

# Applications of in-situ I-V measurement



Michael Gostein, PVPMC May 2023





In-situ IV





Normal operation

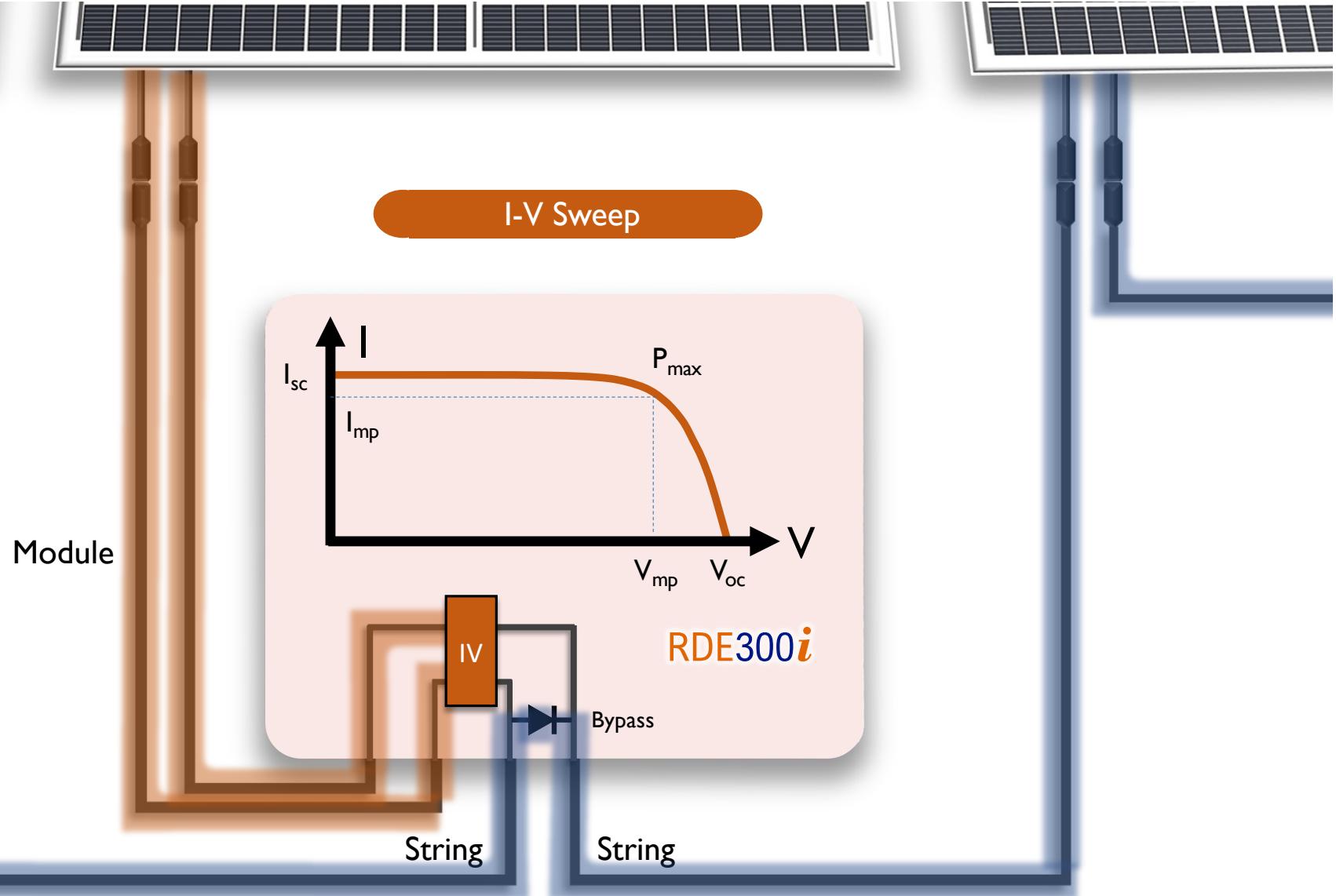
Module

RDE300*i*

IV

String

String



Normal operation

Module

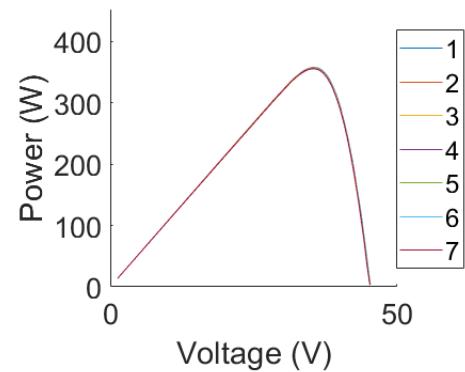
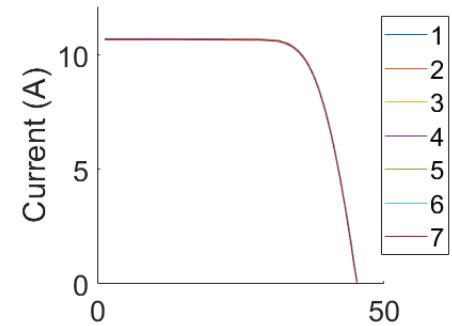
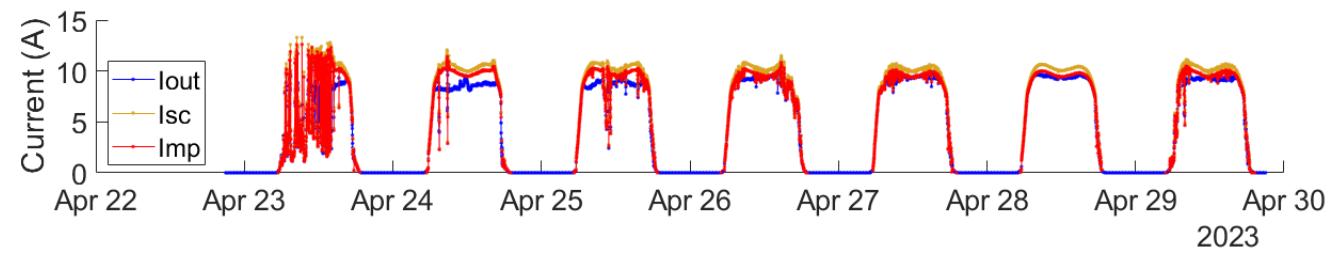
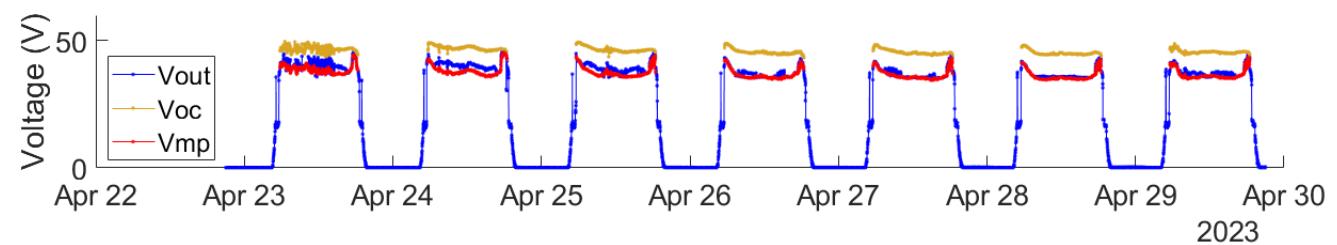
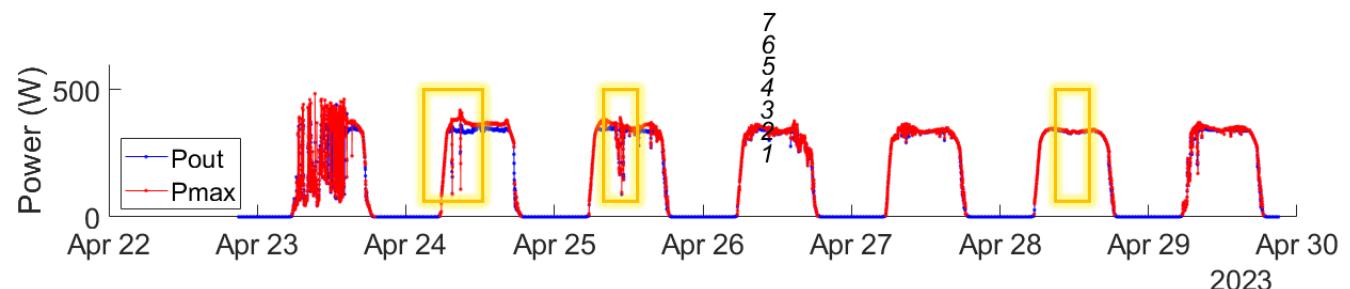
RDE300*i*

