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Webinar IV – Towards more sustainable and efficient SPWS

**Increasing efficiency of solar water
pumping schemes**

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www.cursofotovoltaica.com

<https://thesolarhub.org/>

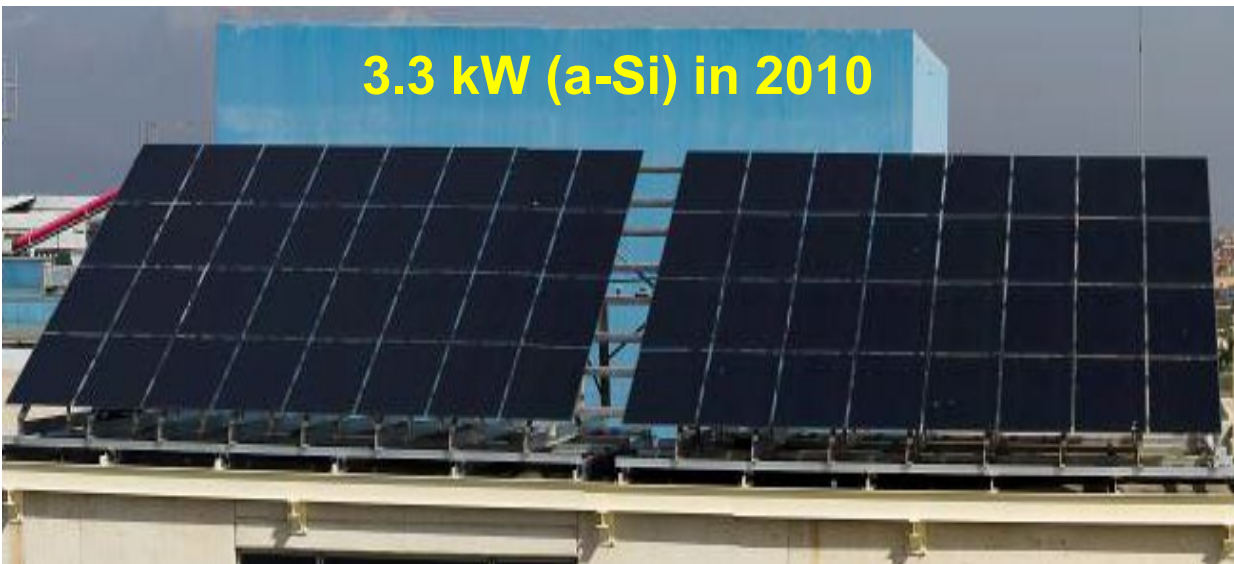


Our experience in PV systems:

➤ R&D.

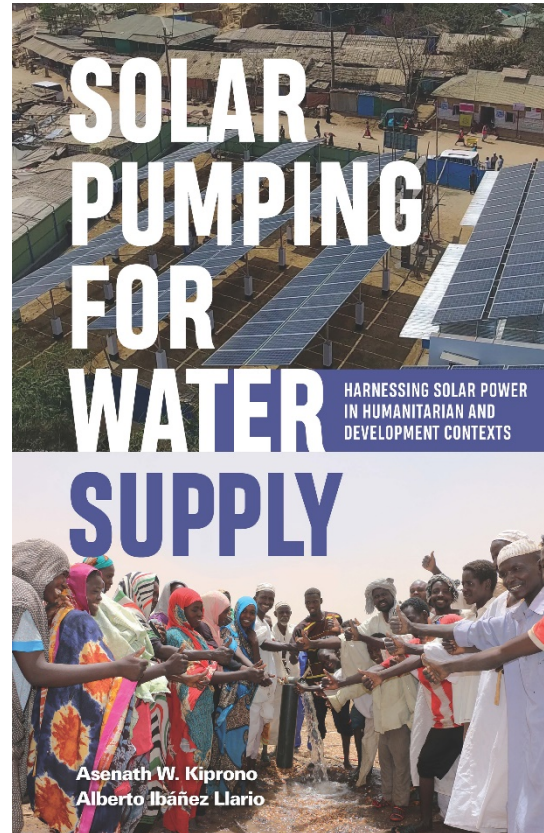
➤ Training:

- Face-to-face since 2000.
- On-line since 2010.



Knowledge sharing and collaborations:

- online course on solar pumping:
<https://www.cursorfotovoltaica.com/solar-powered-water-systems/>
- online course on PV systems:
<https://www.cursorfotovoltaica.com/introduction-to-photovoltaic/>
- free e-version of the book Solar Pumping for Water Supply - Harnessing solar power in humanitarian and development contexts:
<https://thesolarhub.org/resources/solar-pumping-for-water-supply-harnessing-the-power-of-the-sun/>

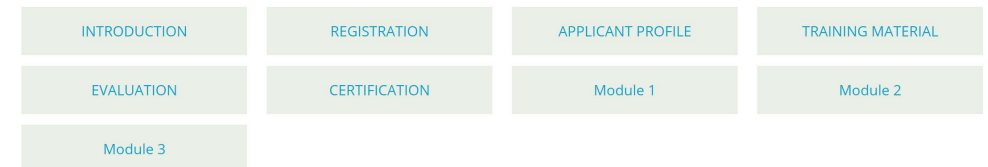


Course – SOLAR POWERED WATER SYSTEMS

Main features

- Language of instruction: English
- The teaching-learning process is carried out using videos recorded at the UPV and a e-book containing all the subjects, topics, graphics contained in the videos. Additionally, a number of documents, made-for-purpose solar pumping tools and Excel sheets are provided for different modules.
- The course is an in-depth look at the planning, design, installation, testing, operation and maintenance of solar powered water systems ([Download the course programme here](#)).

