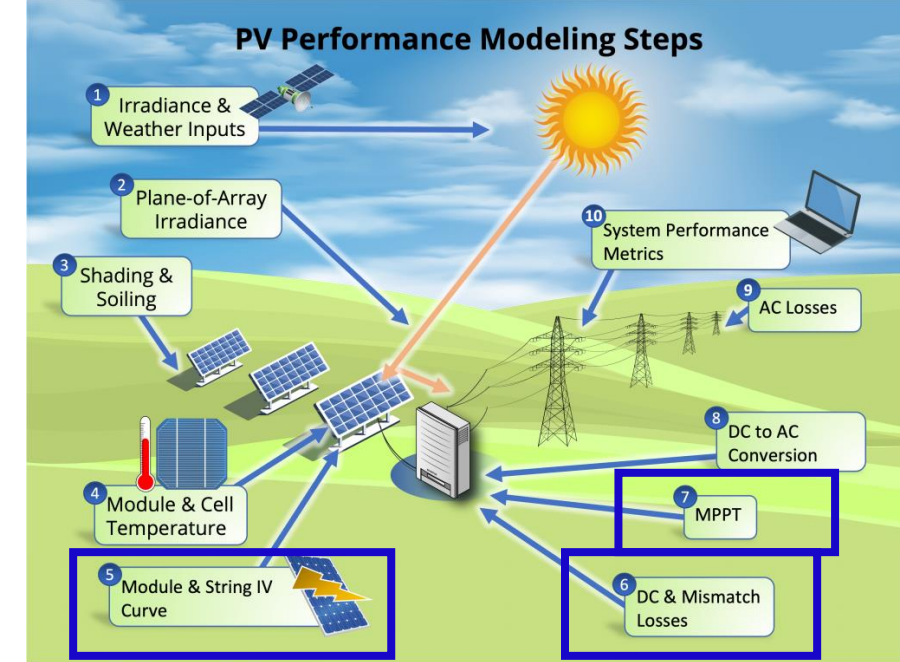
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Not really precise for
instantaneous values

Modeling steps

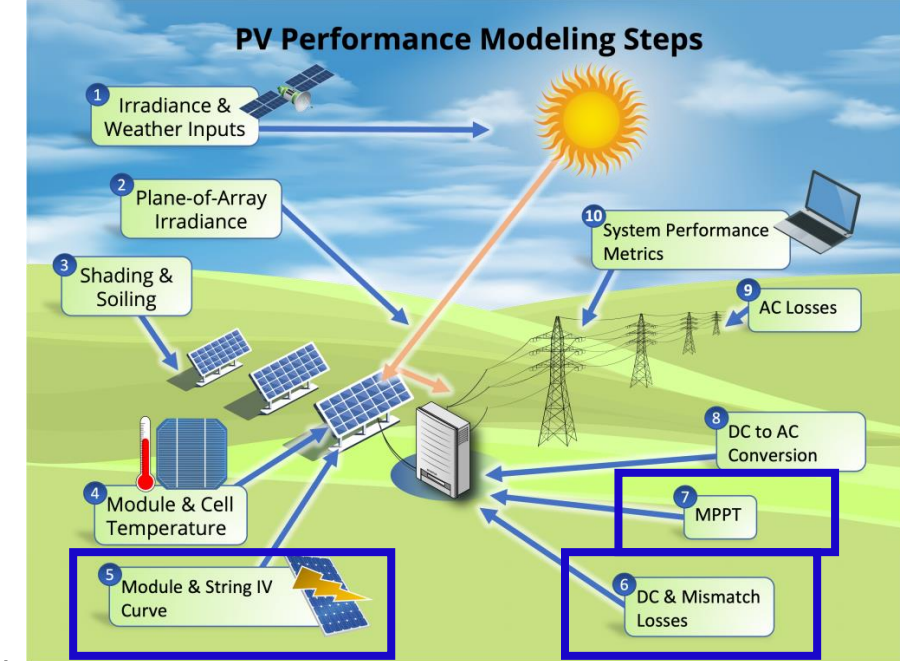
5./6./7. Power model

The PVWatts power model enables to take into account the effect of the cell temperature

$$P_{dc} = P_{dc0} \cdot \frac{G_{POA}}{1000 \text{ W/m}^2} \cdot \left(1 + \gamma_{pdc} \cdot (T_{cell} - 25^\circ\text{C})\right)$$

With:

- P_{dc0} Nominal DC power [Wp] (installed capacity)
- G_{POA} the irradiance in the plane of array [W/m^2]
- γ_{pdc} , the temperature coefficient (negative, usually between $-0.2 - -0.5 \text{ \% W/m}^2/\text{°C}$)
- T_{cell} , the cell temperature [$^\circ\text{C}$]



Modeling steps

5./6./7. Power model

The Huld model (used in PVGIS) enables to take into account the module temperature and non-linearity with irradiance.