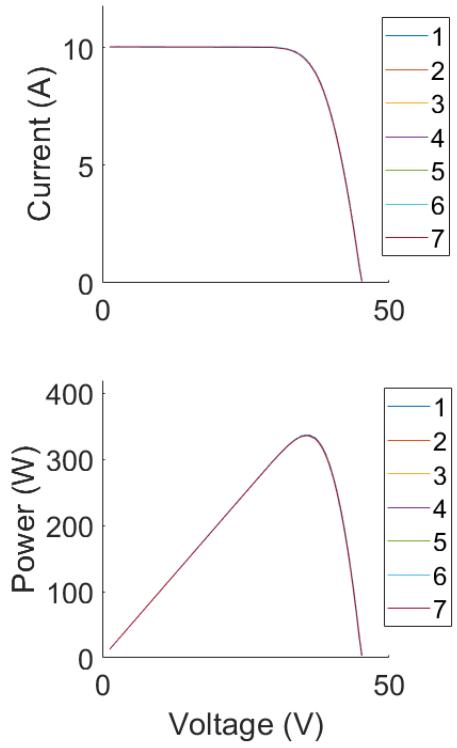
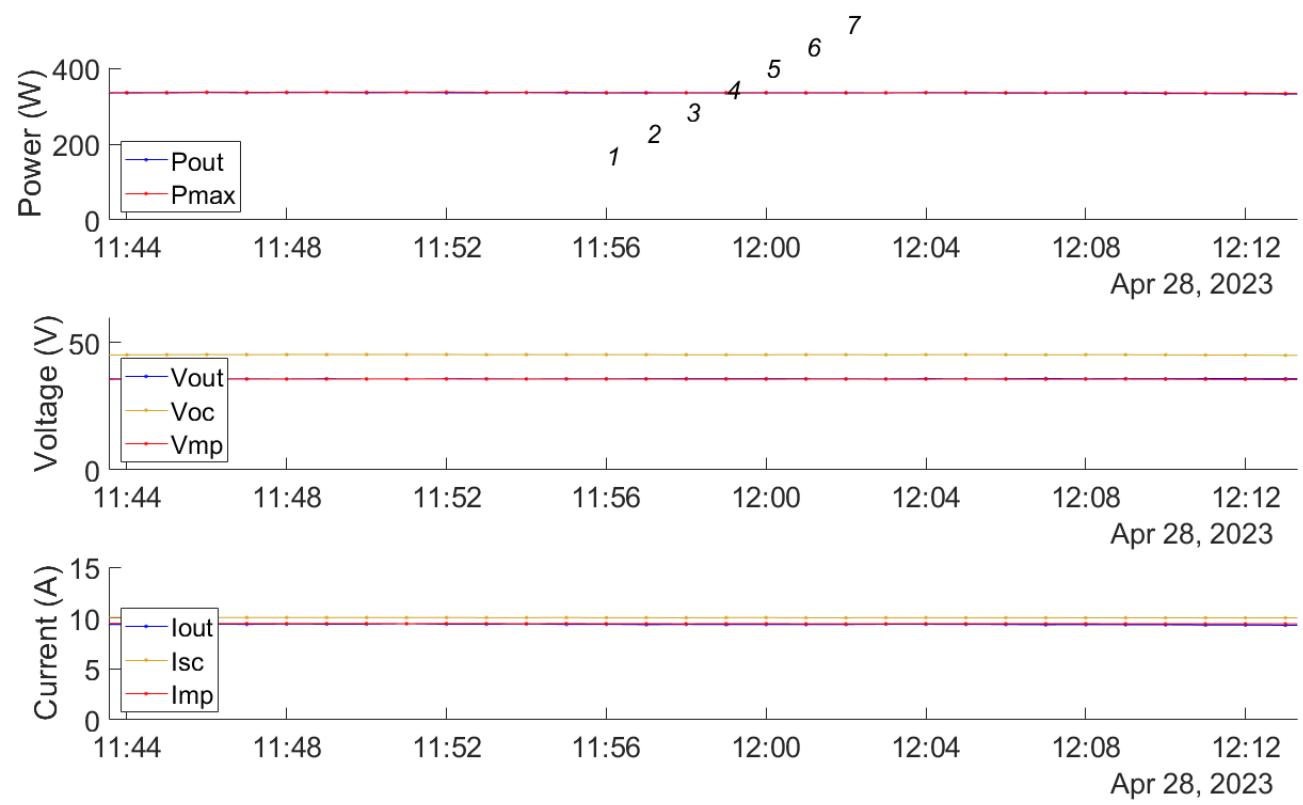
IV