Course – INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEMS

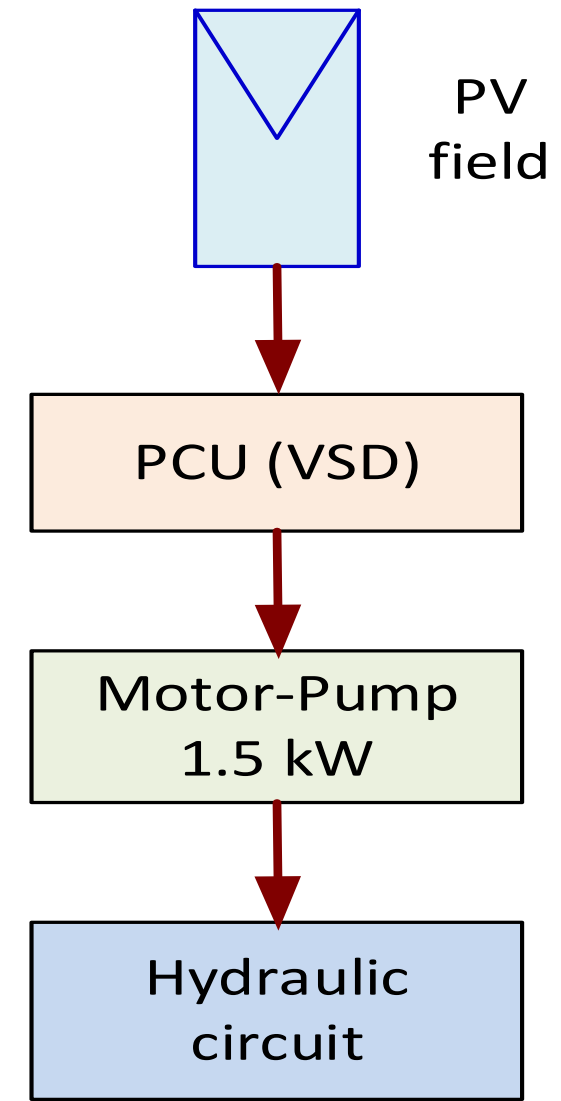


Main features

- Introduction to photovoltaic power system applications.
- The teaching-learning process is carried out using notes (in pdf) and videos recorded at the UPV. Some of the videos discuss the contents of the various course units (>15 hours of recordings). Other videos are recorded by engineers of companies in the photovoltaic sector and discuss specific topics (>15 hours of recordings)
- **The course is online (self-paced training)** with asynchronous tutorials and examinations (continuous evaluation) on the online UPV training platform.
- Introductory course of 6 ECTS (equivalent to a 60-hour face-to-face course) divided into three blocks:

Index :

- Factors influencing solar energy production.
- Estimation of losses due to different factors.
 - Losses related with the PV module.
 - Losses related with the temperature.
 - Losses related to the balance of system (BOS).
- Energy losses and efficiencies in a solar water pumping schemes (PVWPS): facility in the UPV.



Calculation of the energy generated by a PVWPS system:

$$E_{PV} = P_{PV_pk} \cdot PSH \cdot PR_{PV} \cdot n_{days} \quad (kWh/*)$$

$$E_h = P_{PV_pk} \cdot PSH \cdot PR_{PVWPS} \cdot n_{days} \quad (kWh/*)$$

If $E_h \uparrow$, more water is produced

- P_{PK} is the **peak power of the photovoltaic generator**.
- **PSH**: equivalent number of hours per day when solar irradiance (G) averages G_{STC} (1000 W/m^2). Depend on tilt and orientation of the PV field.
- **PR** is the **Performance Ratio** of the PV installation, independent of the irradiation received or the installed power. It represents the power losses in a PV or in a PVWPS system.
- n_{days} is the **number of days** used to carry out the calculation.

$$PR = PR_{temp} \cdot PR_{tilt} \cdot PR_{ori} \cdot PR_{shadings} \cdot PR_{dirtytness} \cdot PR_{mismatch} \cdot \dots$$

Losses in PV systems:

Page 50 in “Pumping for Water Supply - Harnessing solar power in humanitarian and development contexts”

Table 4.1 Table of estimated losses as a percentage of total energy produced

<i>Losses due to</i>	<i>Estimated losses (as % of total energy produced)</i>	<i>Losses due to</i>	<i>Estimated losses (as % of total energy produced)</i>
Module temperature	8–15%	Tolerance	0–5%
Wiring	1–3%	Mismatching ¹	1–2%
Soiling ² (dust, dirt on modules)	2–15%	Low irradiance	1–4%
Shading ³	0–2%	Light-induced degradation	3–20%
Reflectance	2–6%	Power converter	1–5%
Module orientation	0–2%	Availability	1–3%