$$P_{dc} = \eta_{Huld}(G, T_m) \cdot G' \cdot P_{dc0}$$

$$\eta_{Huld}(G) = \eta_0 \cdot (1 + k_1 \cdot \ln(G') + k_2 \cdot \ln(G')^2 + k_3 \cdot T_m' + k_4 \cdot T_m' \cdot \ln(G') + k_5 \cdot T_m' \cdot \ln(G')^2 + k_6 \cdot T_m')$$

With:

- P_{dc0} Nominal DC power [Wp] (installed capacity)
- G_{POA} the irradiance in the plane of array [W/m^2]
- $G' = \frac{G_{POA}}{1000 W/m^2}$ the normalized irradiance
- $T_m' = T_m - 25^\circ C$, the module temperature delta [$^\circ C$]
- $k_1 \dots k_6$, the model coefficients

Modeling steps

5./6./7. Power model

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- $k_1 \dots k_6$, the model coefficients

Coefficient	c-Si	CIS	CdTe
k_1	-0.017237	-0.005554	-0.046689
k_2	-0.040465	-0.038724	-0.072844
k_3	-0.004702	-0.003723	-0.002262
k_4	0.000149	-0.000905	0.000276
k_5	0.000170	-0.001256	0.000159
k_6	0.000005	0.000001	-0.000006

Modeling steps

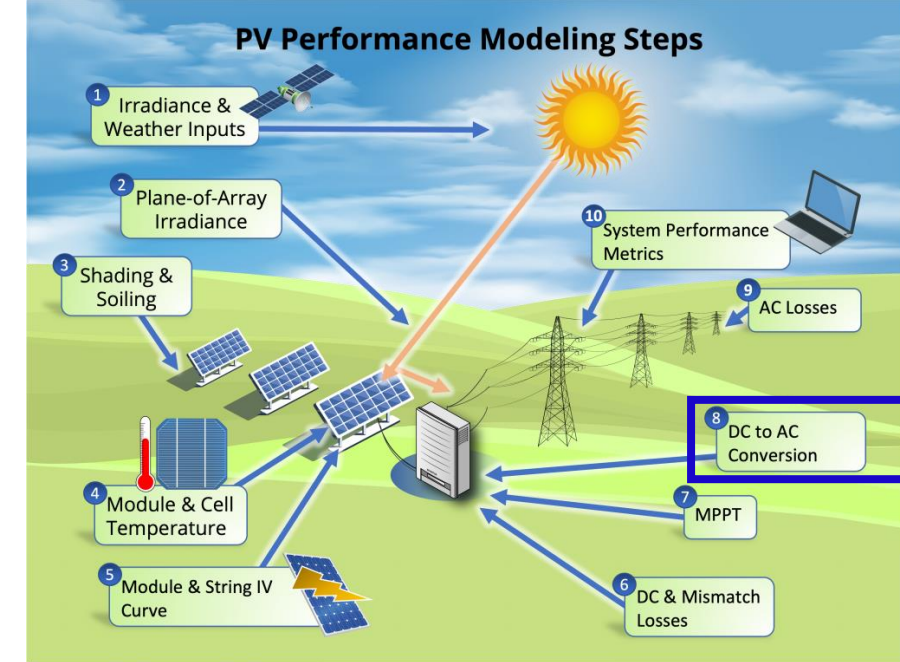
8. Inverter model

The PVWatts inverter model enables to calculate a generic AC/DC efficiency

$$\eta = \frac{\eta_{nom}}{\eta_{ref}} \cdot \left(-0.0162 \cdot \frac{P_{dc}}{P_{dc0}} - \frac{0.0059}{\frac{P_{dc}}{P_{dc0}}} + 0.9858 \right)$$

With:

- η_{nom} Nominal inverter efficiency The nominal inverter efficiency [—]
- η_{ref} The reference inverter efficiency [—]
- P_{dc} The DC power $\left[\frac{W}{m^2} \right]$
- P_{dc0} The DC input power limit $[W/m^2]$



Modeling steps

8. Inverter model

The Sandia inverter model enables to include the voltage and be more precise

$$P_{AC} = \left[\frac{P_{AC0}}{A - B} - C \cdot (A - B) \right] \cdot (P_{dc} - B) + C \cdot [P_{dc} - B]^2$$

Where:

- $A = P_{dc0} \cdot [1 + C1 \cdot (V_{dc} - V_{dc0})]$
- $B = P_{s0} \cdot [1 + C2 \cdot (V_{dc} - V_{dc0})]$
- $A = C_0 \cdot [1 + C3 \cdot (V_{dc} - V_{dc0})]$

Parameters:

- V_{dc} : DC input voltage (V). This is typically assumed to be the array's maximum power voltage.
- V_{dc0} : DC voltage level (V) at which the AC power rating is achieved at reference operating conditions.
- P_{AC} : AC output power (W)
- P_{AC0} : Maximum AC power rating for inverter at reference conditions (W). Assumed to be an upper limit.
- P_{dc0} : DC power level (W) at which the AC power rating is achieved at reference operating conditions.
- P_{s0} : DC power required to start the inversion process (W)
- C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3 : Empirical coefficients

Modeling steps

Time for some
hands-on exercises !