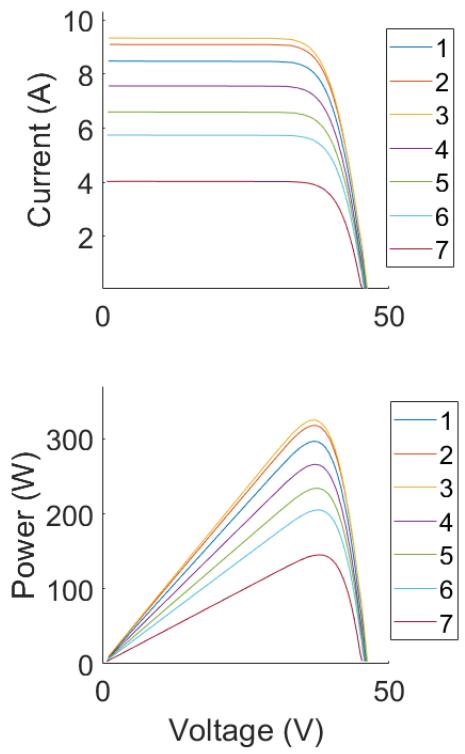
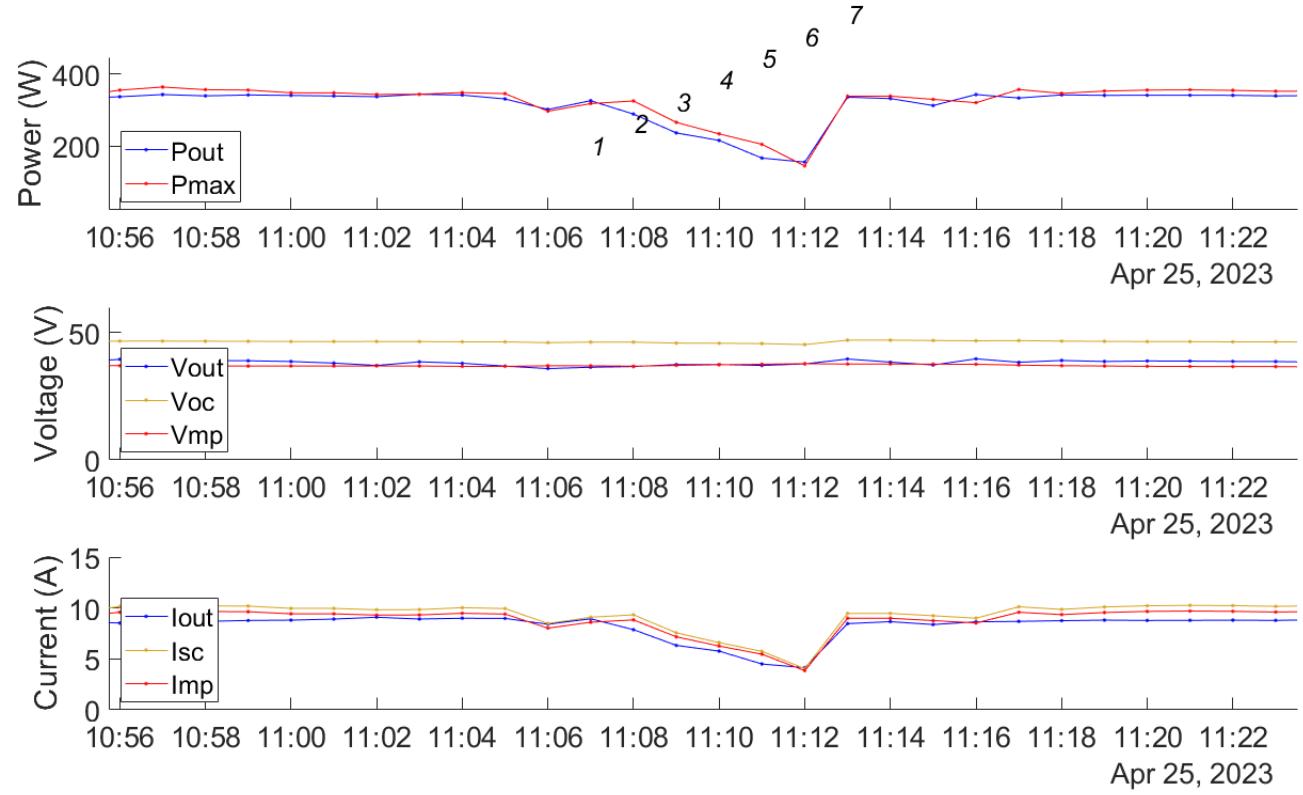
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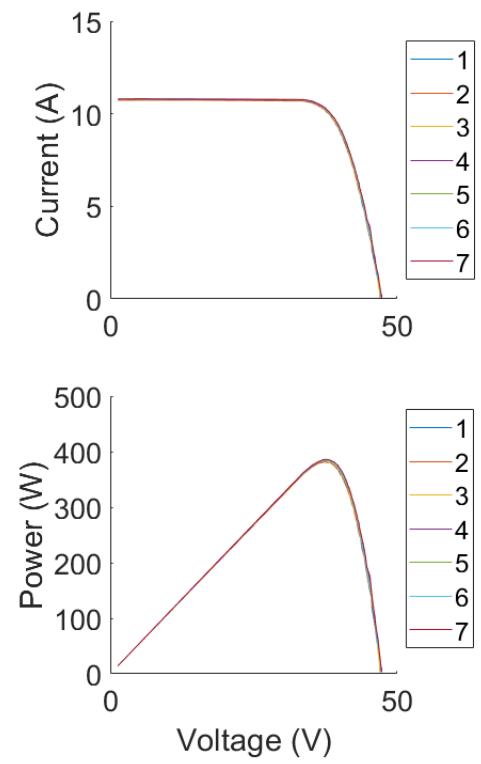
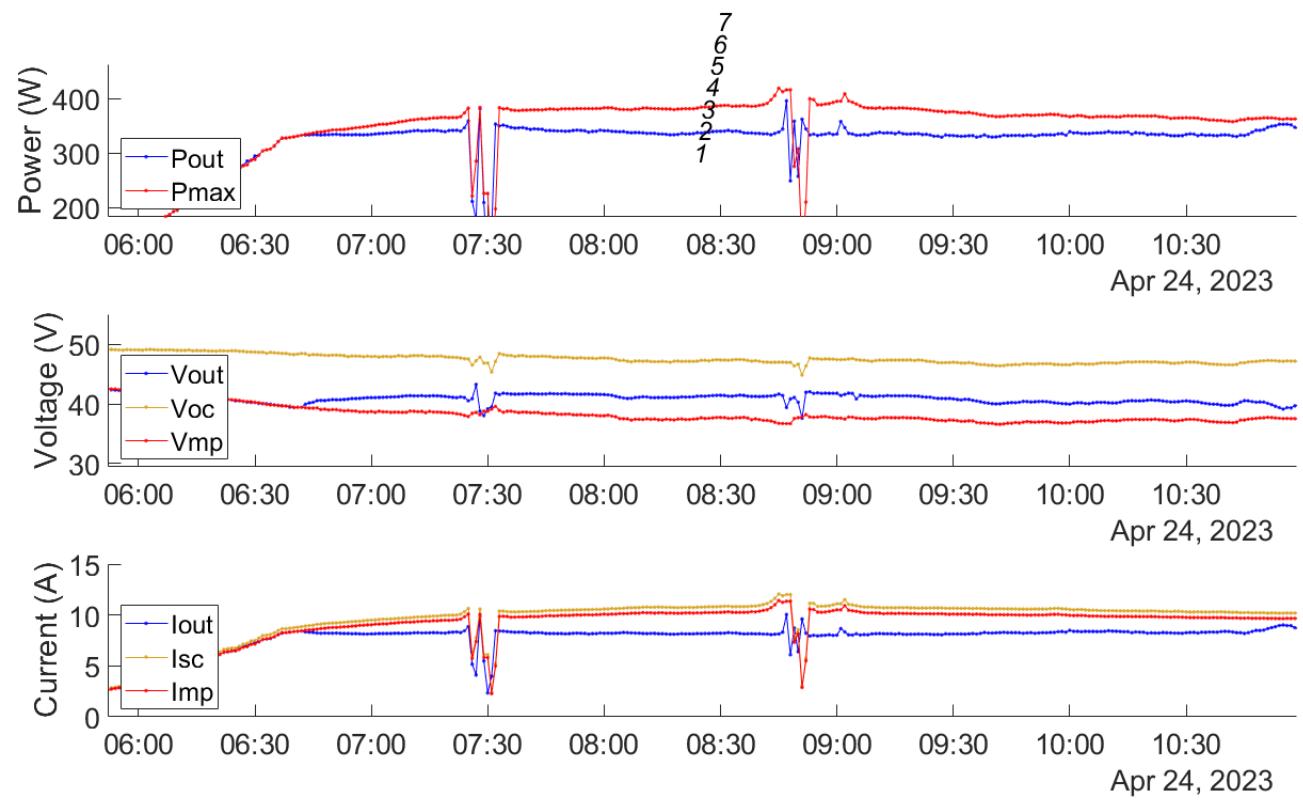
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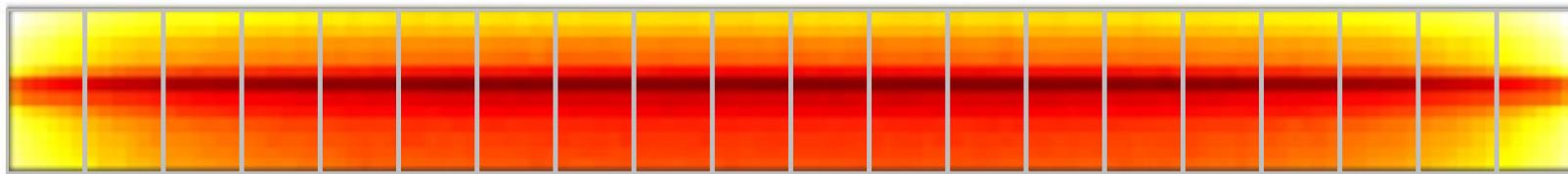




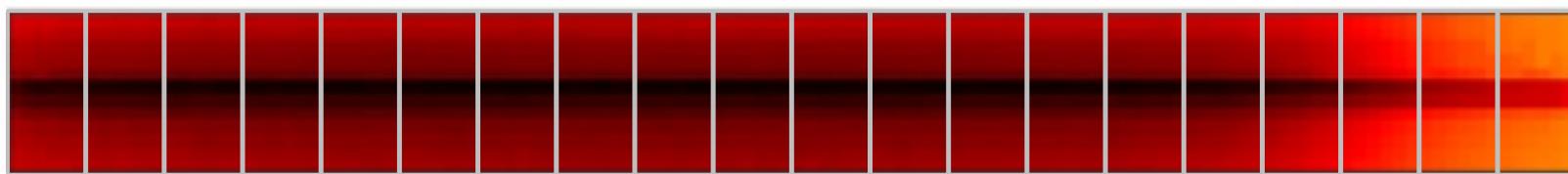
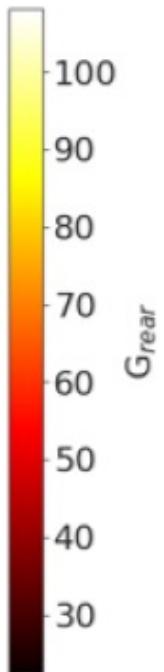
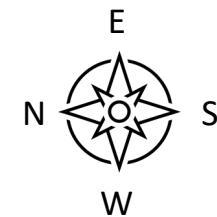


# Bifacial irradiance





June 1<sup>st</sup>, 9 AM

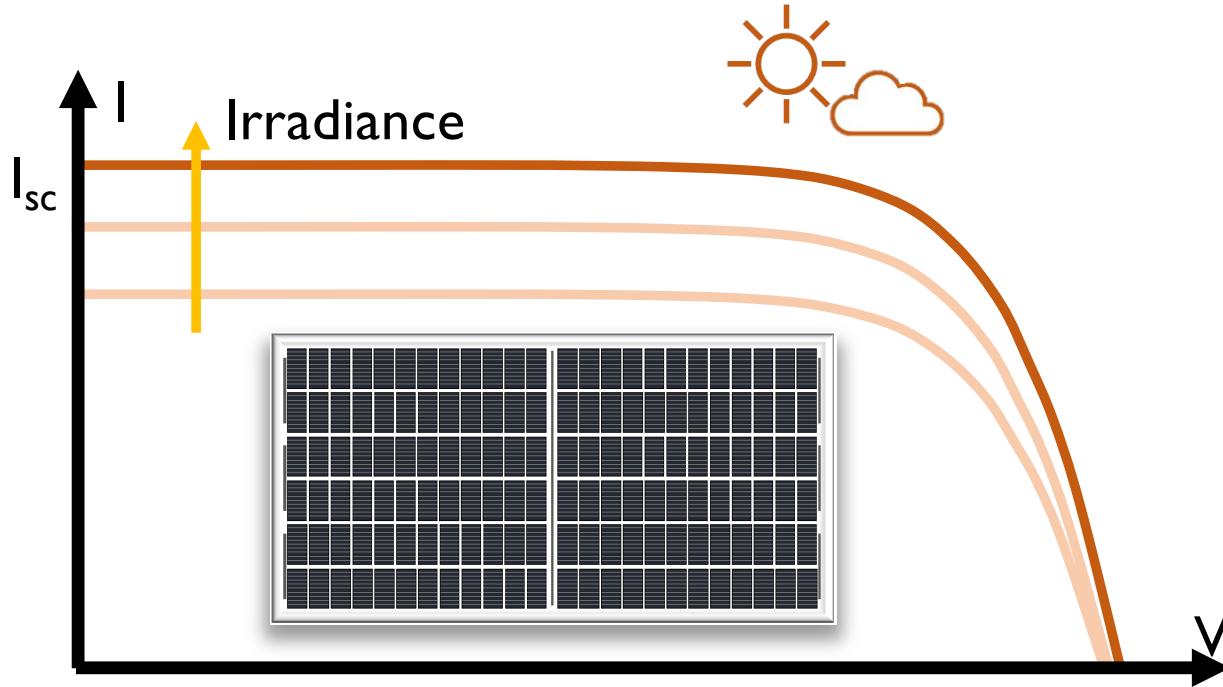


January 1<sup>st</sup>, noon

Source: Gostein, Ayala Pelaez, Deline, Habte, Hansen, Marion, Newmiller, Sengupta, Stein, Suez, "**Measuring Irradiance for Bifacial PV Systems**," PVSC 2021