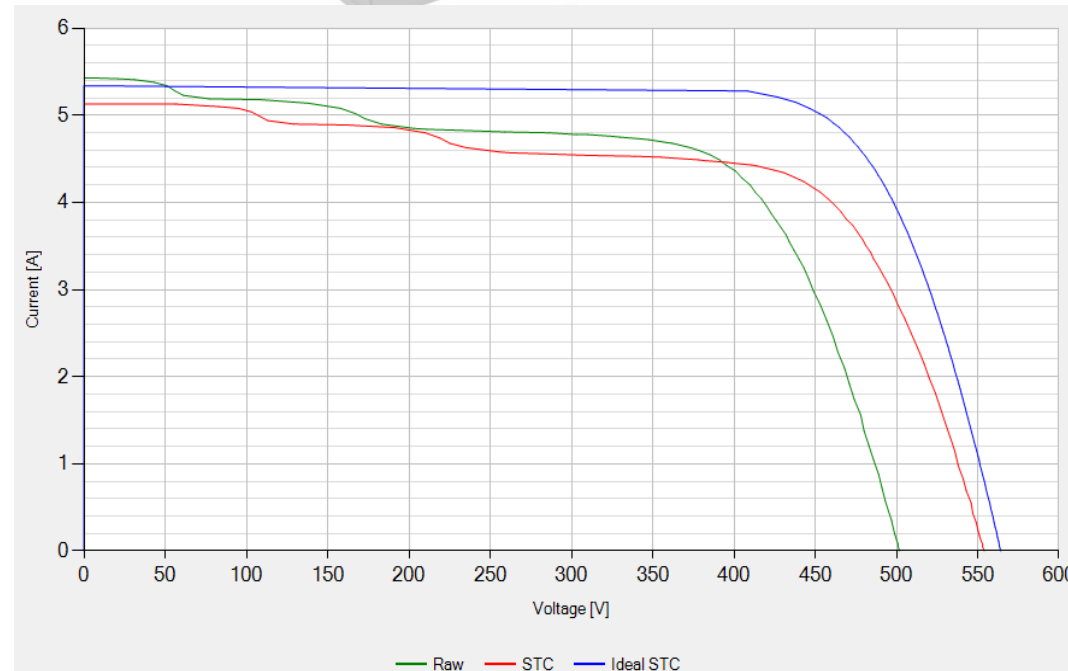
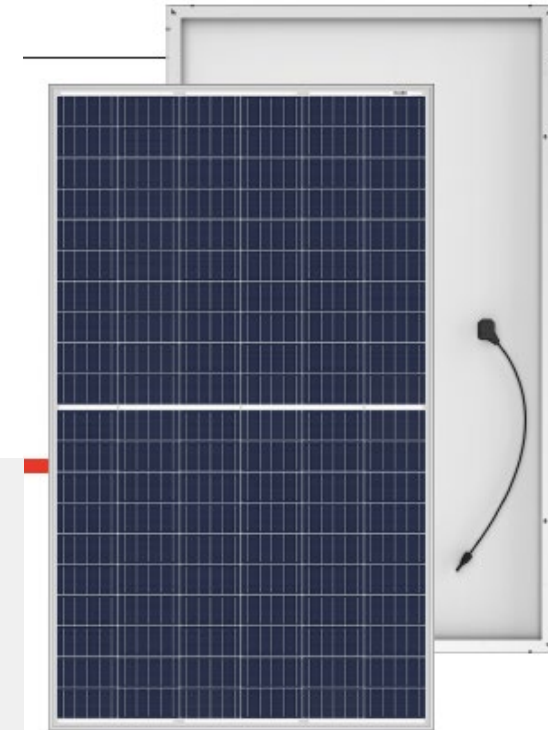
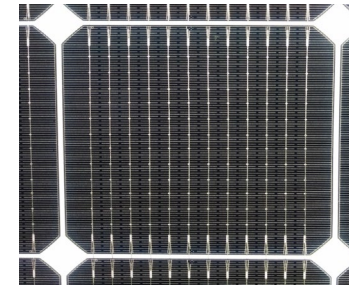
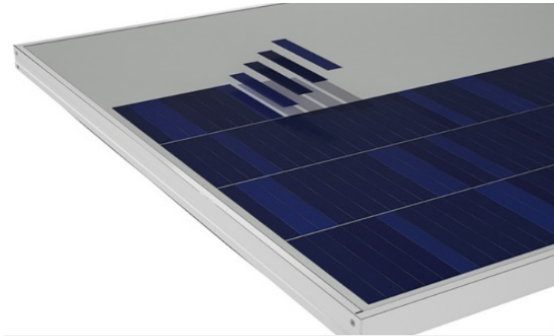
¹ Can be much higher if PV modules of different power ratings are connected

