

The SunPower logo is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The letter 'O' is stylized with a glowing effect. Below the logo is a thin horizontal line. To the right of the logo is a large, dark gray grid of squares, representing solar cells, which is partially obscured by a vertical yellow bar on the far right.

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Model Validation Methodology and Results

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Why Validation is Important

- To prove that you can accurately model across a wide range of products and geographical locations
- Performance prediction key input in project finance models
 - Proven accuracy builds internal and investor confidence in performance predictions
- Important feedback mechanism for testing model changes

SunPower's Model Validation Program

- As a project developer, SunPower has access to a significant amount of production data:
 - Hundreds of operating projects around the world generating production data and collecting meteorological data
 - A central server collecting data at high frequency
- Model validation efforts over past 5 years focused on comparing modeled production to real-world production:
 1. Simulate (using PVSIM) first year production using measured meteorological data
 2. Compare simulated production to measured production at the given site
- Recently developed a suite of tools to significantly streamline and improve this process
- This suite of tools has enabled us to grow the number of sites that we are using in our program from about 30 to 100 over the past 2 years

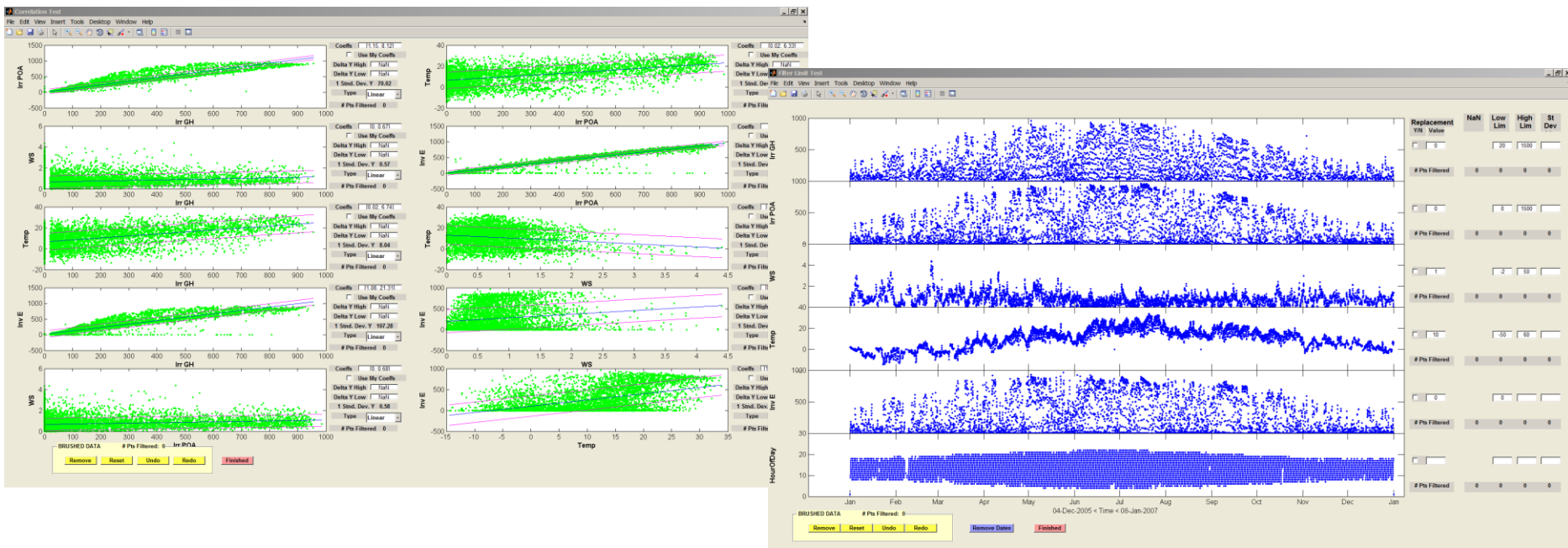
Model Validation Process

1. Choosing sites:
 - Ensure that the study includes the suite of SunPower module and mounting products
 - Select diverse geographic locations
 - Rule out sites with major issues in first year of operation (data outages, technical issues that can't be modeled, etc.)
2. Gathering simulation inputs:
 - Use as-built drawings to generate simulation inputs
3. Retrieving meteorological and production data

