Hourly Modeling Corrections for PV Energy Assessments

DNV

Introduction

Most bankable PV models use hourly irradiance data. In areas that experience intra-hour irradiance variability, the use of this hourly data can over-predict energy yield predominantly due to subhourly DC power above or below inverter rated power, underpredicting inverter clipping losses. DNV implemented a machine learning model to correct for these underpredictions. The hourly modeling correction seen in the US for utility-scale plants is typically around 1.0% and increases with DC:AC ratios above 1.0.



Random forest machine learning model adapted from K. Anderson and K. Perry, 2020

- Times considered are filtered for GHI and POA > 200 W/m²
- Spatial factor uses wavelet variability model to account for plant size
- Temporal factor accounts for sampling rate of constituent TMY data

References

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DNV's machine learning model compensates for errors introduced by hourly PV modeling.



Figure from K. Anderson, et al. in [5]: Upper subplot: 1-min array MPP data (blue line), the corresponding average hourly values (orange line), the particular hourly interval (green line), the hypothetical inverter clipping point (dashed black line). Lower subplot: visualization of the 11:00 – 12:00 interval shown in green on the upper subplot, the 1min array MPP data (blue dots), the average of the 1-min values (green dot), the average that applies to clipping at hourly scale (orange dot)



Madison Ghiz, DNV madison.ghiz@dnv.com





SURFRAD site in Illinois

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