² Can be much higher in dusty environments if modules are not cleaned regularly

³ Can be higher if modules are regularly shadowed

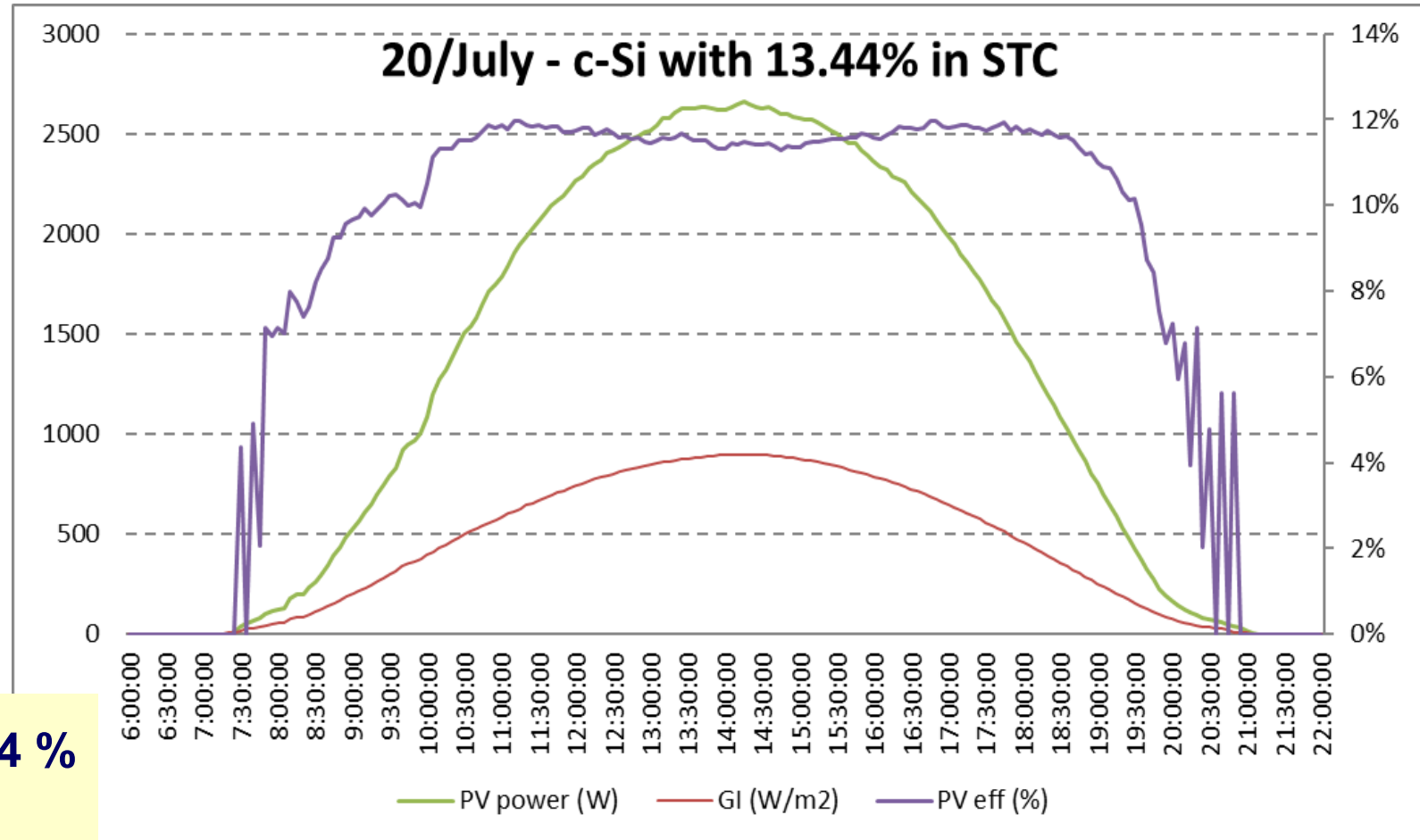
Losses related with the PV module:

- Cell temperature.
- **Power tolerance.**
- **Low irradiance efficiency.**
- **Mismatch.**
- **Module quality.**
- **Light induced degradation, ageing and other degradation factors.**
- **Module mounting conditions, etc.**



Losses related with the PV module (in a PVWPS system):

- **Cell temperature.**
- **Power tolerance.**
- **Low irradiance efficiency.**
- **Mismatch.**
- **Module quality.**
- **Light induced degradation, ageing and other degradation factors.**
- **Module mounting conditions, etc.**



STC efficiency of the module: 13,44 %
Maximum efficiency: ≈ 12 %

Losses due to temperature (I):

1. Determine the average temperature of the cell (T_{cell}) from the ambient temperature (T_{amb}) using the average daytime temperature of the period under study:

$$T_{cell} = T_{amb} + (NOCT - 20) \cdot \frac{E}{800 \text{ W/m}^2}$$

2. Calculate the losses due to temperature (L_{tem}) using the **temperature coefficient of the power** (g in K^{-1}):

$$L_{tem} = |g(T_{PVcell} - 25)|$$

3. Determine the performance by temperature (PR_{tem}) using the temperature coefficient of power (g):

$$PR_{tem} = (1 - L_{tem}) = (1 - |g(T_{PVcell} - 25)|)$$

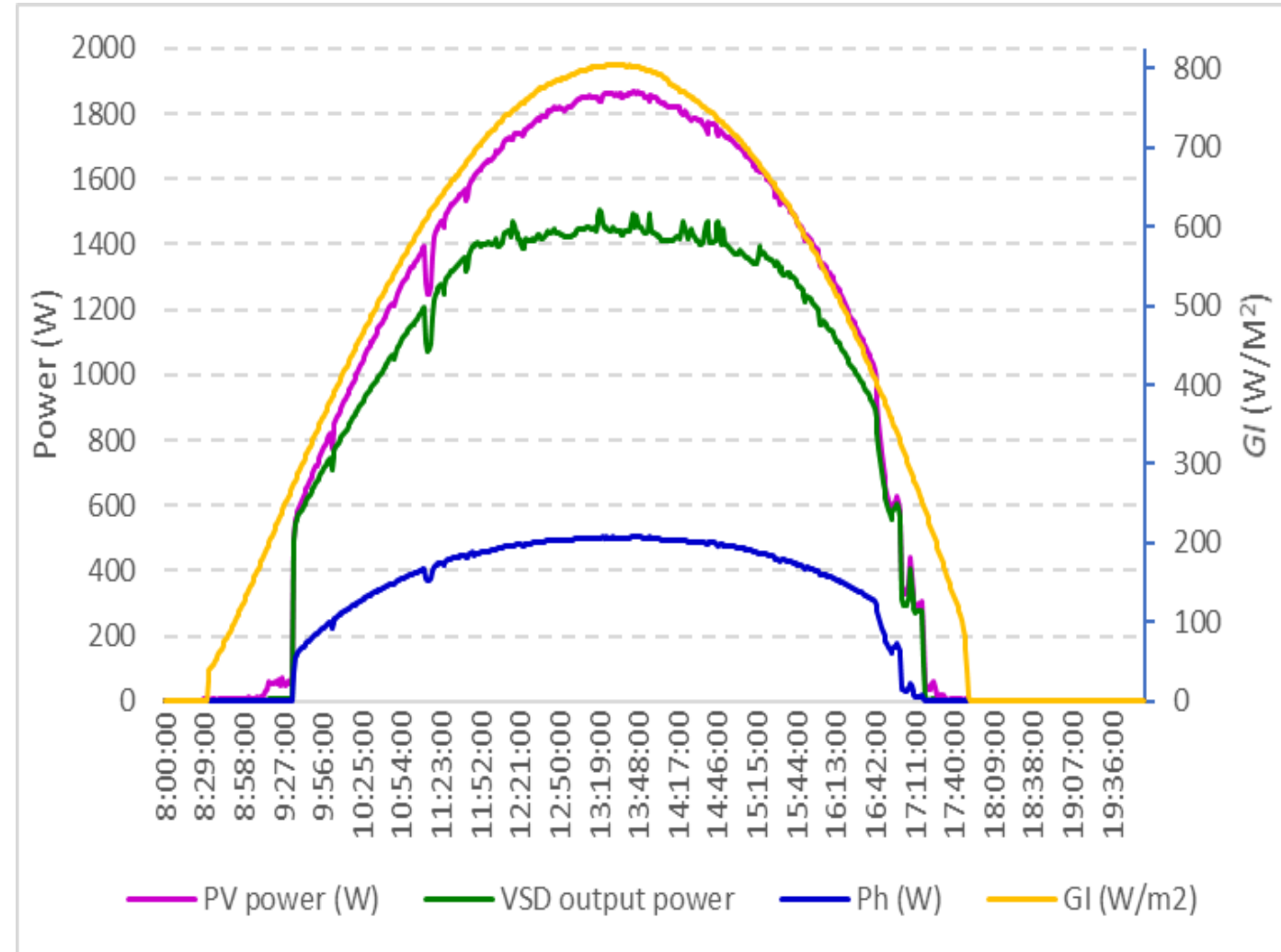
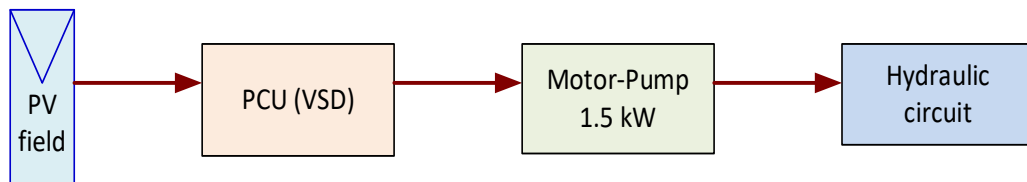
Table 4.2 NOCT, g , and efficiency factors for different PV module technologies

Technology	c-Si (silicon-based modules)		Thin-film technology			CISG	HIT
	s-Si (monocrystalline silicon)	p-Si (polycrystalline silicon)	a-Si/ μ c-Si (amorphous silicon)	CdTe (cadmium telluride)	CIS (copper indium selenide)		
NOTC ($^{\circ}C$)	41 (± 3)	41 (± 3)	45	45	47	42	44
g (%/K)	-0.37	-0.38	-0.35	-0.32	-0.33	-0.3	-0.26
Module efficiency (%)	20.4	17.6	9.8	10.6	15.1	16	20.3

Page 54 in "Pumping for Water Supply"

Losses related to the balance of system (BOS) (I):

- Voltage drops in the wiring.
- **Power converter efficiency.**
- **Errors in tracking the maximum power point (MPP).**
- Protections.
- Downtime periods for maintenance.
- Breakdowns or malfunctions.
- Power curtailment.



Losses related to the balance of system (BOS) (II):

- Voltage drops in the wiring.
- Power converter efficiency.
- Errors in tracking the maximum power point (MPP).
- Protections;
- Downtime periods for maintenance.
- Breakdowns or malfunctions.
- **Power curtailment (clipping)**

if $P_{PV} \gg P_{\text{motor-pump}}$

(excessive oversizing factor)



Wiring losses:

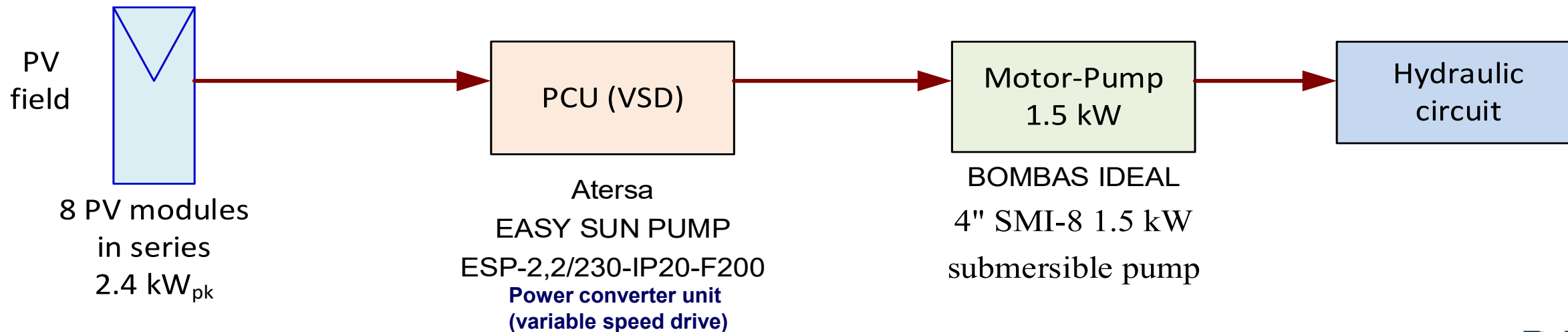
$$\Delta P_{wire} = \Delta V_{wire} \cdot I_{MPP} = R_{wire} \cdot I_{MPP}^2 = \rho \cdot \frac{l_{wire}}{S_{wire}} \cdot I_{MPP}^2 = \frac{1}{\gamma} \cdot \frac{l_{wire}}{S_{wire}} \cdot I^2$$

Temperature	20 °C	40 °C	50 °C	60 °C	70 °C	80 °C	90 °C
Resistivity (ρ) ($\Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2/\text{m}$)	0,01786	0,01926	0,01996	0,02066	0,02136	0,02206	0,02276