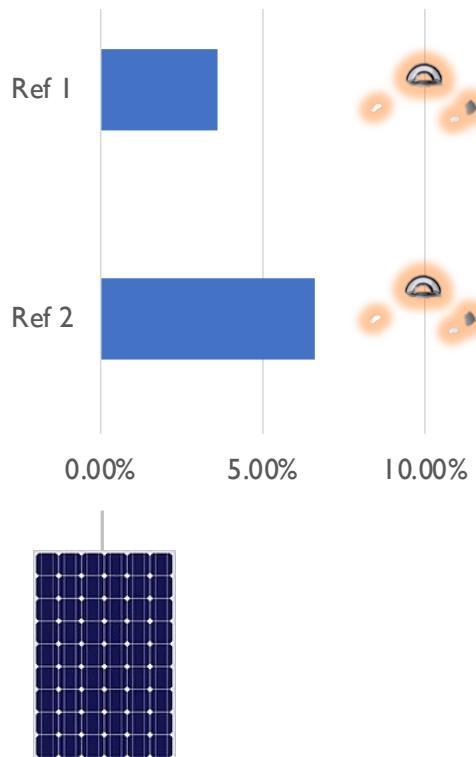


Reference: Gostein, Ayala Pelaez, Deline, Habte, Hansen, Marion, Newmiller, Sengupta, Stein, Suez, “**Measuring Irradiance for Bifacial PV Systems**,” PVSC 2021

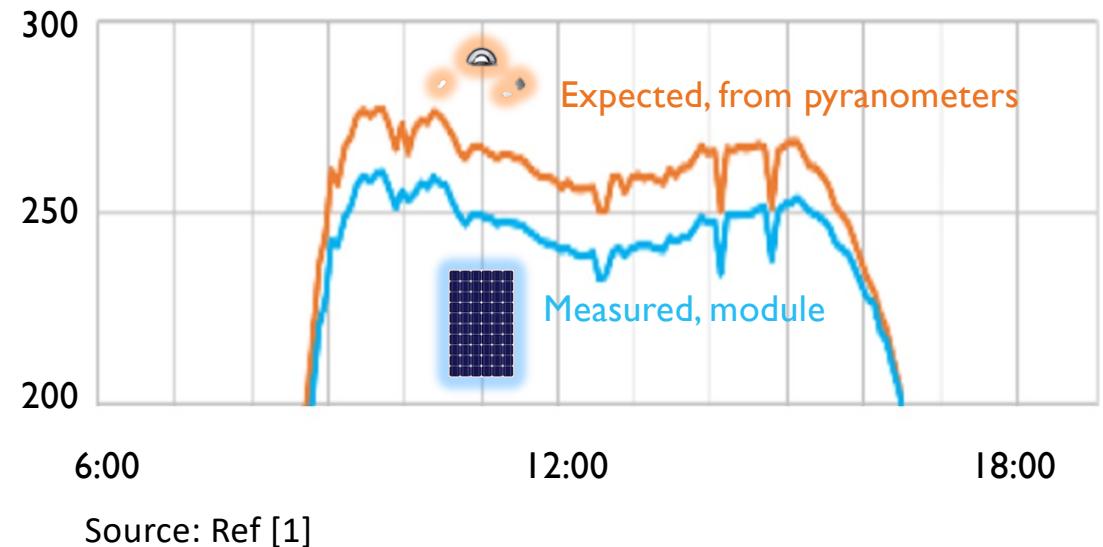


$$Irr = Irr_{ref} \cdot \frac{I_{sc} \cdot \left(1 - \alpha \cdot (T - T_{ref})\right)}{I_{sc\_ref}}$$

Total Irradiance Difference vs. Module



Power (W)



Ref [1]: Braid, Stein, King, Raupp, Mallineni, Robinson, Knapp, “**Effective irradiance monitoring using reference modules**,” PVSC 2021

Ref [2]: Riedel-Lyngskær, Bartholomäus, Vedde, Poulsen and Spataru, “**Measuring irradiance with bifacial reference panels**,” IEEE Journal of Photovoltaics, 2022

Ref [3]: Abe, Dias, Notton, Faggianelli, Pigelet, Ouvard, “**Estimation of the effective irradiance and bifacial gain for PV arrays using the maximum power current**,” IEEE Journal of Photovoltaics, 2023



Non-uniform irradiance:

1. Does module power follow average irradiance?
  
2. Does  $I_{sc}$  correlate with average irradiance?

An aerial photograph showing a massive solar farm. The panels are arranged in a grid pattern, covering a large portion of the image. The panels are dark, likely black or dark blue, and are set against a lighter green background of surrounding fields. The perspective is from above, looking down at the extensive array of solar panels.

Real-time  
plant  
prediction

# PV plant providing grid ancillary services in Chile

Chile's National Electric Coordinator has granted approval for a new First Solar PV project to supply auxiliary grid services on a commercial basis. The installation has performed better than gas turbine technologies.

AUGUST 21, 2020 **PILAR SÁNCHEZ MOLINA**

GRIDS & INTEGRATION UTILITY SCALE PV CHILE



The Luz del Norte solar plant in Chile

*Image: SMA / First Solar*

 NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY



**Demonstration of Essential Reliability Services by a 300-MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant**

Clyde Loutan, Peter Klauer, Sirajul Chowdhury, and Stephen Hall  
*California Independent System Operator*

Mahesh Morjaria, Vladimir Chadliev, Nick Milam, and Christopher Milan  
*First Solar*

Vahan Gevorgian  
*National Renewable Energy Laboratory*

## Flow Power claims Australian first at new smart solar farm

Renewable energy retailer Flow Power claims that the integrated technology behind a new "smart" solar farm in the town of Berri, South Australia, is the first of its kind to be switched on in Australia.