Use the following notebook:

https://github.com/AlexandreHugoMathieu/pv-fault-detection-solar-academy/blob/master/notebooks/dc_power_estimation.ipynb

Follow the python tutorial and estimate the AC power for one year.

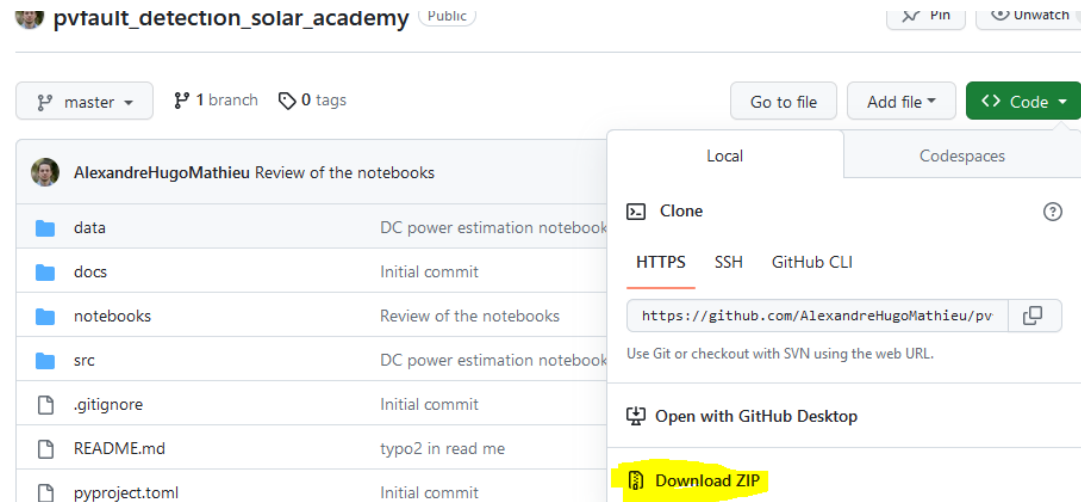
Resources

- Modeling guide PVPMC: <https://pvpmc.sandia.gov/modeling-guide/>
- Python / Pvlb tutorial: <https://pvsc-python-tutorials.github.io/PVSC48-Python-Tutorial/>
- To go further:
 - The Use of Advanced Algorithms in PV Failure Monitoring: https://iea-pvps.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Final-Report-IEA-PVPS-T13-19_2021_PV-Failure-Monitoring.pdf

Appendix

How to install Python and import the course repository to use the notebooks on your local PC.

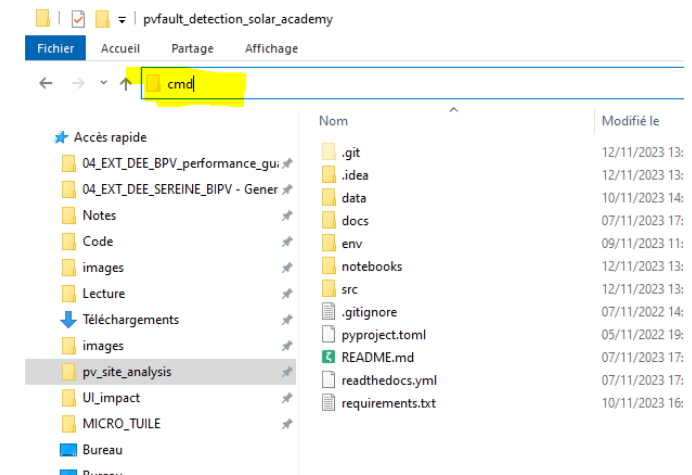
1. Install python: www.python.org/downloads/, download and install the 3.9.13 “release” (Add python to your Path)
2. Go to https://github.com/AlexandreHugoMathieu/pvfault_detection_solar_academy, click on the green “Code” button and then download the folder as the zip



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3. Unzip it and put it in adequate location in your PC.
4. Let’s create a virtual environment where you will find all the functions for this course:
 1. Go in the folder and open the command line from that same folder by writing “cmd” in the path bar (with Windows)



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4. Let’s create a virtual environment where you will find all the functions for this course:
 1. Go in the folder and open the command line from that same folder by writing “cmd” in the path bar (with Windows)
 2. In the command bar: execute the following line to create the “solar_env” environnement that you will use in your notebooks
 1. “pip install virtualenv”
 2. “python -m virtualenv solar_env”
 3. “call solar_env\Scripts\activate” (you should have a ‘solar_env’ on the left of the command at this point)
 4. “pip install -r requirements.txt” (load all the libraries, take a little time, be patient)
 5. “python -m ipykernel install --name=solarkernel” (create a kernel for the notebooks)

Appendix

How to start a notebook

1. Go in the folder and open the command line from that same folder by writing “cmd” in the path bar (with Windows)
2. In the command bar, execute:
 1. “call solar_env\Scripts\activate” (go in the virtual env)
 2. “jupyter notebook” (open the notebooks browser)
3. Browse to the notebooks folder, choose one and pick the solarkernel when asked.

