

Modeling and Experimental Validation of a Monocrystalline Solar Panel for Digital Twin Applications

1st Ernesto Manuel Distinto Ufuene
Polytechnic School
University of São Paulo (USP)
São Paulo, Brasil
ernestoufene@gmail.com
ernestoufene@usp.br

2nd Sergio Takeo Kofuji
Polytechnic School
University of São Paulo (USP)
São Paulo, Brasil
kofuji@usp.br

3rd Ricardo Queirós
Faculty of Engineering
Agostinho Neto University (UAN)
Luanda, Angola
ricardo.queiros@feuan.ao

Abstract—Given the growing global demand for renewable energy sources, photovoltaic (PV) systems play an essential role in the ongoing energy transition. To ensure the efficiency, reliability, and optimized integration of these systems into the power grid, robust management strategies are required. Currently, traditional maintenance approaches present significant limitations: i) periodic preventive maintenance, typically performed every 3 to 6 months, which is often inconsistently applied or not rigorously executed; ii) corrective (reactive) maintenance, where system performance is monitored, and once a power failure is detected, a technical team is dispatched to resolve the issue. This reactive approach leads to delayed problem resolution, compromises monitoring integrity, and can result in substantial financial and energy losses since failures are addressed only after occurrence.

To overcome these limitations, a management approach capable of real-time monitoring, fault detection, diagnosis, and failure prediction is essential. Such proactive maintenance not only improves system availability and longevity but also can reduce operational costs. In this context, digital twins, virtual replicas of physical systems, emerge as a promising solution, enabling continuous monitoring and predictive analytics.

This paper presents the modeling and experimental validation of a 60 W monocrystalline photovoltaic module, with a focus on digital twin applications for photovoltaic system management, particularly energy generation forecasting and fault detection and diagnosis. The proposed model is based on the Single Diode Model (SDM), an electrical modeling approach widely adopted due to its balanced trade-off between simplicity and accuracy. The model parameters were estimated using a hybrid optimization method that combines Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) with Powell's method which achieved accurate results with just 100 iterations, while similar approaches that use only PSO often require up to 1000 iterations to achieve similar levels of accuracy, highlighting the computational efficiency and reduced processing time of the hybrid approach. The modeling was implemented in MATLAB/Simulink and experimentally validated using data collected under two solar irradiance conditions (1000 W/m² and 500 W/m²), at 25°C and air mass AM1.5, using a flash-type solar simulator. Four characteristic curves were generated from the model, two I-V and two P-V curves, and the results showed strong agreement between simulated and experimental data. For the I-V curves, R² values were 0.9983 (1000 W/m²) and

0.9993 (500 W/m²), with MAE values of 0.0156 A and 0.0061 A, respectively. For the P-V curves, the coefficients of determination were 0.9985 (1000 W/m²) and 0.9996 (500 W/m²), with MAE values of 0.2932 W and 0.1021 W. These coefficients indicate that the model explains more than 99.8% of the variability in the experimental data. Other metrics (RMSE, MSE, and MAPE) also confirmed the model's high accuracy under both test conditions. Based on these results, the developed model proves to be highly suitable for digital twin-based applications, especially in scenarios that require high reliability, such as energy generation forecasting and real-time fault detection and diagnosis of photovoltaic modules. Furthermore, the experimental dataset will be made publicly available on GitHub and Kaggle to support researchers who lack access to specialized laboratory infrastructure.

Index Terms—single diode model, PSO-Powell, photovoltaic panel modeling, experimental validation, digital twin, energy forecasting, fault detection, MATLAB/Simulink.

I. INTRODUCTION

The growing demand for energy and technological advances in photovoltaic cells, especially monocrystalline silicon cells, which have led to increased efficiency and reduced module costs, have consolidated solar photovoltaic energy as one of the main sources of renewable energy. It is now a critical component of the global energy matrix, accounting for 6.9% in 2024 [1]. This growth, however, has brought new operational and maintenance challenges for these systems, particularly the need for continuous performance monitoring, early fault detection, and tracking of module degradation over time. Issues such as partial shading, dirt accumulation, electrical connection failures, hot spot formation, and inverter inefficiencies can lead to significant reductions in energy production if not detected promptly [2]. The digital twin is a virtual representation of a physical object, process, or system, capable of simulating its behavior in real time through continuous data exchange between the physical and virtual components. In photovoltaic systems, digital twins have the potential to revolutionize oper-

ations and maintenance by enabling real-time monitoring, accurate fault diagnosis, and simulation of operational scenarios that may lead to greater operational efficiency as well as cost reduction [3]–[6]. The reliability and accuracy of a digital twin depend directly on the precision of the model in representing the physical system, especially in applications involving fault diagnosis and prediction [7], [8]. Among the approaches for building digital twins in photovoltaic systems, the most prominent are data-driven models, physics-based models (also known as mechanistic models, such as the Single Diode Model – SDM), and hybrid models that combine both strategies to integrate interpretability with predictive flexibility [9]–[14]. This work adopts the physics-based modeling approach, specifically the SDM, which is widely used in photovoltaic applications due to its balance between simplicity and fidelity to the real behavior of the module. The choice of this approach aligns with the objective of developing a digital model with a high degree of fidelity and reliability, which is essential for applications such as energy generation forecasting and fault detection and diagnosis while remaining compatible with future hybrid extensions through integration with data-driven techniques. Although many studies have already explored the modeling of photovoltaic modules based on the SDM, significant limitations still persist that may compromise the fidelity, applicability, and reliability of the generated models:

i) Modeling based solely on manufacturer data: modeling that relies exclusively on datasheet values provided by manufacturers tends to be less accurate compared to approaches based on experimental data, as it lacks I–V and P–V curves obtained under real conditions, which are essential for robust validation. This limitation affects the fidelity and applicability of the resulting models, especially in critical applications such as digital twins for fault diagnosis, where small discrepancies between the model and the physical system can lead to incorrect decisions [15]–[20]. However, studies such as [21]–[24] rely on manufacturer data, while others like [23], [25] use experimental data but focus on reference cells, such as the RTC France cell, rather than complete modules.

ii) Use of photovoltaic mini-modules: mini-modules are useful for preliminary testing and educational purposes but do not accurately reflect real-world operating conditions, as they differ in materials, encapsulation, and electrical configuration. Therefore, models derived from such devices tend to be less representative for demanding applications such as digital twins [26], [27]. However, studies such as [27], [28] make use of photovoltaic mini-modules.