Model Validation Process

4. Data quality checking:

- Only compare to measured conditions we'd expect the tool to simulate
- Use an internally-developed tool to remove or fix anomalies in the data:
 - Inverter outages
 - Data acquisition outages
 - Fix time shifts



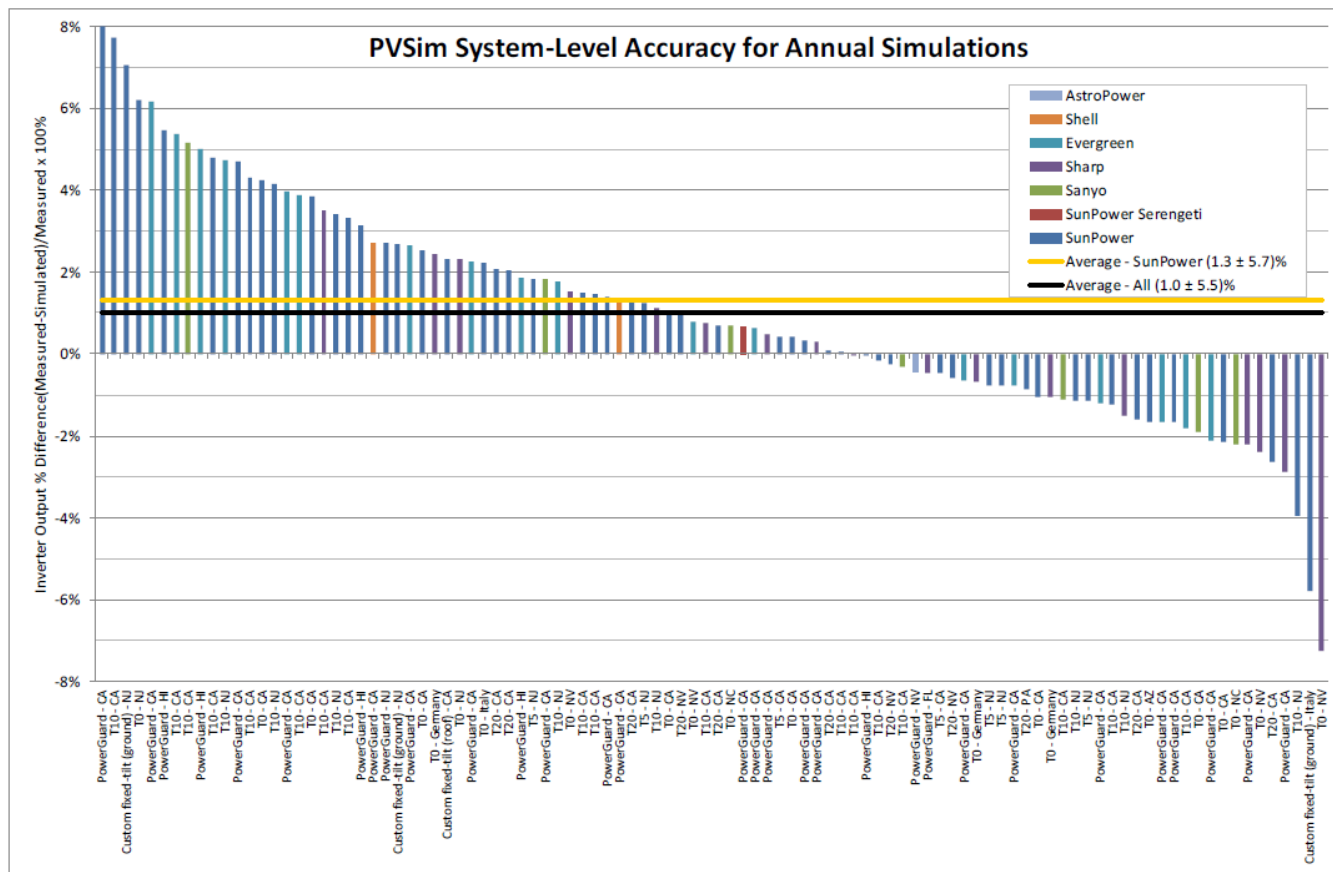
Model Validation Process

5. Process results

- Key metric: % difference in annual yield between measured and modeled
- Roll-up results in many other ways to investigate, for example:
 - Seasonal differences
 - Regional results
 - Time series results

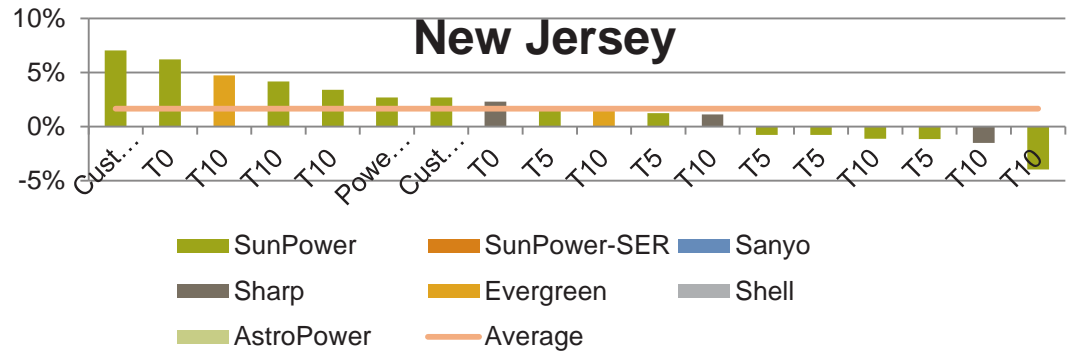
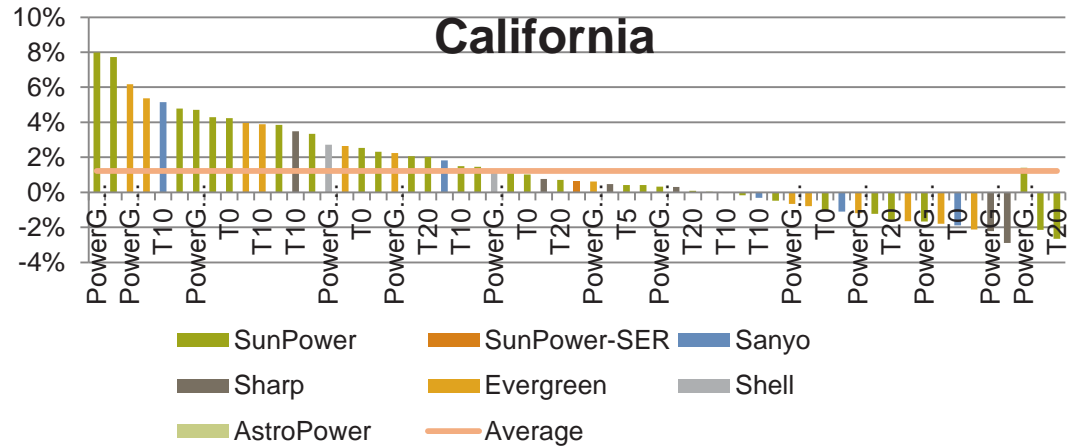
Results

- On average, annual energy production is 1.3% greater than predicted for SunPower modules and 1.0% greater than predicted across all module manufacturers compared



Lessons Learned & Next Steps

- Soiling & snow cover a significant source of uncertainty
 - Effort underway to improve and expand soiling & snow cover model
- Further expansion of compared sites:
 - More utility-scale projects to validate dynamic AC loss model
 - Residential projects



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