

Exploring Solar Panel Efficiency

Eliott HALL

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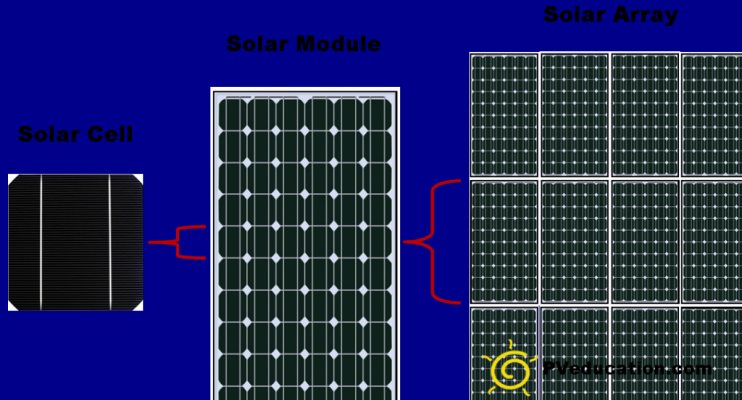
Limits are to be pushed.

- ▶ What is the maximum possible efficiency of a solar panel?
- ▶ Costs and financial feasibility.

Theoretical Limits of Solar Efficiency

Physics sets fundamental constraints on efficiency:

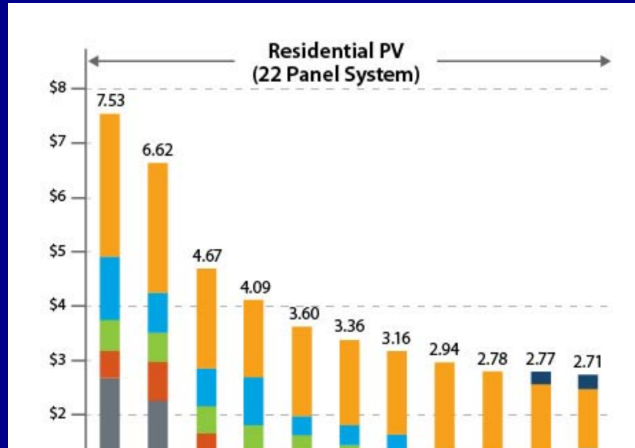
- ▶ **Shockley-Queisser Limit:** Max efficiency of a single-junction silicon cell is about 33.7%.
- ▶ **Multijunction Solar Cells:** 86% efficiency
- ▶ **Quantum Dot Technology**



Cost and Financial Feasibility

High efficiency comes at a cost:

- ▶ **Multijunction Solar Cells:** Over \$100,000 per square meters
- ▶ **Standard Silicon Panels:** \$150–\$400 per panel, 15–22% efficiency.
- ▶ **Emerging Perovskite Cells:** 30–35% efficiency at lower costs.



Balancing Efficiency, Cost, and Practicality

- ▶ Theoretical efficiency is not easily available
- ▶ must optimise cost
- ▶ the future is efficiency for cost