iii) Low-accuracy parameter estimation methods: the quality of the models depends on the accuracy of the estimation of their electrical parameters, such as series resistance, shunt resistance, saturation current, ideality factor, and photocurrent [29]–[32]. However, some studies such as [27], [33], [34] still rely on traditional methods like Newton-Raphson, linear adjustments, or genetic algorithms (GA), which can lead to considerable errors, especially under off-maximum-power-point operating conditions, while others like [31], [35]–[37] apply more advanced algorithms such as PSO, JAYA

optimization algorithm, and the Equilibrium Optimizer (EO), but focus on reference cells like Radio Technique Compelec (RTC) France cell rather than on actual modules.

iv) Use of experimental data obtained under inadequate artificial lighting: the electrical response of photovoltaic cells varies significantly depending on the lighting conditions or light source. For this reason, experimental data from modules should be obtained under Standard Test Conditions (STC), using certified solar simulators that comply with technical standards to ensure the reliability of the data [38]. This ensures that the modeled performance accurately reflects real-world operating conditions [39]. However, studies such as [28] use artificial lighting that does not accurately replicate the spectrum and intensity of natural sunlight.

In contrast to the above studies, this paper provides the following contributions:

- Modeling and validation of a 60 W monocrystalline photovoltaic module based on experimental data;
- Validation of the model using data obtained from a flash-type solar simulator under STC;
- Estimation of electrical parameters using a hybrid approach combining PSO and Powell methods, enabling efficient global search with local refinement. This combination results in more realistic parameters and models that closely match the experimental characteristic curves, which is essential for critical applications such as digital twins for fault diagnosis.
- Provision of a validated digital model for integration into digital twins aimed at energy estimation and fault detection;
- Publication of an experimental dataset including measurements of voltage, current, temperature, and solar irradiance, to support researchers without access to laboratory infrastructure in modeling solar modules and developing digital twin applications.

II. MATHEMATICAL MODELING OF THE MODULE

A. Single-Diode Model (SDM)

The electrical model used in this work is based on the SDM, which is widely adopted in the literature for offering a good balance between accuracy and computational simplicity. This model represents the photovoltaic module as a photocurrent source (I_{ph}) connected in parallel with an ideal diode, along with a series resistance (R_s) and a parallel (shunt) resistance (R_{sh}). The photocurrent (I_{ph}) acts as the primary source of electrical current, while the ideal diode simulates the PN junction under different operating conditions. The series resistance accounts for internal ohmic losses, whereas the parallel resistance models leakage currents. The SDM has five main parameters that must be accurately estimated: photocurrent (I_{ph}), diode saturation current (I_0), series resistance (R_s), shunt resistance (R_{sh}), and diode ideality factor (n) [40], [41]. The choice of this model is supported by recent studies [14], [42]–[47] that discuss analytical and metaheuristic methods applied to the SDM, highlighting its practical relevance, simplicity,

and reliability. When properly parameterized, the SDM provides results comparable to those of more complex models while maintaining high accuracy. For these reasons, the SDM was adopted in this work, particularly due to its clear and streamlined structure, which facilitates integration with hybrid optimization methodologies and digital twin frameworks. Figure 1 shows the electrical circuit corresponding to the SDM.

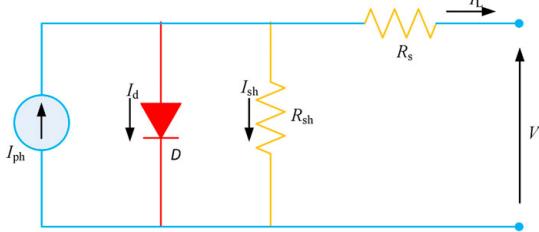


Fig. 1: Equivalent electrical circuit of the SDM

Source: [64]

From the circuit, using Kirchhoff's laws, the single-diode model yields the following equations:

$$I_L = I_{ph} - I_d - I_{sh} \quad (1)$$

$$I_d = I_0 \left[\exp \left(\frac{q(V + I_L R_s)}{n N_s k T} \right) - 1 \right] \quad (2)$$

$$I_{sh} = \frac{V + I_L R_s}{R_{sh}} \quad (3)$$

$$I_{ph} = [I_{sc} + k_i(T - 298)] \cdot \frac{G}{1000} \quad (4)$$

$$I_0 = I_{rs} \left(\frac{T}{T_n} \right)^3 \cdot \exp \left[\frac{q E_{g0}}{n k} \left(\frac{1}{T_n} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (5)$$

$$I_{rs} = \frac{I_{sc}}{\exp \left(\frac{q V_{oc}}{n N_s k T} \right) - 1} \quad (6)$$

$$I_L = I_{ph} - I_0 \left[\exp \left(\frac{q(V + I_L R_s)}{n N_s k T} \right) - 1 \right] - \frac{V + I_L R_s}{R_{sh}} \quad (7)$$

Where:

- I_L : Output current of the cell/panel (A)
- V : Output voltage of the panel (V)
- I_{ph} : Photogenerated current (A)
- I_d : Diode current (A)
- I_{sh} : Shunt (leakage) current (A)
- I_0 : Diode saturation current (A)
- I_{rs} : Reference saturation current (A)
- I_{sc} : Short-circuit current (A)
- V_{oc} : Open-circuit voltage (V)
- R_s : Series resistance (Ω)
- R_{sh} : Shunt (parallel) resistance (Ω)

- N_s : Number of cells in series (dimensionless)
- k : Boltzmann constant (1.38×10^{-23} J/K)
- q : Electron charge (1.6×10^{-19} C)
- T : Cell temperature (K)
- T_n : Nominal temperature (298 K)
- G : Solar irradiance (W/m²)
- k_i : Temperature coefficient of short-circuit current (A/K)
- E_{g0} : Bandgap energy of the semiconductor at 0 K (eV)
- n : Diode ideality factor (dimensionless)

B. Hybrid Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) + Powell algorithm for parameter estimation

The parameter estimation was carried out using a hybrid algorithm that combines PSO with Powell's local refinement technique, aiming to enhance the estimation process. PSO is an algorithm inspired by social behavior patterns observed in nature, widely recognized for its efficiency in searching for optimal or near-optimal solutions [37], [43], [48], [49]. This method iteratively updates the position of the particles within a predefined search space in order to minimize an objective function [50]–[52], in this study, the error between the simulated I-V curve and the experimental data obtained from the photovoltaic module was minimized. The objective function used is shown below.