APRIL 6, 2023 **DAVID CARROLL**

TECHNOLOGY AND R&D UTILITY SCALE PV AUSTRALIA



## Two groups challenge grid operator rules that restrict renewable energy

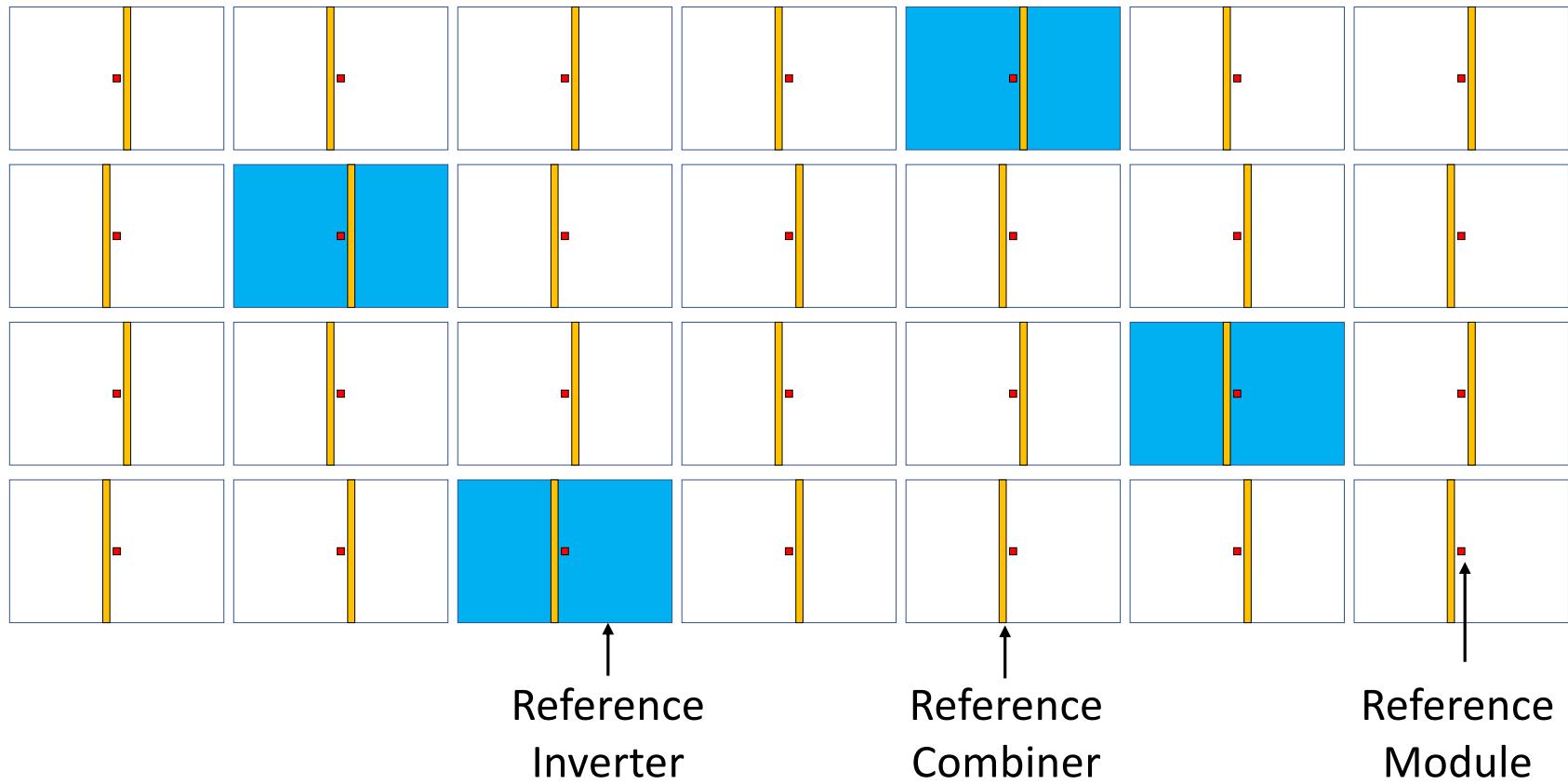
Earthjustice filed a complaint with FERC on behalf of SEIA that challenges a MISO rule that prohibits renewable energy resources from providing ancillary services.

FEBRUARY 1, 2023 **ANNE FISCHER**

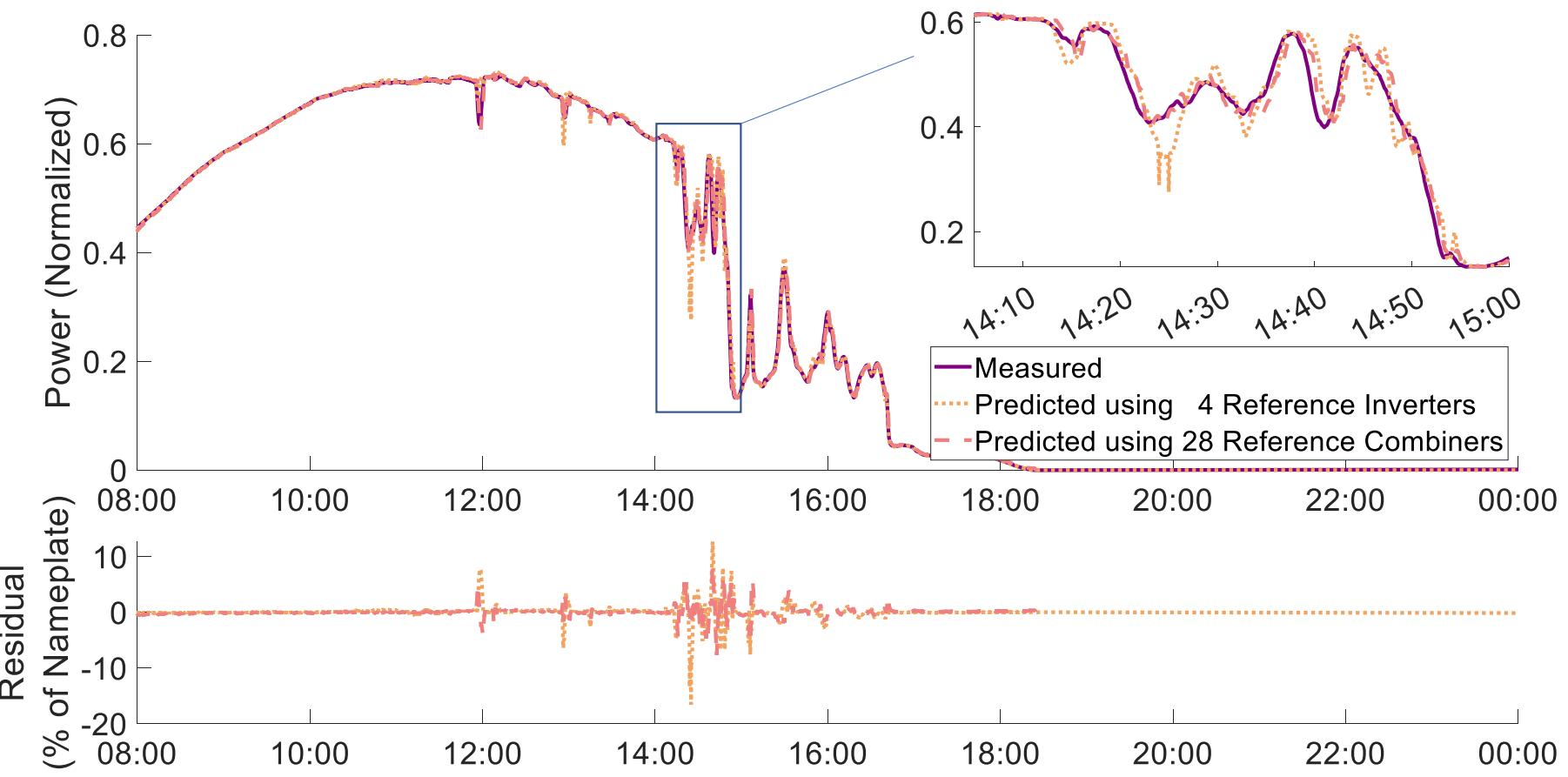
MARKETS MARKETS & POLICY POLICY UNITED STATES