Conductivity (γ) ($\text{m}/\Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2$)	55,9910	51,9205	50,0994	48,4017	46,8153	45,3295	43,9352

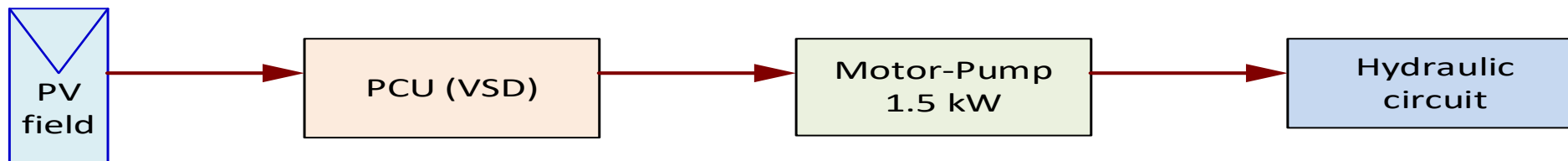
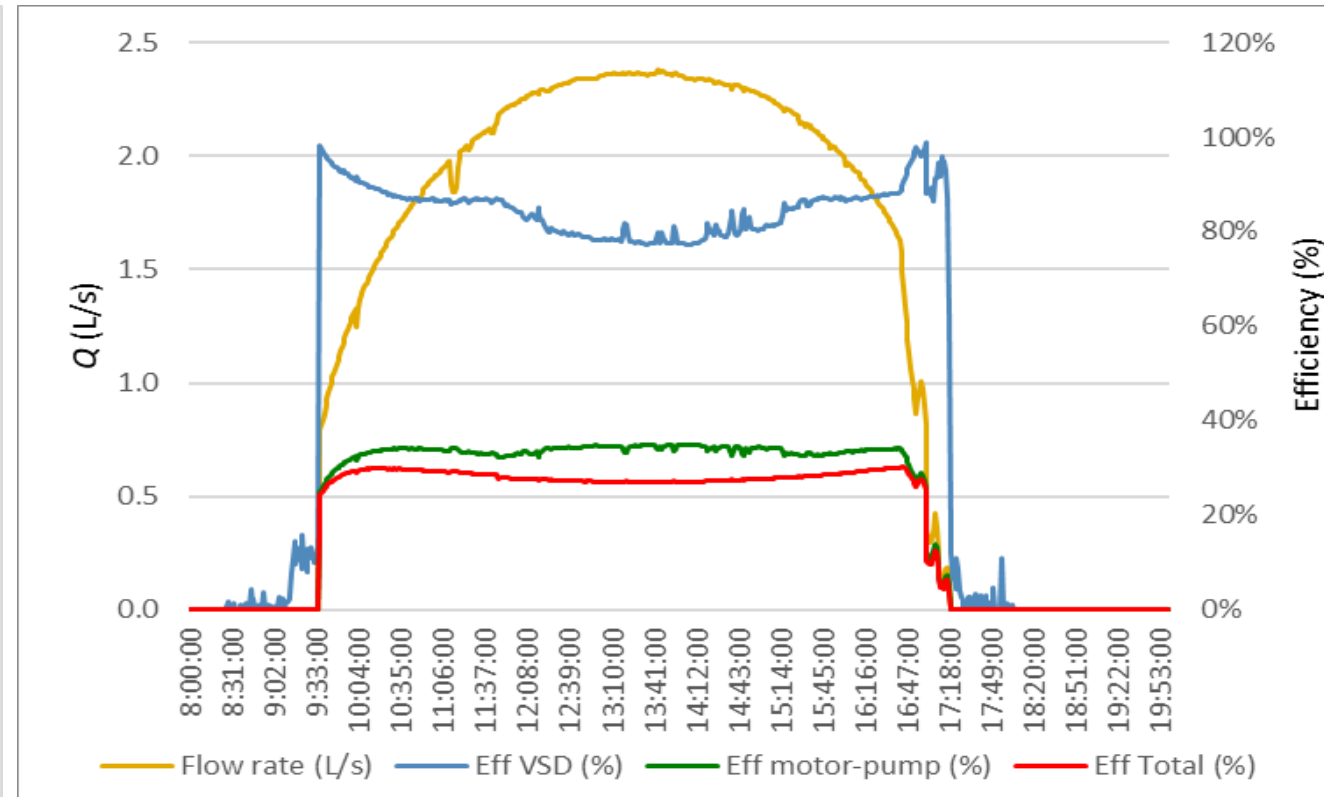
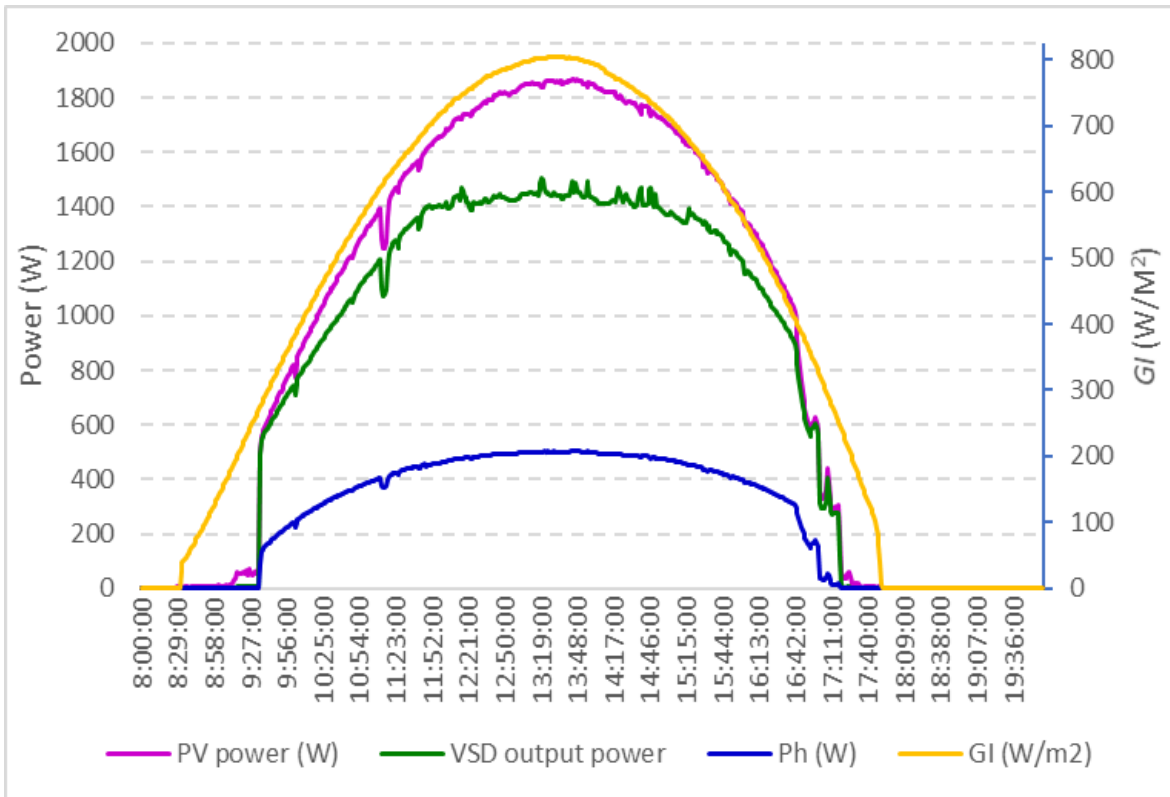
Design wires to obtain: $1 \% < L_{wires} < 3 \%$ (and ΔV in the same range)

PVWPS in the UPV:

2.4 kW (c-Si) in 2020



Efficiencies in the PVWPS facility (I):



Efficiencies in the PVWPS facility (II):

5.01 PSH

$V_d = 53.96 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$

$E_{PV} = 10.99 \text{ kWh/d}$

$E_{VSD_out} = 9.14 \text{ kWh/d}$

$E_h = 3.05 \text{ kWh/d}$

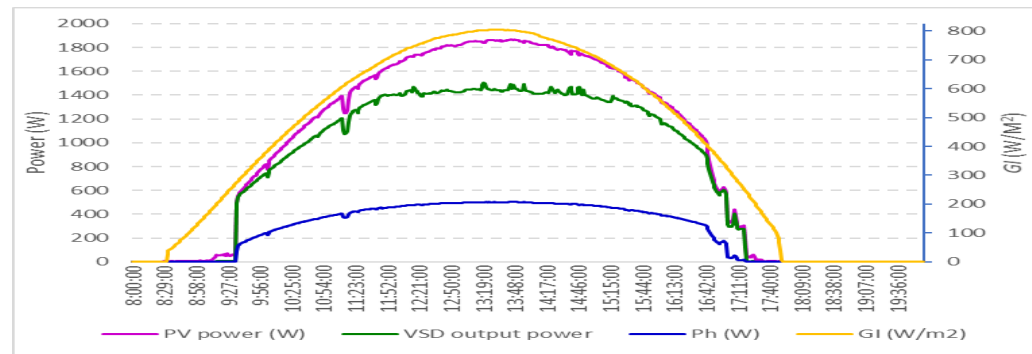
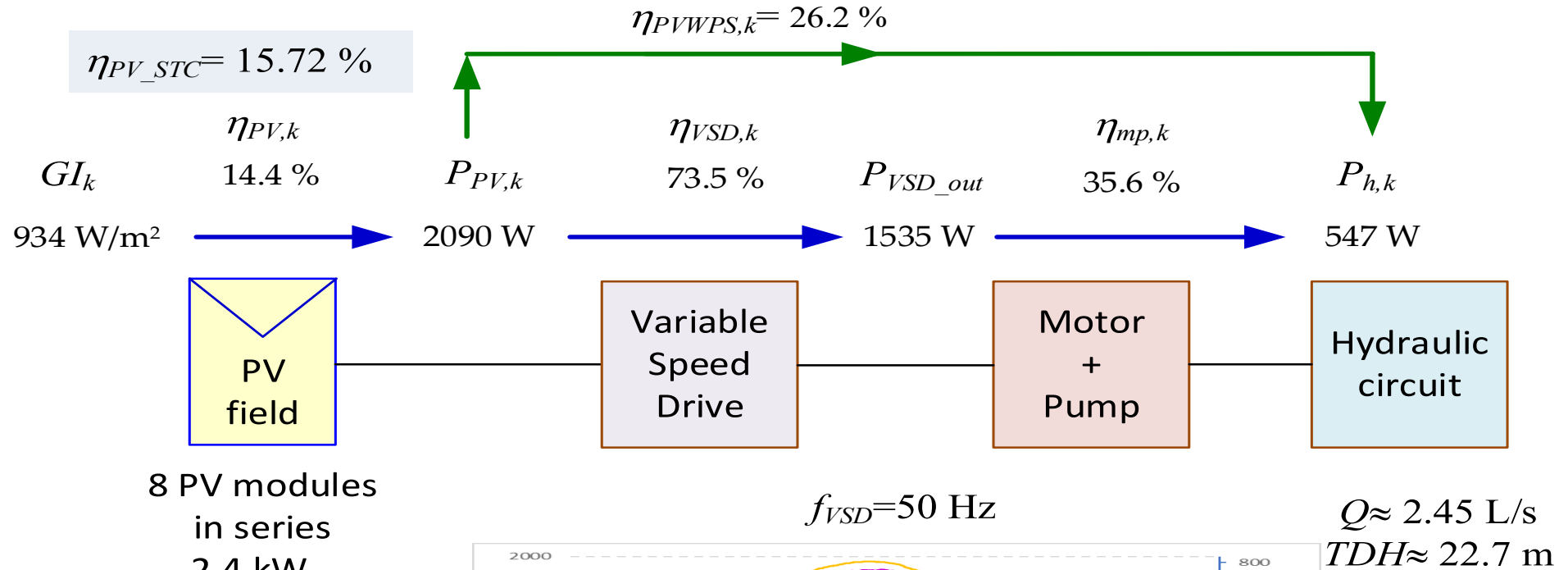
$PR_{PV} = 90 \%$

$PR_{VSD} = 83.1 \%$

$PR_{m-p} = 33.4 \%$

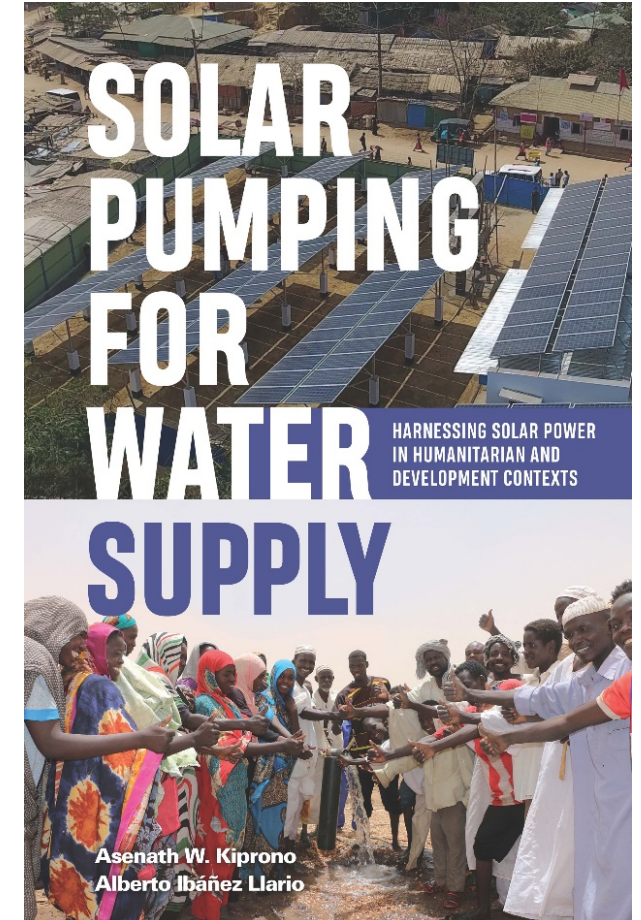
$PR_{PVWPS} \approx 25 \%$

$$E_h = P_{PV_pk} \cdot PSH \cdot PR_{PVWPS}$$



Conclusions:

- More information in the book *Solar Pumping for Water Supply - Harnessing solar power in humanitarian and development contexts*: <https://thesolarhub.org/resources/solar-pumping-for-water-supply-harnessing-the-power-of-the-sun/>
- Loss factors that cannot be avoided: temperature, ageing, converter efficiency, etc.
- Loss factors that can be minimized: wiring, shadows, dirtiness, etc.
- Loss factors that sometimes are forgotten: ageing, tolerances, etc.
- Cost of improving PR vs initial budget: cross section of wires, selection of PV modules, etc.
- Cost of improving PR vs cost of the O&M: cleaning works.





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The End

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