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (I_{\text{simulated}}(V_i) - I_{\text{experimental}}(V_i))^2} \quad (8)$$

To enhance the robustness of the results and avoid stagnation in local minima, PSO was complemented with the Powell method, which acts as a local refinement technique for the solutions obtained. This two-stage approach is particularly well-suited for dealing with the highly nonlinear nature of the single-diode model, enabling more efficient exploration of the search space and more accurate adjustment of the estimated parameters [53], [54].

B1. Algorithm Flowchart

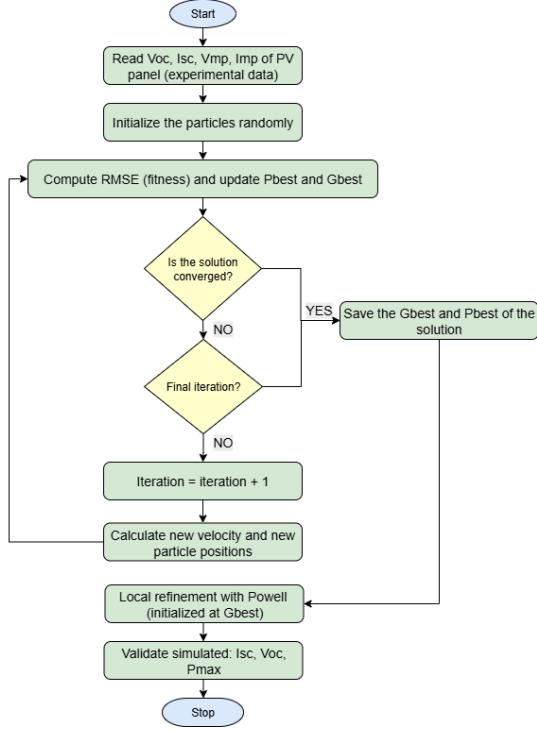


Fig. 2: Implemented PSO-Powell hybrid algorithm flowchart

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

A. Module Description

TABLE I: Technical specifications of the photovoltaic module used

Parameter	Value
Nominal power (Pmax)	60 W _p
Voltage at maximum power point (Vmp)	18.62 V
Current at maximum power point (Imp)	3.20 A
Open-circuit voltage (Voc)	21.7 V
Short-circuit current (Isc)	3.56 A
Efficiency	17.89%
Maximum system voltage	600 V
Maximum fuse current	5 A
Power temperature coefficient	-0.51%/K
Voltage temperature coefficient	-0.39%/K
Current temperature coefficient	+0.08%/K
Number of cells	32 (monocrystalline silicon)
Technology	PERC
Dimensions (L × W × H)	742 × 452 × 25 mm
Total module area	0.335 m ²
Weight	2.4 kg
Protective enclosure IP code	IP65

B. Experimental configuration

B1. Flash-type solar simulator

The experimental tests were carried out using a flash-type solar simulator at the Institute of Energy and Environment of the University of São Paulo (IEE-USP). This equipment reproduces the Standard Test Conditions (STC).

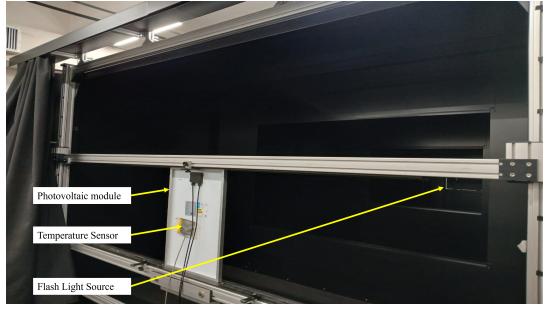


Fig. 3: Flash-Type Solar Simulator at IEE-USP

B2. Panel Modeling in Simulink

The modeling of the photovoltaic module was carried out using Matlab/Simulink, employing blocks that represent the equations of the single-diode model described in Section II, Subsection A.

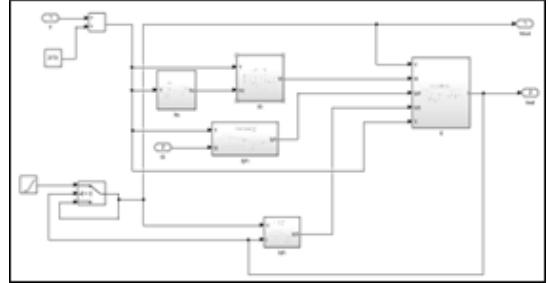


Fig. 4: Digital Model of the Module in Simulink

B3. Hybrid Parameter Estimation Process (PSO + Powell)

For parameter estimation, the following procedures were followed

- Configuration of Lower and Upper Bounds for Optimized Parameters

Lower and upper bounds were defined to guide the search within physically plausible regions, avoiding unrealistic or divergent solutions. These bounds were established based on the electrical characteristics of the photovoltaic module used Table I and recommendations from the literature [65]–[69].

The photogenerated current I_{ph} was set between $0.9 \cdot I_{sc}$ and $3.1 \cdot I_{sc}$, covering both shading losses and deviations from the ideal short-circuit current [65], [66]. The saturation current I_0 , typically ranging from 10^{-12} to 10^{-6} A in silicon cells, was limited to this interval [67], [68]. The diode ideality factor $\alpha = n \cdot N_s$ was constrained between 1.0 and 1.7, typical values for monocrystalline modules [65], [69]. The use of PERC technology in the tested module, known for its passivation techniques that reduce recombination and enhance efficiency, justifies not considering $n = 2$.

The series resistance R_s was bounded between 0.01 and 0.5 Ω, while the shunt resistance R_{sh} was set between 100 and 800 Ω, representing ohmic and leakage losses, respectively [67], [69]. These constraints improve the

robustness of the optimization process, preventing physically unfeasible local minima and ensuring coherence of the estimated parameters. Table II presents the defined lower and upper bounds for each parameter.

TABLE II: Configuration of the Lower and Upper Bounds of the Optimized Parameters

Parameter	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
I_{ph}	$0.9 I_{sc}$	$3.1 I_{sc}$
I_0	1×10^{-12}	1×10^{-6}
α	1.0	1.7
R_s	0.01	0.5
R_{sh}	100	800

- PSO Configuration

For the PSO algorithm configuration, a maximum of 500 iterations was initially set. However, experimental results showed that convergence was consistently achieved well before this limit. At 100 iterations, the root mean square error (RMSE) was already below 0.0983, indicating that the PSO effectively explored the search space and approached the global minimum. Given this satisfactory early convergence and the subsequent application of Powell's method for local refinement, the number of PSO iterations was reduced to 100. This configuration enabled Powell's method to accurately locate the absolute minimum within the converged region, ensuring stable and precise parameter estimation while significantly reducing the overall computational cost.

The initial population consisted of 50 particles, uniformly distributed within the predefined bounds of the five parameters to be estimated. The stopping criterion was defined as swarm convergence or reaching the maximum number of iterations, whichever occurred first.

Table III summarizes the final PSO configuration adopted for the parameter estimation of the photovoltaic model.

TABLE III: PSO Configuration

Category	Details
Algorithm	Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO)
Objective	RMSE minimization
Number of parameters	5
Initial population	50 particles
Maximum iterations	100
Stopping criterion	Convergence or maximum iterations reached
Initialization	Random (uniform within bounds)

- Powell Configuration After the global search performed by PSO, the Powell method was employed for local refinement of the parameters, aiming to improve the accuracy of the estimates by using the best global solution as the starting point. Table IV presents the configuration used for the Powell method.

TABLE IV: Configuration of the Powell Method for Local Refinement

Category	Details
Algorithm	Powell (derivative-free local optimization)
Objective	Refine the parameters obtained by PSO
Initial guess	Best global solution from PSO
Optimization method	"Powell" via <code>scipy.optimize</code>
Parameter bounds	Same as those defined in the PSO
Maximum number of iterations	100
Stopping criterion	Maximum iterations reached

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following presents the results obtained from the model validation experiments, followed by a discussion on the accuracy, robustness, and applicability of both the proposed method and the resulting digital model of the photovoltaic module.

A. Estimated Parameters

A1. Comparison between the simulated I-V curves (PSO and PSO + Powell) and the experimental curve

The parameters estimated using PSO and PSO enhanced with Powell are presented below. Figure 5 visually highlights the superior accuracy of the hybrid approach (PSO + Powell) in replicating the experimental I-V curve, while Table V displays the corresponding numerical values obtained by each method. Given the noticeable deviation of the PSO only curve from the experimental data, the discussion will focus solely on the comparison between the experimental results and the curve obtained using the hybrid estimation approach. This decision is supported by the fact that the PSO only model fails to accurately capture the knee and tail regions of the I-V characteristic, which are critical for evaluating model fidelity.

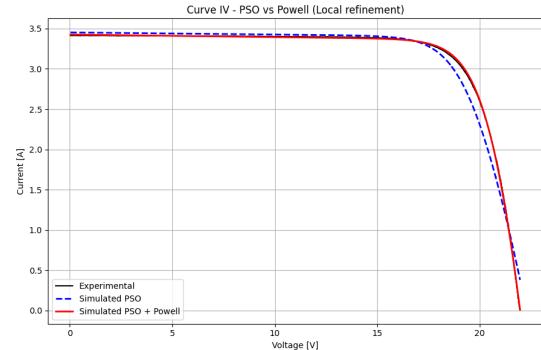


Fig. 5: Comparison between the experimental I-V curve and the curves generated by PSO and PSO + Powell.

TABLE V: Comparison of the Estimated Parameters (SDM) using PSO and PSO + Powell

Parameter	Unit	Value (PSO)	Value (PSO+Powell)
I_{ph}	A	3.4568	3.4275
I_0	A	1.0000e-10	3.2272e-10
R_s	Ω	0.50309	0.24018
R_{sh}	Ω	390.6199	406.3782
n	-	1.1179	1.1577

B. Experimental vs Simulated Curves (I-V and P-V)

After determining the model parameters, it is essential to validate the accuracy of the proposed approach. To this end, the characteristic current-voltage (I-V) and power-voltage (P-V) curves generated by the simulated model, using the estimated parameters, are compared with experimental measurements. This visual comparison enables assessment of the model's fidelity in replicating the real behavior of the photovoltaic module under different operating conditions. The corresponding curves are presented in the figures below.

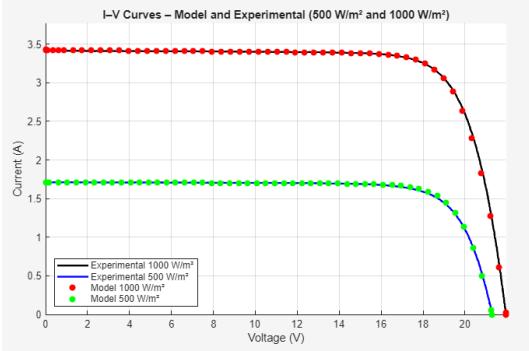


Fig. 6: I-V Curve, Model vs Experimental (500 W/m^2 and 1000 W/m^2)

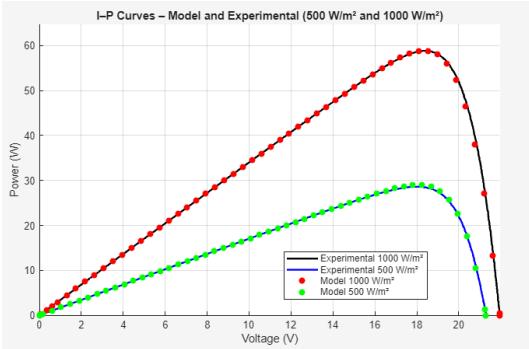


Fig. 7: P-V Curve, Model vs Experimental (500 W/m^2 and 1000 W/m^2)

C. Error Metrics

To evaluate the performance of the obtained model, five widely recognized statistical metrics were employed: Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Mean Squared Error (MSE), Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE), Coefficient of Determination (R^2), and Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE). These indicators quantify the discrepancy between the model's predictions, based on the extracted parameters and the experimental data collected in real time from the photovoltaic panel.

RMSE, MSE, and MAE evaluate the magnitude of the prediction errors. RMSE and MSE penalize larger deviations more heavily due to squaring, while MAE offers a more robust measure against outliers. In all three cases, lower values indicate better model performance, with zero representing a perfect fit.

R^2 measures the proportion of variance in the experimental data explained by the model, ranging from 0 to 1, with values closer to 1 indicating a better fit. Negative R^2 values suggest that the model underperforms compared to a naive prediction based on the mean.

MAPE, expressed as a percentage, enables an intuitive understanding of the average prediction error relative to the actual values, making it particularly useful for cross-comparison across datasets of different scales.

In the context of the Single Diode Model (SDM), RMSE and MAPE are especially relevant, as they directly reflect the model's ability to replicate the electrical behavior of the photovoltaic module under varying conditions. Table VI summarizes the results obtained for all performance metrics, supporting the effectiveness of the proposed estimation methodology [9], [55]–[58]. Table VI presents the values obtained for these metrics.

TABLE VI: Performance metrics (MAE, MSE, RMSE, R^2 , and MAPE)

Metrics	I-V		I-P	
	1000 W/m^2	500 W/m^2	1000 W/m^2	500 W/m^2
MAE (A/W)	0.0156	0.0061	0.2932	0.1021
MSE (A ² /W ²)	0.0011	0.0001	0.4935	0.0327
RMSE (A/W)	0.0333	0.0094	0.7025	0.1809
R^2	0.9983	0.9993	0.9985	0.9996
MAPE (%)	1.36	0.90	1.39	0.93

D. Discussion of the Results

The results indicate a strong correlation between the simulated data and the experimental data. For the I-V curves, the RMSE values are very low, 0.0094 A and 0.0092 A for 1000 W/m^2 and 500 W/m^2 , respectively, highlighting the model's effectiveness in accurately representing the real behavior of electric current as a function of voltage. Although the RMSE values for the I-P curves are higher (0.4430 W and 0.1443 W), this is expected due to the nature of electric power, which is the product of current and voltage. Small variations in either quantity are amplified when calculating power, especially near the maximum power point. Furthermore, the high R^2 values (all above 0.998) reinforce the quality of the fit, indicating that the model is capable of explaining more than 99.8% of the variability in the experimental data. The Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE) also remained below 1.5% in all cases, which is acceptable and desirable for applications that require high reliability, such as generation forecasting and fault detection in photovoltaic systems. Despite small discrepancies observed, particularly in the power curves, the errors remain within acceptable ranges for simulation, energy estimation, and future applications in digital twins. An important advantage of the hybrid approach adopted in this study is also highlighted in terms of computational efficiency. It was possible to achieve high levels of accuracy with only 100 PSO iterations, followed by refinement using the Powell method. In contrast, studies such as [59]–[63] which rely exclusively on PSO, require

up to 1000 iterations to achieve convergence and satisfactory results in the parameter estimation of the single diode model. This significant difference underscores the potential of the hybrid strategy not only to improve model accuracy but also to substantially reduce computational cost. Figure 6 illustrates the comparison between the simulated I–V curves (PSO and Powell) and the experimental curve, reinforcing the performance of the proposed methodology.

E. Relevance of the Model for Digital Twin Applications

Although this work does not yet implement a full Digital Twin (DT) architecture, it establishes a solid foundation by delivering a validated and parameterized digital representation of a photovoltaic (PV) module, derived from experimental data. This model accurately replicates the electrical behavior of the real device, making it highly suitable for integration into future DT applications.

A digital twin is a dynamic virtual counterpart of a physical system, continuously synchronized via sensor data. This integration enables real-time monitoring, control, diagnostics, and performance optimization. In this context, the proposed PV model can be incorporated into DT platforms to support key tasks such as operation, energy management, and predictive maintenance.

Beyond its value for offline analysis, the model developed herein serves as a critical building block for advancing digital twin technologies in solar energy. It contributes to greater efficiency, reliability, and intelligence in the management of PV systems, especially in remote or underserved regions, where technical support is limited and operational continuity is essential.

V. CONCLUSION

This study presented the modeling and experimental validation of a 60 W monocrystalline photovoltaic (PV) module, using the Single-Diode Model (SDM) as the mathematical foundation. The model parameters were extracted through a hybrid optimization approach that combines Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) with the Powell method. Experimental tests were conducted under two irradiance levels (1000 W/m^2 and 500 W/m^2) using a flash-type solar simulator under standard test conditions (25°C and AM1.5). The resulting model reproduced the experimental I–V and P–V curves with high fidelity, achieving low error metrics (such as MAE and RMSE) and coefficients of determination (R^2) above 0.998, demonstrating excellent accuracy in representing the module's electrical behavior. A key highlight is that this high level of performance was achieved with only 100 PSO iterations, significantly fewer than the 1000 iterations commonly required by pure PSO approaches, demonstrating the computational efficiency of the proposed hybrid method. The obtained solution provides a robust foundation for the development of digital twins for photovoltaic systems. While the complete digital twin architecture was not implemented in this study, the parametrized model is fully applicable for tasks such as energy forecasting, simulation under varying environmental

conditions, and real-time fault detection by comparing simulated versus measured behavior. The model's structure is also compatible with hybrid approaches that integrate physical and data-driven techniques, expanding its application potential. Additionally, the experimental dataset, including voltage, current, irradiance, and temperature measurements, will be made publicly available on GitHub and Kaggle to support researchers who lack access to specialized laboratory infrastructure. Future work will focus on extending the model to capture dynamic phenomena, such as transient responses and partial shading effects. Moreover, the model will be integrated into a full real-time digital twin architecture, connected via Internet of Things (IoT) protocols, enabling continuous monitoring, predictive maintenance, and intelligent control of PV systems. This evolution paves the way for more efficient, autonomous, and resilient solar energy systems. This work contributes to the advancement of the field of digital twins for solar energy, offering a robust and efficient modeling approach ready for real-world deployment.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors acknowledge the financial support provided by the Science and Technology Development Project (PDCT), Republic of Angola, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, funded by the African Development Bank (Project ID No.: P-AO-IA0-006 / Credit No.: 2000130014332), through its Graduate Scholarship Program (Master's, Doctorate, and Postdoctoral Studies).

The authors also thank the Instituto de Energia e Ambiente of the University of São Paulo (IEE-USP), especially the solar photovoltaic energy area, for providing access to their solar simulator, which was fundamental for the experimental validation of this work.