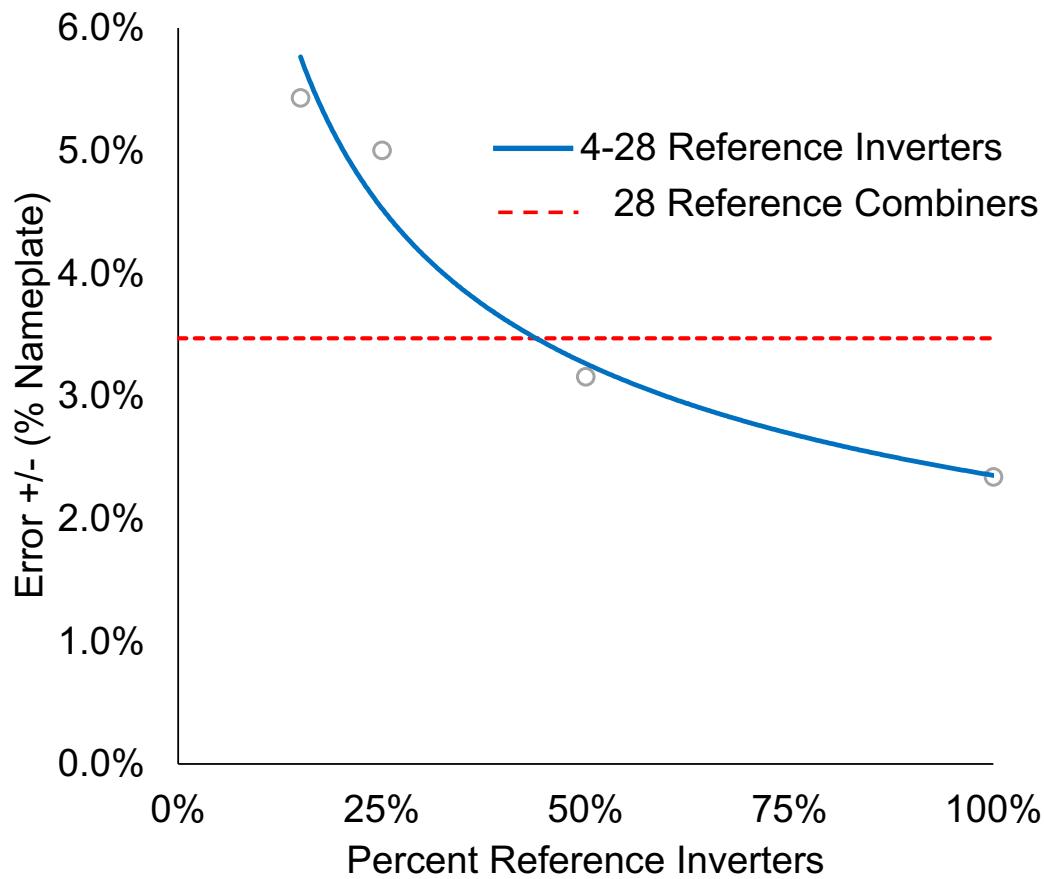




In progress: Hobbs, Gostein, PVSC 2023



In progress: Hobbs, Gostein, PVSC 2023



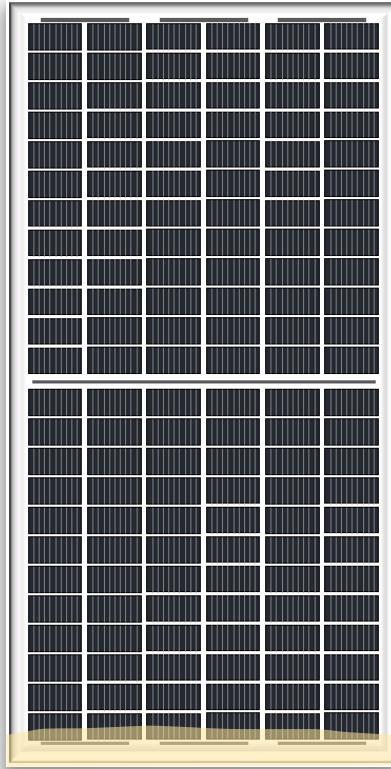
In progress: Hobbs, Gostein, PVSC 2023



In progress: Hobbs, Gostein, PVSC 2023



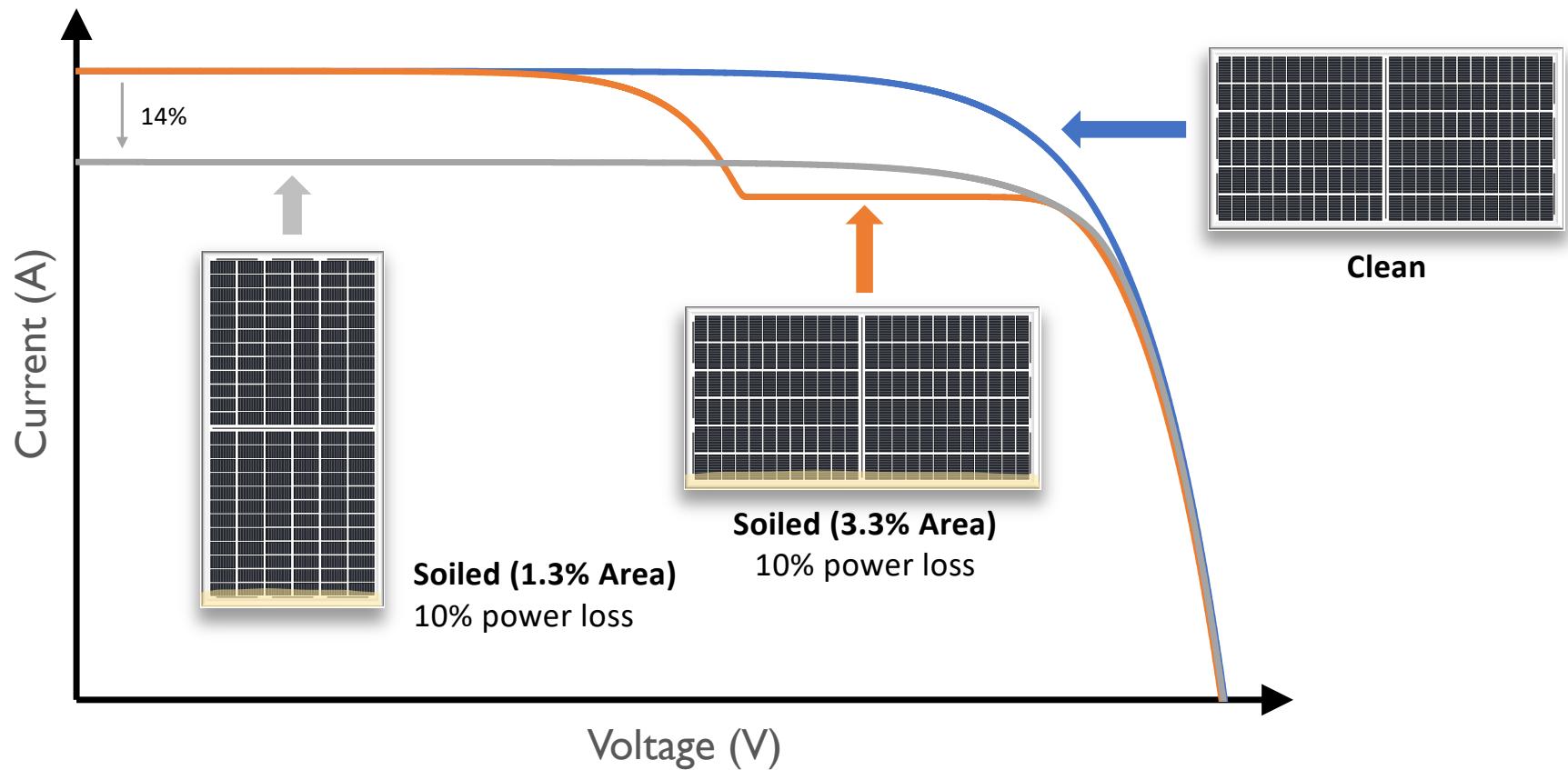
Soiling



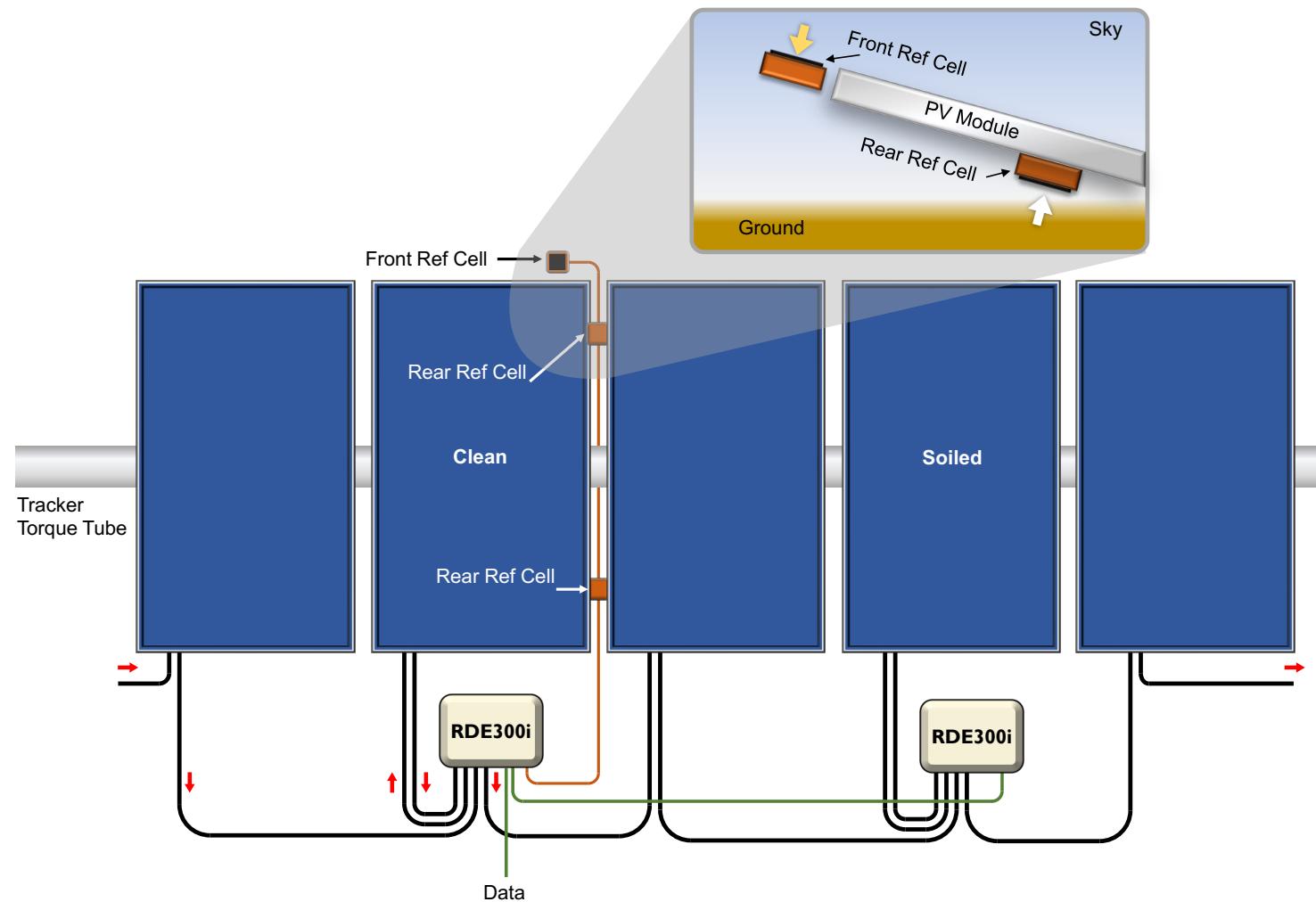
**Soiled**  
**(1.3% of Active Area)**

**Power Loss = ?**

- A 0%
- B 1.3%
- C 10%









In progress: Gostein, Marquis, Bila, Campbell, "Soiling and Irradiance Measurements in Bifacial PV Systems Using In-Situ I-V," PVSC 2023

