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Manaus, 28th September 2019

Badrul H. Chowdhury, Ph.D.

Editor-in-Chief

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Energy

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled as “Optimal Sizing of Stand-alone Solar PV Systems via Automated Formal Synthesis” by Alessandro Trindade (from Federal University of Amazonas) and Lucas Cordeiro (from The University of Manchester) which we would like to submit for publication in the IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Energy journal. In our point of view, our work is aligned with the scope of IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Energy journal: a original research with new methodology of design optimization for stand-alone solar photovoltaic systems.

The present work, describes and evaluates an automated formal synthesis optimization method for sizing of stand-alone solar photovoltaic systems, which employs automated verification tool and computer science synthesis method to obtain the optimal sizing of the renewable energy system used in rural areas of developing countries or where grid extension is unfeasible.

Related works in optimization of PV systems are usually performed by simulation tools, which are well known in the market. However, the exploration of all design-space is impossible with those tools, and some flaws (like over sizing) or incompleteness can be originated from the design phase, reaching the field, after the PV deployment. This can cause dissatisfaction to the PV system owners, and to the wrong conclusion that intermittent renewable systems are not good or reliable.

In our study, experimental results, from seven case studies, in a comparative evaluation of tools, showed that only the automated synthesis optimization can find detailed information for the PV systems, and with the plus of working with a data base of manufacturers and equipment that are available at the consumer market.

Finally, based on the fact that only since 2015 papers are dealing with formal verification applied to electrical systems, with excellent results, but only related to PV panels or to grid-tied systems, our study is unique and complemented with real data from twelve months of use of four case studies: putting together mathematical models, automated verification, synthesis, simulation, empirical observation and interview from dwellers in remote communities of Amazon State in Brazil.

The authors claim that none of the material in the mentioned paper has been published or is under consideration for publication elsewhere. This paper is linked with the PhD Thesis from the main author, however the Thesis was not finished or defended yet.

As a list of recommended reviewers, with related research and papers at the same theme, we can indicate:

* Professor Alessandro Abate, from the Department of Computer Science of the University of Oxford (contact: [aabate@cs.ox.ac.uk)](mailto:aabate@cs.ox.ac.uk))
* Enrico Tronci, from Dip.to di Informatica Università degli Studi di Roma, “La Sapienza”, Italy (contact: [tronci@di.uniroma1.it)](mailto:tronci@di.uniroma1.it))
* Mimmo Parente, from Dip.to Scienze Statististiche & Innovation Systems (DISA-MIS), Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy (contact: parente@unisa.it)

Worth to mention that there is not conflict of interest, and that all the funding and the support received ended in March of 2019 (except the simulation tool license support, that will stand until the end of 2019).

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