REFERENCES

- [1] “Global Electricity Review 2025 — Ember.” Accessed: Jun. 26, 2025. [Online]. Available: <https://ember-energy.org/latest-insights/global-electricity-review-2025/>
- [2] İ. Erdoğan, K. Bilen, and S. Kivrak, “Experimental Investigation of the Efficiency of Solar Panel Over Which Water Film Flows,” *Politeknik Dergisi*, vol. 27, no. 2, pp. 699–707, Mar. 2024, doi: 10.2339/poletnik.1163785.
- [3] D. Dobrilovic, J. Pekez, V. Ognjenovic, and E. Desnica, “Analysis of Using Machine Learning Techniques for Estimating Solar Panel Performance in Edge Sensor Devices,” *Applied Sciences*, vol. 14, no. 3, p. 1296, Feb. 2024, doi: 10.3390/app14031296.
- [4] K. K. Agrawal et al., “Predictive Modeling of Solar PV Panel Operating Temperature over Water Bodies: Comparative Performance Analysis with Ground-Mounted Installations,” *Energies*, vol. 17, no. 14, p. 3489, Jul. 2024, doi: 10.3390/en17143489.
- [5] L. Lüer et al., “A digital twin to overcome long-time challenges in photovoltaics,” *Joule*, vol. 8, no. 2, pp. 295–311, Feb. 2024, doi: 10.1016/j.joule.2023.12.010.
- [6] F. B. Matung, J. Cruz, E. Santamaría, R. R. Palma, F. Orlando, and S. Varretti, “Modelado y gemelos digitales en el contexto fotovoltaico,” Jun. 2025. Accessed: Jul. 15, 2025. [Online]. Available: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2506.12102>
- [7] J. Bofill, M. Abisado, J. Villaverde, and G. A. Sampedro, “Exploring Digital Twin-Based Fault Monitoring: Challenges and Opportunities,” *Sensors*, vol. 23, no. 16, p. 7087, Aug. 2023, doi: 10.3390/s23167087.
- [8] F. Tao, M. Zhang, Y. Liu, and A. Y. C. Nee, “Digital twin driven prognostics and health management for complex equipment,” *CIRP Annals*, vol. 67, no. 1, pp. 169–172, Jan. 2018, doi: 10.1016/j.cirp.2018.04.055.