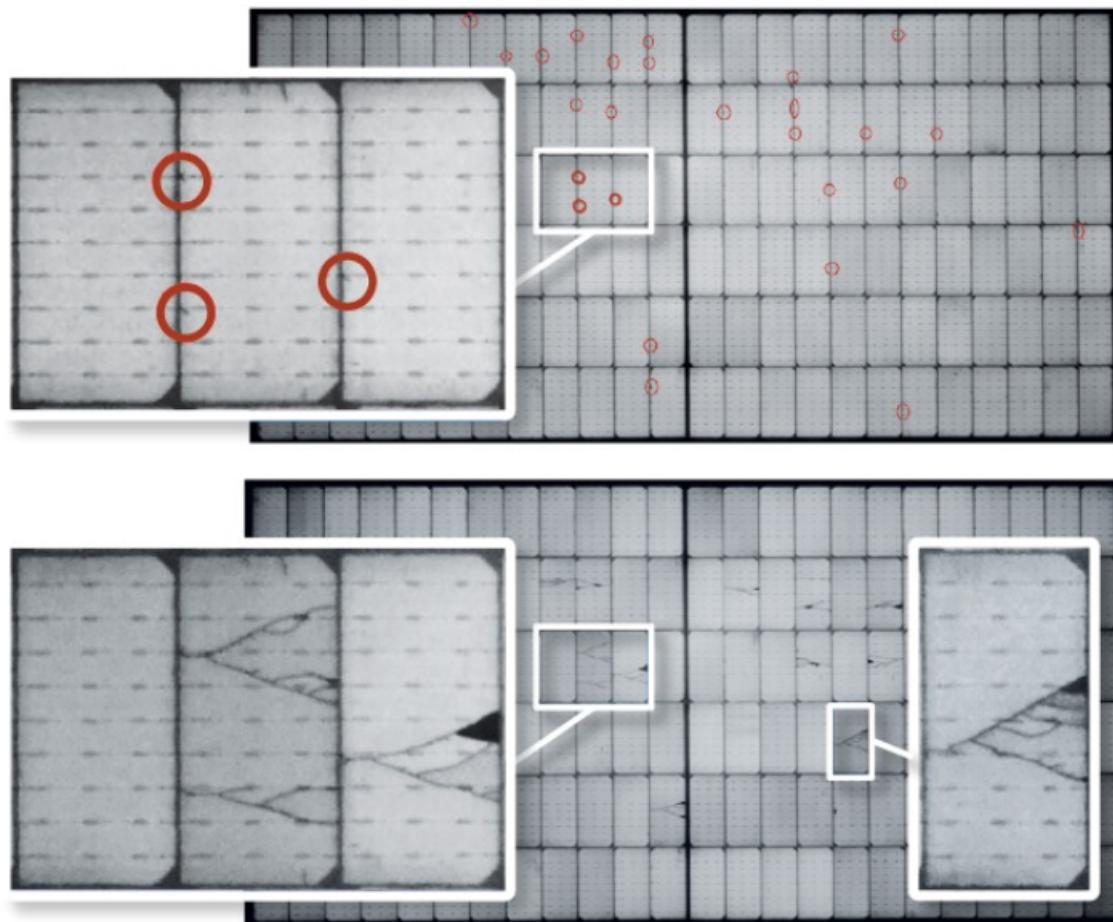
# Degradation



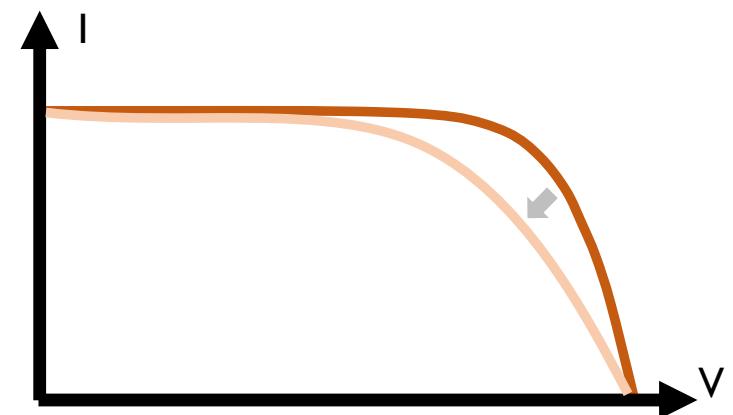
# Bigger modules, bigger headaches?

APRIL 6, 2023

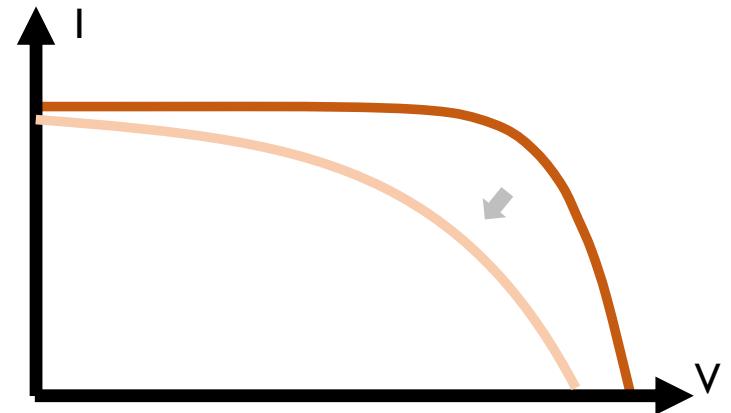
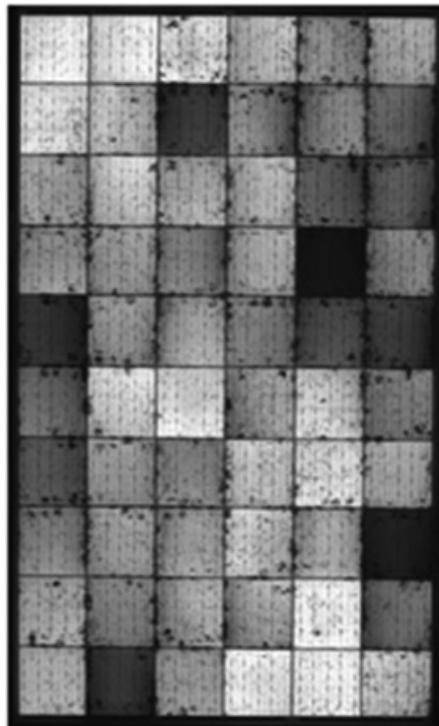
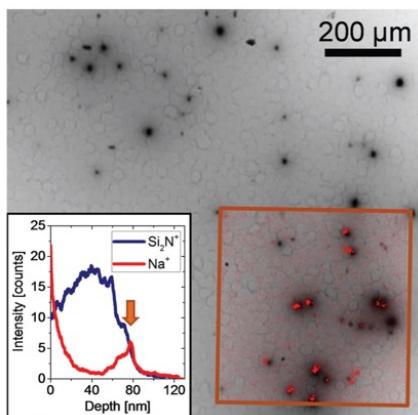
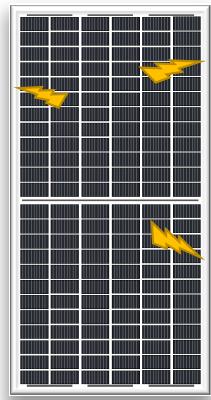
pv magazine