- [9] C. Xiang, B. Li, P. Shi, T. Yang, and B. Han, "Short-Term Photovoltaic Power Prediction Based on a Digital Twin Model," *Journal of Marine Science and Engineering*, vol. 12, no. 7, p. 1219, Jul. 2024, doi: 10.3390/jmse12071219.
- [10] L. de O. Santos, T. AlSkaif, G. C. Barroso, and P. C. M. de Carvalho, "Photovoltaic power estimation and forecast models integrating physics and machine learning: A review on hybrid techniques," *Solar Energy*, vol. 284, p. 113044, Dec. 2024, doi: 10.1016/j.solener.2024.113044.
- [11] J. H. Woo, Q. Xiao, V. D. Paduani, and N. Lu, "A Two-Stage Optimization Method for Real-Time Parameterization of PV-Farm Digital Twin," Oct. 2024. Accessed: Jul. 16, 2025. [Online]. Available: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2410.04244>
- [12] M. Kolahi, S. M. Esmailifar, A. M. Moradi Sizkouhi, and M. Aghaei, "Digital-PV: A digital twin-based platform for autonomous aerial monitoring of large-scale photovoltaic power plants," *Energy Conversion and Management*, vol. 321, p. 118963, Dec. 2024, doi: 10.1016/j.enconman.2024.118963.
- [13] D. D. Angelova, D. C. Fernández, M. C. Godoy, J. A. Á. Moreno, and J. F. G. González, "A Review on Digital Twins and Its Application in the Modeling of Photovoltaic Installations," *Energies (Basel)*, vol. 17, no. 5, Mar. 2024, doi: 10.3390/en17051227.
- [14] N. L. Rane and S. Shirke, "Digital twin for healthcare, finance, agriculture, retail, manufacturing, energy, and transportation industry 4.0, 5.0, and society 5.0," *Artificial Intelligence and Industry in Society 5.0*, Oct. 2024, doi: 10.70593/978-81-981271-1-2_3.
- [15] A. Sakinah, S. Bandri, A. M. N. Putra, Z. Anthony, and Y. Warmi, "Monitoring System for Solar Panel Characteristics Using the Internet of Things (IOT)," *The South East Asian Journal of Advance Engineering and Technology*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 64–70, Mar. 2024, doi: 10.62447/SEA-JAET.V1I2.14.
- [16] S. Venkateshwarlu, J. V. G. R. Rao, and S. A. Saleem, "Efficiency Improvement of Solar Panels Through Parasitic Parameters Extraction and Maximum Power Improvement with Enhanced Slime Mold Optimization Under Partial Shading Conditions," Apr. 25, 2023, doi: 10.21203/rs.3.rs-2851161/v1.
- [17] A. M. Shaheen, A. R. Ginidi, R. A. El-Sehiemy, and S. S. M. Ghoneim, "A Forensic-Based Investigation Algorithm for Parameter Extraction of Solar Cell Models," *IEEE Access*, vol. 9, pp. 1–20, 2021, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2020.3046536.
- [18] C. D. Terrang, B. K. Sodipo, and M. S. Abubakar, "PV module single-diode model, parameter extraction of polycrystalline and amorphous solar panel," *Science World Journal*, vol. 18, no. 2, pp. 301–307, Oct. 2023, doi: 10.4314/swj.v18i2.20.
- [19] M. Lin, X. Xu, H. Tian, Y. M. Yang, W. E. I. Sha, and W. Zhong, "Quantifying Nonradiative Recombination and Resistive Losses in Perovskite Photovoltaics: A Modified Diode Model Approach," *Solar RRL*, vol. 8, no. 1, Nov. 2023, doi: 10.1002/solr.202300722.
- [20] F. J. Toledo, J. M. Blanes, V. G. Galiano, and A. Laudani, "In-depth analysis of single-diode model parameters from manufacturer's datasheet," *Renewable Energy*, vol. 163, pp. 1370–1384, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.1016/j.renene.2020.08.136.
- [21] M. Jesus Santos *et al.*, "Novel Photovoltaic Empirical Mathematical Model Based on Function Representation of Captured Figures from Commercial Panels Datasheet," *Mathematics*, vol. 10, no. 3, p. 476, Feb. 2022, doi: 10.3390/math10030476.
- [22] V. Stornelli, M. Muttillo, T. de Rubeis, and I. Nardi, "A New Simplified Five-Parameter Estimation Method for Single-Diode Model of Photovoltaic Panels," *Energies*, vol. 12, no. 22, p. 4271, Nov. 2019, doi: 10.3390/en1224271.
- [23] K. Tifidat, N. Maouhoub, and A. Benahmida, "An efficient numerical method and new analytical model for the prediction of the five parameters of photovoltaic generators under non-STC conditions," *E3S Web of Conferences*, vol. 297, p. 01034, Sep. 2021, doi: 10.1051/e3sconf/202129701034.
- [24] R. Ndegwa, J. Simiyu, E. Ayieta, and N. Odero, "A Fast and Accurate Analytical Method for Parameter Determination of a Photovoltaic System Based on Manufacturer's Data," *Journal of Renewable Energy*, vol. 2020, pp. 1–18, May 2020, doi: 10.1155/2020/7580279.
- [25] A. Benahmida, N. Maouhoub, and H. Sahsah, "Numerical approach for extraction of photovoltaic generator single-diode model parameters," *Computer Science and Information Technologies*, vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 58–66, Jul. 2021, doi: 10.11591/csit.v2i2.p58-66.
- [26] J. Liu, L. Mei, A. Maleki, R. Ghasempour, and F. Pourfayaz, "A Global Dynamic Harmony Search for Optimization of a Hybrid Photovoltaic Battery Scheme: Impact of Type of Solar Panels," *Sustainability*, vol. 14, no. 1, p. 109, Dec. 2021, doi: 10.3390/su14010109.
- [27] R. Q. Nafil, H. T. Khamees, and M. S. Majeed, "Identification the internal parameters for mono-crystalline solar module using Matlab - simulation and experimental ascertainment," *Telkomnika*, vol. 19, no. 3, pp. 716–722, 2021, doi: 10.12928/telkomnika.v19i3.16239.
- [28] C. D. Terrang, B. K. Sodipo, and M. S. Abubakar, "PV module single-diode model, parameter extraction of polycrystalline and amorphous solar panel," *Science World Journal*, vol. 18, no. 2, pp. 301–307, Oct. 2023, doi: 10.4314/swj.v18i2.20.
- [29] D. Yadav, N. Singh, V. S. Bhadoria, N. C. Giri, and M. Cherukuri, "A Novel Metaheuristic Jellyfish Optimization Algorithm for Parameter Extraction of Solar Module," *International Transactions on Electrical Energy Systems*, vol. 2023, 2023, doi: 10.1155/2023/5589859.
- [30] Z. Garip, M. E. Çimen, and A. F. Boz, "Comparative performance analysis in parameter extraction of solar cell models using meta-heuristic algorithms," *Journal of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture of Gazi University*, vol. 36, no. 2, pp. 1133–1144, 2021, doi: 10.17341/gazimfd.586269.
- [31] F. E. Ndi, S. N. Perabi, S. E. Ndjakomo, G. O. Abessolo, and G. M. Mengata, "Estimation of single-diode and two diode solar cell parameters by equilibrium optimizer method," *Energy Reports*, vol. 7, pp. 4761–4768, Nov. 2021, doi: 10.1016/j.egyr.2021.07.025.
- [32] E. Kapambwe and B. Monchusui, "Solar Cell Parameters Extraction Methods: A Biometric Analysis Review," 2024. [Unpublished].
- [33] A. Senturk and R. Eke, "A new method to simulate photovoltaic performance of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules based on datasheet values," *Renewable Energy*, vol. 103, pp. 58–69, Apr. 2017, doi: 10.1016/j.renene.2016.11.025.
- [34] L. Fabiano and B. Martins, "Análise e aplicação do método de Newton-Raphson na determinação dos parâmetros do circuito equivalente de células solares (Analysis and Application of the Newton-Raphson Method in Determining the Equivalent Circuit Parameters of Solar Cells)," [Unpublished technical report or thesis].
- [35] K. Yu, J. J. Liang, B. Y. Qu, X. Chen, and H. Wang, "Parameters identification of photovoltaic models using an improved JAYA optimization algorithm," *Energy Conversion and Management*, vol. 150, pp. 742–753, Oct. 2017, doi: 10.1016/j.enconman.2017.08.063.
- [36] R. Wang, "Parameter Identification of Photovoltaic Cell Model Based on Enhanced Particle Swarm Optimization," *Sustainability*, vol. 13, no. 2, p. 840, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.3390/su13020840.
- [37] E. J. Liu, Y. H. Hung, and C. W. Hong, "Improved Metaheuristic Optimization Algorithm Applied to Hydrogen Fuel Cell and Photovoltaic Cell Parameter Extraction," *Energies*, vol. 14, no. 3, p. 619, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.3390/en14030619.
- [38] S. Bader, X. Ma, and B. Oelmann, "A comparison of one- and two-diode model parameters at indoor illumination levels," *IEEE Access*, vol. 8, pp. 172057–172064, 2020, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2020.3025146.
- [39] N. Watjanatepin, K. Wannakam, P. Kiatsookkanatorn, C. Boonmee, and P. Sritanaauthai, "Improved spectral mismatch and performance of a phosphor-converted light-emitting diode solar simulator," *International Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering*, vol. 13, no. 5, pp. 4931–4941, Oct. 2023, doi: 10.11591/ijeee.v13i5.pp4931-4941.
- [40] D. Saadaoui, M. Elyaqouti, K. Assalaou, D. B. Hmamou, and S. Lidaighbi, "Multiple learning JAYA algorithm for parameters identifying of photovoltaic models," *Materials Today: Proceedings*, vol. 52, pp. 108–123, Jan. 2022, doi: 10.1016/j.matpr.2021.11.106.
- [41] H. A. Ismail and A. A. Z. Diab, "An efficient, fast, and robust algorithm for single diode model parameters estimation of photovoltaic solar cells," *IET Renewable Power Generation*, vol. 18, no. 5, pp. 863–874, Apr. 2024, doi: 10.1049/rpg2.12958.
- [42] A. Elhammoudy *et al.*, "Characterizing Parameters in Single-Diode and Double-Diode Photovoltaic Models Using a Novel Bio-Inspired Approach," in *Proc. 2024 Int. Conf. on Circuit, Systems and Communication (ICCS)*, 2024, doi: 10.1109/ICCS2024.2024.10616434.
- [43] D. Ben Hmamou *et al.*, "Particle swarm optimization approach to determine all parameters of the photovoltaic cell," *Materials Today: Proceedings*, vol. 52, pp. 7–12, Jan. 2022, doi: 10.1016/j.matpr.2021.10.083.
- [44] A. Elhammoudy *et al.*, "PV Modeling and Extracting the Single-Diode Model Parameters: A Review Study on Analytical and Numerical Methods," in *Advances in Science, Technology and Innovation*, pp. 71–76, 2024, doi: 10.1007/978-3-031-49772-8_9.
- [45] F. J. Toledo, V. Galiano, V. Herranz, J. M. Blanes, and E. Batzelis, "A comparison of methods for the calculation of all the key points of the PV

- single-diode model including a new algorithm for the maximum power point," *Optimization and Engineering*, vol. 25, no. 3, pp. 1469–1503, Sep. 2024, doi: 10.1007/s11081-023-09850-8.
- [46] J. I. Morales-Aragonés, M. Dávila-Sacoto, L. G. González, V. Alonso-Gómez, S. Gallardo-Saavedra, and L. Hernández-Callejo, "A Review of I-V Tracers for Photovoltaic Modules: Topologies and Challenges," *Electronics*, vol. 10, no. 11, p. 1283, May 2021, doi: 10.3390/electronics10111283.
- [47] S. R. Fahim, H. M. Hasanien, R. A. Turky, S. H. E. A. Aleem, and M. Ćalasan, "A Comprehensive Review of Photovoltaic Modules Models and Algorithms Used in Parameter Extraction," *Energies*, vol. 15, no. 23, p. 8941, Nov. 2022, doi: 10.3390/en15238941.
- [48] A. Tiwari and R. Agarwal, "Optimal control for a photovoltaic integrated grid system using PSO and modified whale optimization to enhance power quality," *Engineering Research Express*, vol. 5, no. 2, Jun. 2023, doi: 10.1088/2631-8695/acc929.
- [49] A. Harrag and Y. Daili, "Three-diodes PV model parameters extraction using PSO algorithm," *Journal of Renewable Energies*, vol. 22, no. 1, pp. 85–91, Mar. 2019, doi: 10.54966/jreen.v22i1.728.
- [50] T. M. Shami, A. A. El-Saleh, M. Alswaitti, Q. Al-Tashi, M. A. Summakieh, and S. Mirjalili, "Particle Swarm Optimization: A Comprehensive Survey," *IEEE Access*, vol. 10, pp. 10031–10061, 2022, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2022.3142859.
- [51] A. G. Gad, "Particle Swarm Optimization Algorithm and Its Applications: A Systematic Review," *Archives of Computational Methods in Engineering*, vol. 29, no. 5, pp. 2531–2561, Apr. 2022, doi: 10.1007/s11831-021-09694-4.
- [52] M. Jain, V. Saikhjal, N. Singh, and S. B. Singh, "An Overview of Variants and Advancements of PSO Algorithm," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 12, no. 17, p. 8392, Aug. 2022, doi: 10.3390/app12178392.
- [53] A. Quarteroni *et al.*, "La Matematica per il 3+2 Editor-in-Chief Series Editors," [Online]. Available: <https://cassyni.com/events/TPQ2UgkCbJvvz5QbkcWXo3>
- [54] A. M. Elmalky and M. T. Araji, "Optimization of Cooled Building-Integrated Photovoltaics Using Powell's Conjugate Direction Method in Canada," in *Proc. Int. Conf. on Electrical, Computer, and Energy Technologies (ICECET)*, 2022, doi: 10.1109/ICECET55527.2022.9872898.
- [55] M. Ćalasan, I. Radonjić, M. Micev, M. Petronijević, and L. Pantić, "Voltage root mean square error calculation for solar cell parameter estimation: A novel g-function approach," *Heliyon*, vol. 10, no. 18, p. e37887, Sep. 2024, doi: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e37887.
- [56] A. K. Hamid, M. M. Farag, and M. Hussein, "Enhancing photovoltaic system efficiency through a digital twin framework: A comprehensive modeling approach," *International Journal of Thermofluids*, vol. 26, Mar. 2025, doi: 10.1016/j.ijft.2025.101078.
- [57] S. Kumar, V. Pratik, S. Gupta, P. Brunet, and G. Dabadie, "Comparative Study of MPPT and Parameter Estimation of PV cells," Apr. 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2304.07817.pdf>
- [58] S. Wang, Z. Wang, Y. Ge, and R. A. Amer, "Performance estimator of photovoltaic modules by integrating deep learning network with physical model," *Energy*, vol. 325, p. 136171, Jun. 2025, doi: 10.1016/j.energy.2025.136171.
- [59] J. Gupta *et al.*, "Parameter Estimation of Different Photovoltaic Models Using Hybrid Particle Swarm Optimization and Gravitational Search Algorithm," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 13, no. 1, p. 249, Dec. 2022, doi: 10.3390/app13010249.
- [60] S. Bana and R. P. Saini, "Identification of unknown parameters of a single diode photovoltaic model using particle swarm optimization with binary constraints," *Renewable Energy*, vol. 101, pp. 1299–1310, Feb. 2017, doi: 10.1016/j.renene.2016.10.010.
- [61] S. K. V. D. G., and S. M. Sulthan, "Adaptive Particle Swarm Optimization based improved modeling of Solar Photovoltaic module for parameter determination," *e-Prime - Advances in Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Energy*, vol. 8, p. 100621, Jun. 2024, doi: 10.1016/j.prime.2024.100621.
- [62] R. Wang, "Parameter Identification of Photovoltaic Cell Model Based on Enhanced Particle Swarm Optimization," *Sustainability*, vol. 13, no. 2, p. 840, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.3390/su13020840.
- [63] Tinton, "MEV," 2025, doi: 10.55981/j.mev.2025.v16.15-26.
- [64] S. Y. Alsadi and M. Tawalbeh, "Accurate solar cell modeling via genetic neural network-based meta-heuristic algorithms," *Frontiers in Energy Research*, vol. 9, p. 696204, 2021, doi: 10.3389/fenrg.2021.696204.
- [65] M. G. Villalva and E. Ruppert, "Modeling and circuit-based simulation of photovoltaic arrays," *IEEE Latin America Transactions*, vol. 18, no. 10, pp. 1750–1757, Oct. 2020. [Online]. Available: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9238896>
- [66] B. N. Alajmi and S. Mekhilef, "Parameter extraction of PV modules using hybrid metaheuristic techniques," *Renewable Energy*, vol. 176, pp. 114–126, Aug. 2021, doi: 10.1016/j.renene.2021.04.066.
- [67] N. Femia, G. Petrone, G. Spagnuolo, and M. Vitelli, "Optimization of PV models through bounds-constrained algorithms," *Solar Energy*, vol. 231, pp. 109–118, Feb. 2022, doi: 10.1016/j.solener.2021.12.066.
- [68] A. R. Jordehi, "Parameter estimation of PV cells using improved versions of PSO and DE," *Energy Reports*, vol. 9, pp. 1450–1463, Apr. 2023, doi: 10.1016/j.egyr.2023.04.012.
- [69] M. Y. Ali *et al.*, "Accurate modeling of monocrystalline PV modules using hybrid optimization with adaptive boundary control," *IEEE Access*, vol. 12, pp. 76321–76334, 2024, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2024.10532154.