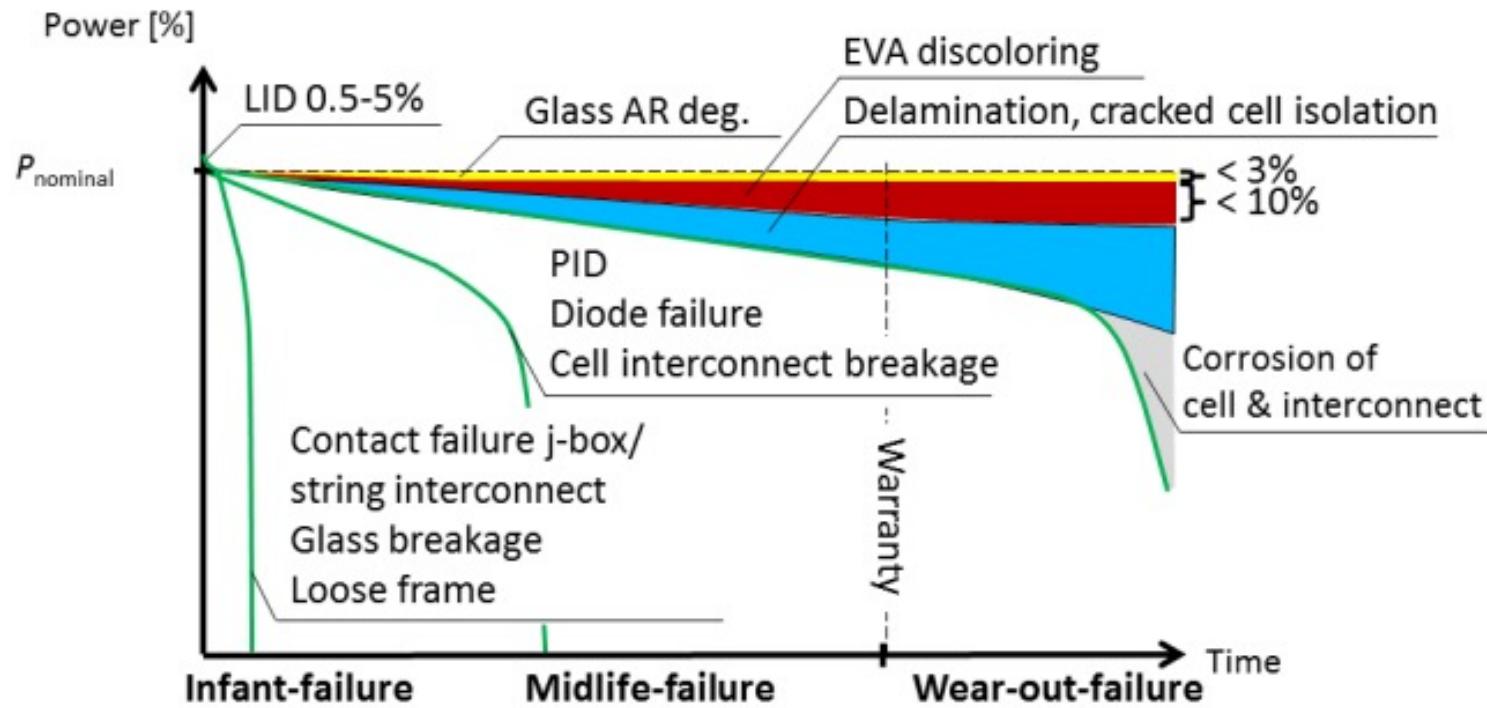
Cracks



PID



Ref. [1]: Luo et al, “Potential-induced degradation in photovoltaic modules: a critical review,” Energy Environ. Sci., 2017  
Ref. [2]: Schütze et al., “Laboratory study of potential induced degradation of silicon photovoltaic modules,” PVSC, 2011

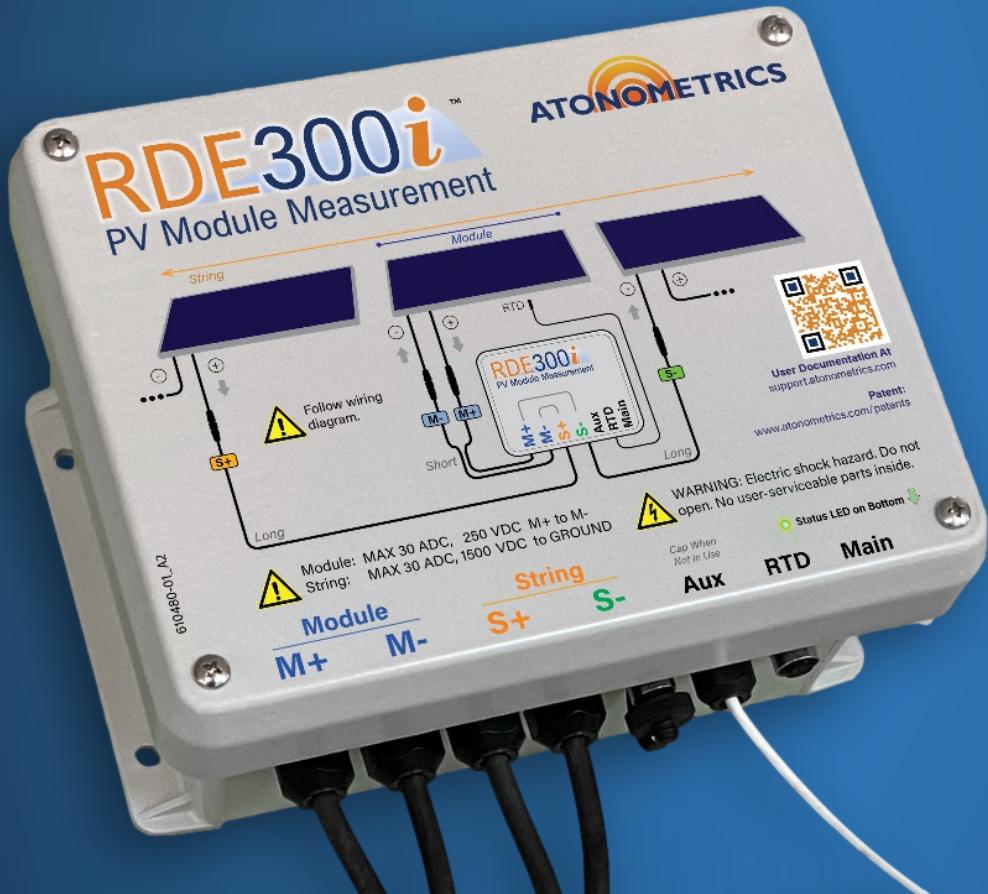


IEA-PVPS T13-01 2014 Review of Failures of Photovoltaic Modules



**“Mahindra Susten Launches India’s First Mobile PV Testing Lab,”** PR Newsire, October 2017

# Capabilities



## Fast

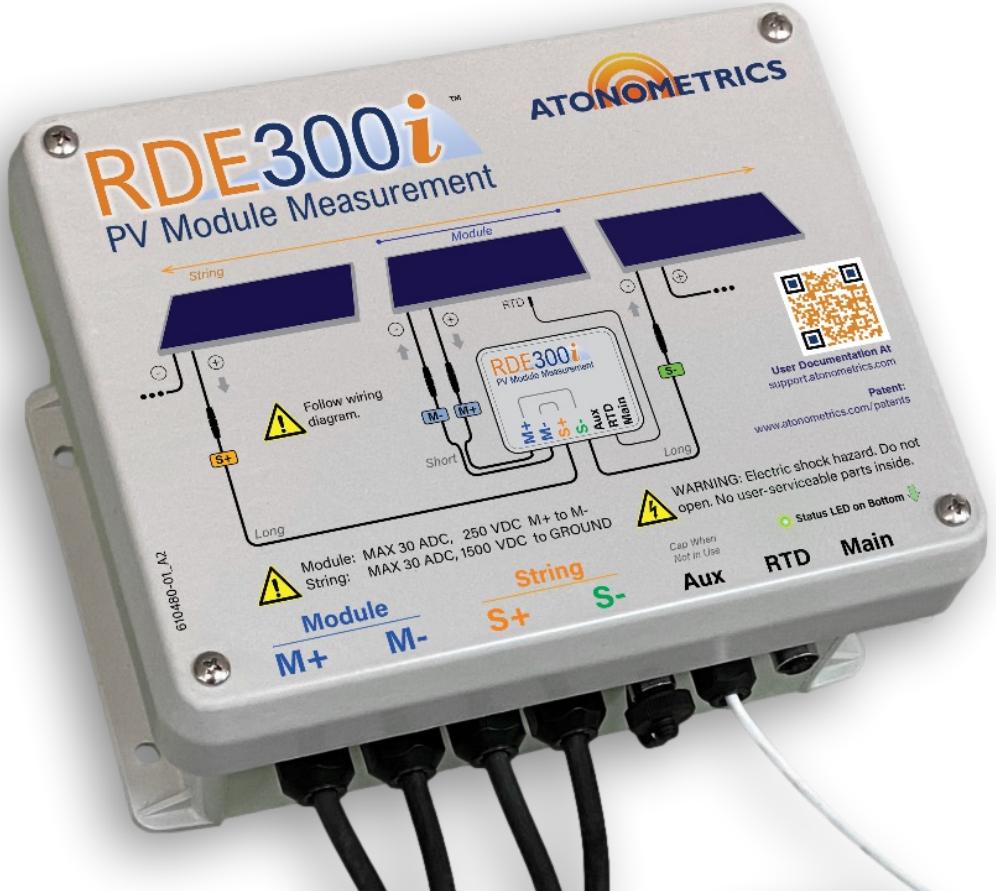
- Update every 2-60 seconds

## Wide Input

- 30 A, 250 V, 1500 W

## Networked

- Automatic multi-unit soiling calcs



# Summary



## Some applications of in-situ IV measurements:

