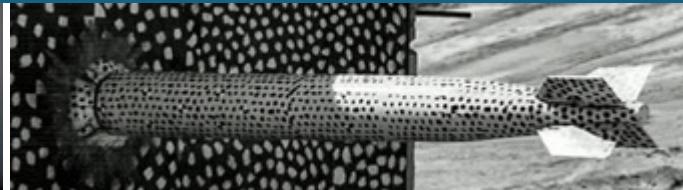
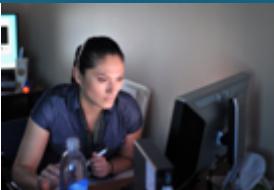




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# Mining Field I-V and Weather Data for PV Module EQE and Suns-V<sub>OC</sub>



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Sandia National Laboratories*



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**CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1826



**SOLAR ENERGY  
TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE**  
U.S. Department of Energy

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## Motivation: Mechanistic PV Performance and Degradation Modeling



Mechanistic understanding of photovoltaic array performance can decrease the Levelized Cost of Photovoltaic Energy via:

- Decreased Operation/Maintenance Costs
- Increased Energy Production
- Reduced Degradation

$$LCOE = \frac{\sum_{t=0}^n \frac{(I_t + O_t + M_t + F_t)}{(1+r)^t}}{\sum_{t=0}^n \frac{S_t(1-d)^t}{(1+r)^t}}$$

***I*** - initial cost

***O*** - operational cost

***M*** - maintenance cost

***F*** - interest expenditure

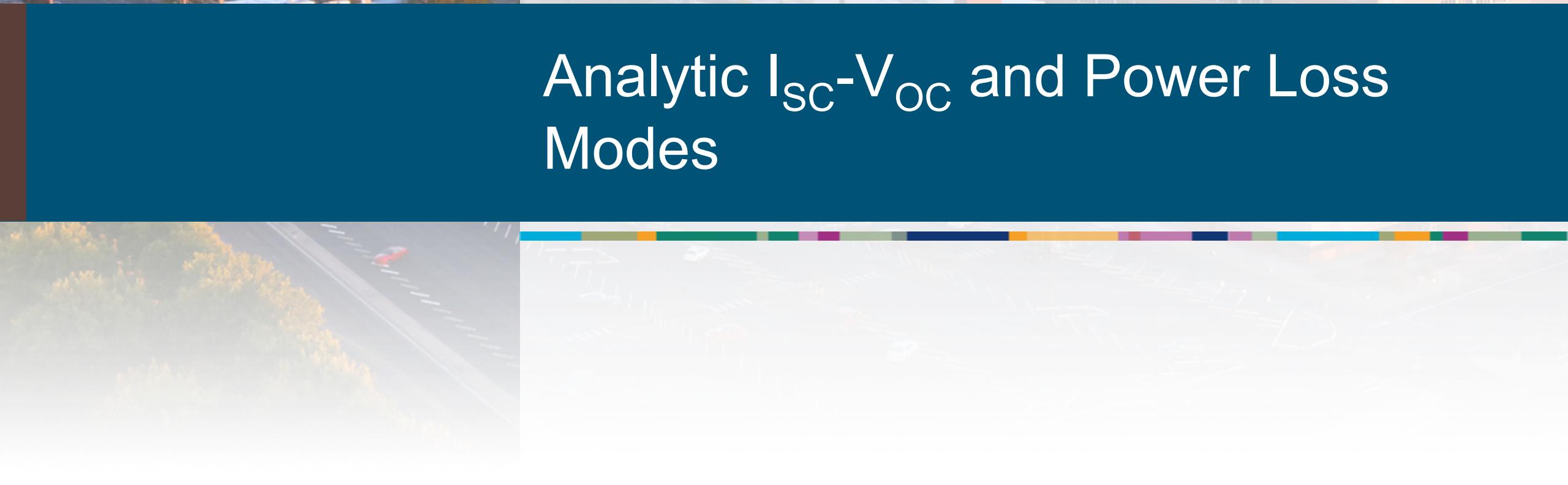
***S*** - energy production

***r*** - inflation and uncertainty

***(1-d)*** - degradation term



# Analytic $I_{sc}$ - $V_{oc}$ and Power Loss Modes





PV systems at all scales produce large amounts of time-series data.

“Smart” inverters or microinverters measure I-V curves on the string or module level.

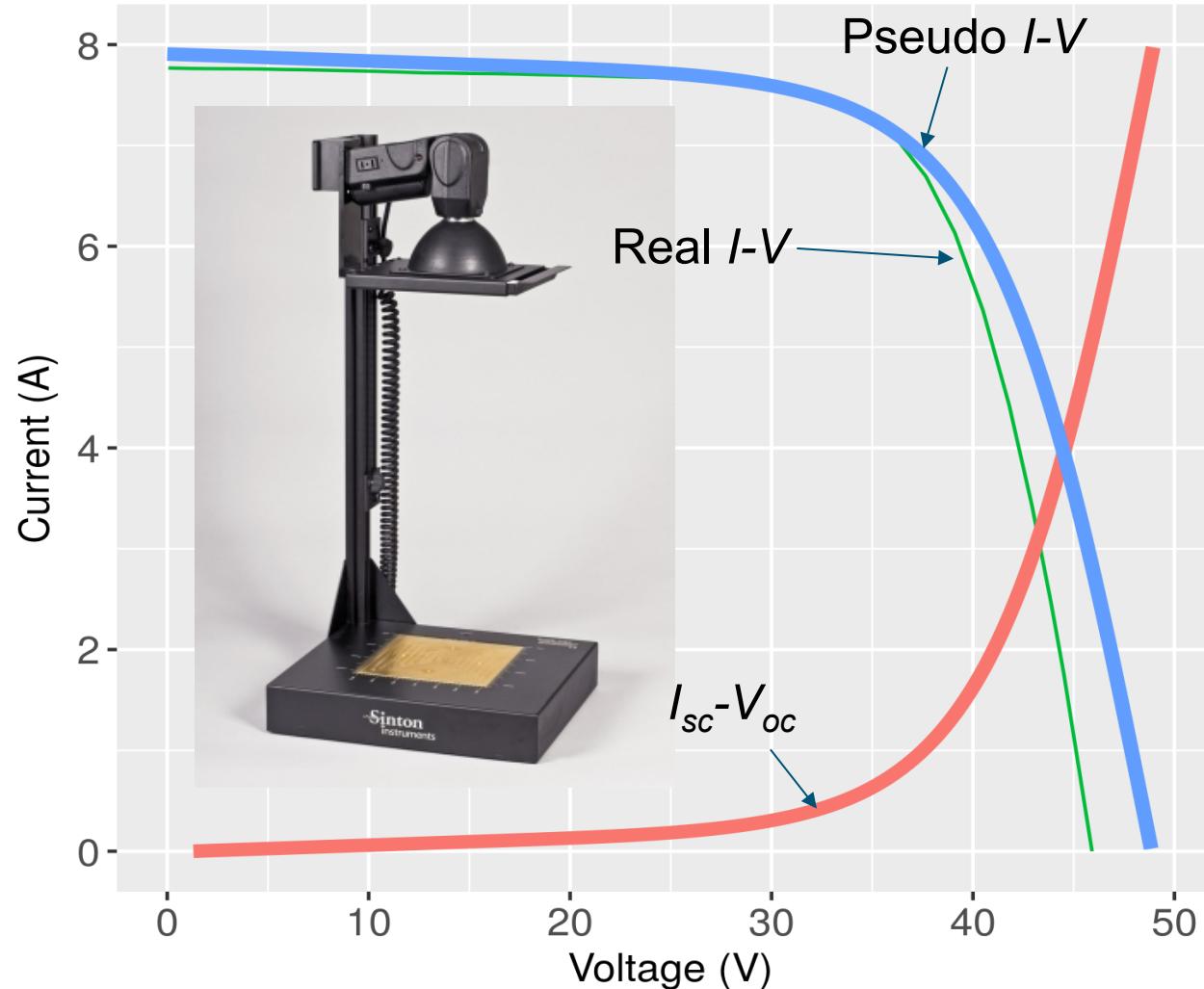
Parameterizing I-V curves and looking at long-term trends improves understanding of system performance, but:

- values are not directly comparable
- changes in these quantities are not necessarily proportional to power loss

# Laboratory-Based Suns- $V_{OC}$



Isc-Voc curve I-V curve at 1 sun irradiance Pseudo I-V curve



## Suns- $V_{OC}$ / $I_{sc}-V_{OC}$

- from I-V at varying light intensities
- used to calculate pseudo I-V curve

## Pseudo I-V curve

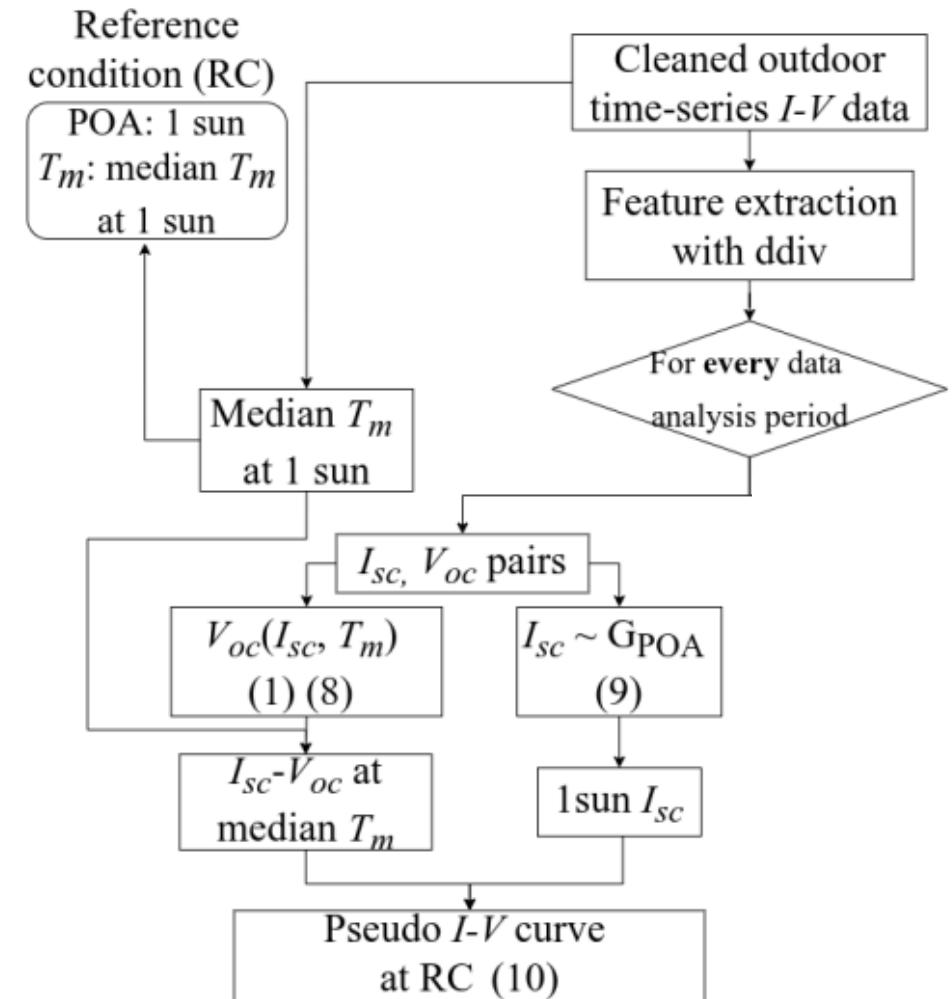
- “ideal” I-V
- without series resistance or current mismatch
- gain insight about degradation

# Mining $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$ from Field Data

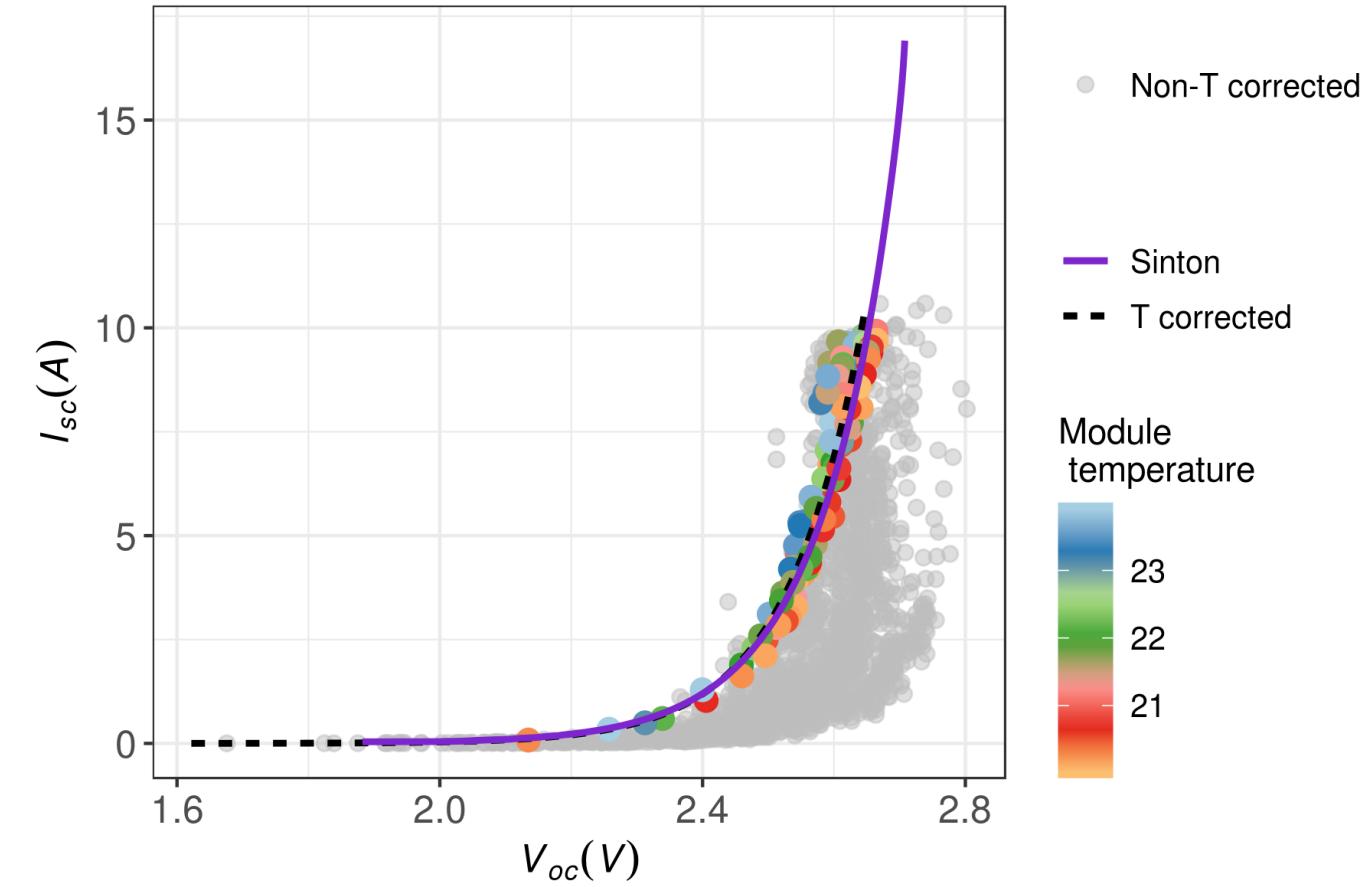


Time-series data is divided into analysis periods

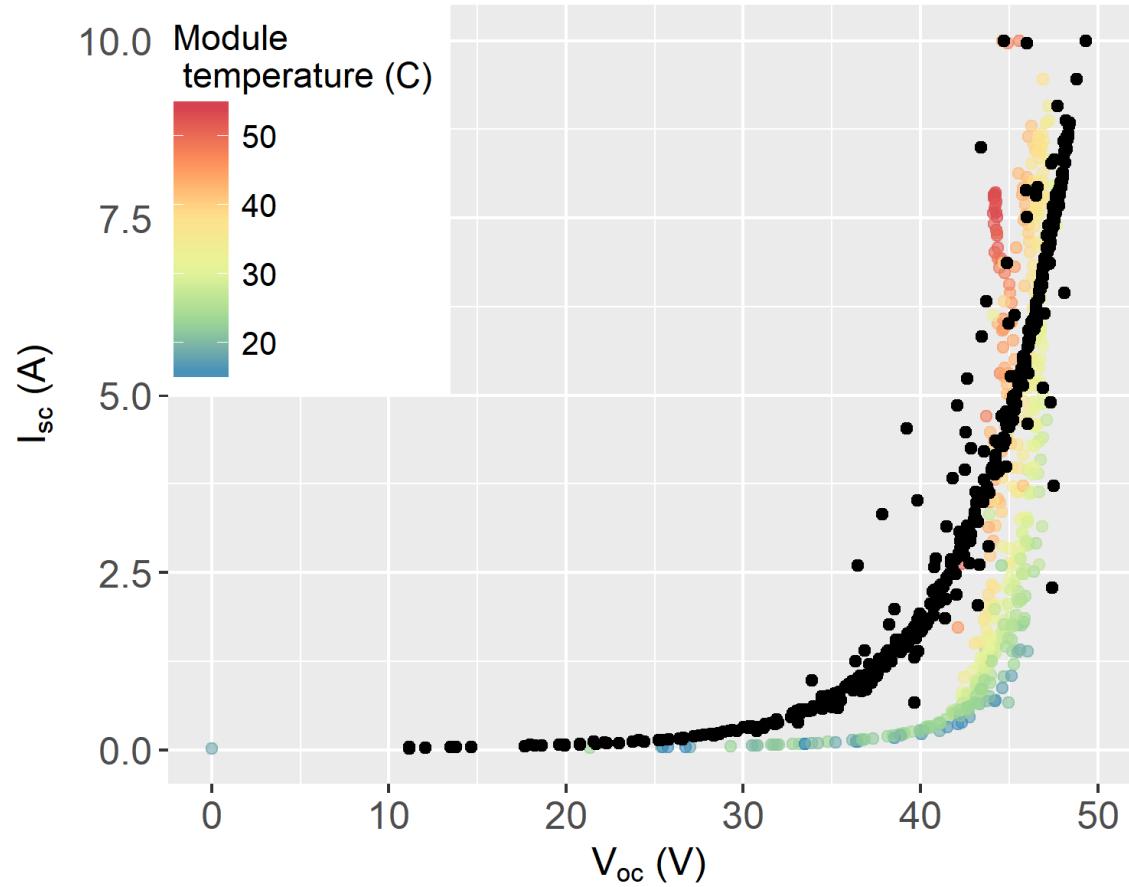
- Sufficiently long to collect enough low irradiance data to build  $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$
- But short enough to ensure pseudo-stability of the module
- To evaluate trends in power loss modes



# $V_{oc}$ temperature correction results



Mini-module method validation



Full-size module temp correction

# Quantifying power loss mechanisms from $I_{sc}$ - $V_{oc}$



## Detecting loss mechanisms of c-Si PV modules by $I_{sc}$ - $V_{oc}$ and $I$ - $V$ measurement

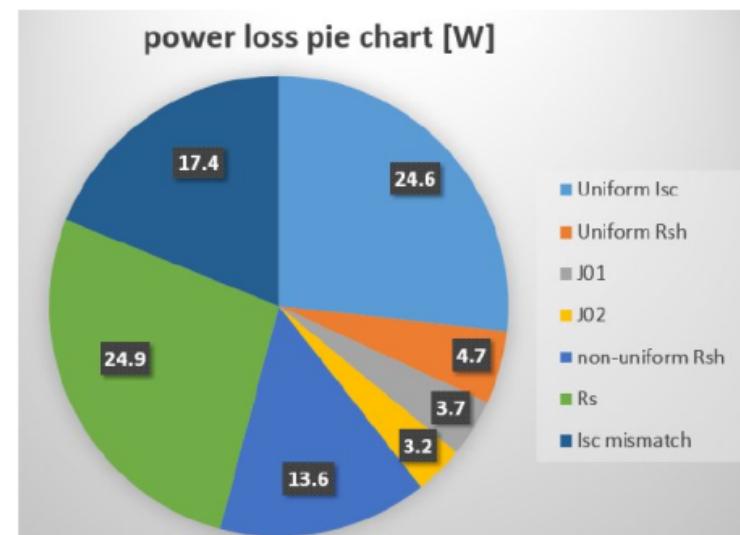
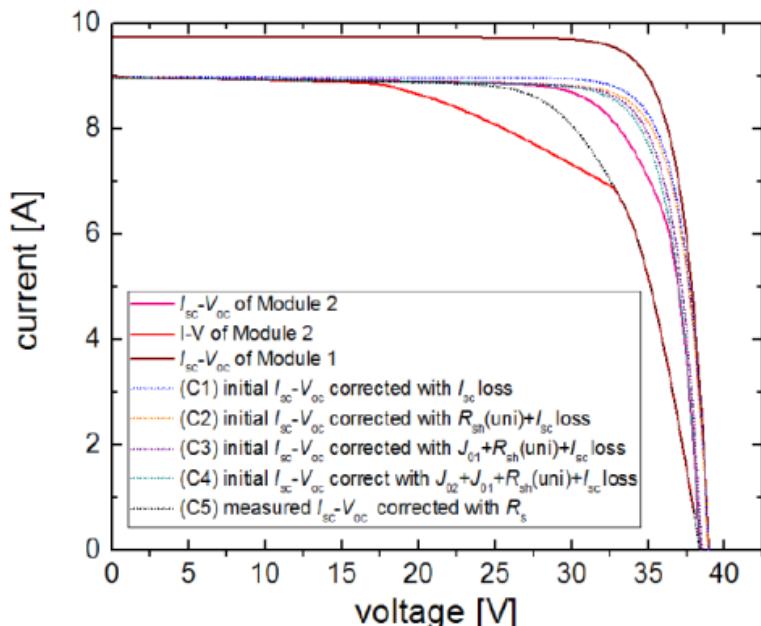
Siyu Guo<sup>a,b</sup>, Eric Schneller<sup>a,b</sup>, Joe Walters<sup>a,b</sup>, Kristopher O. Davis<sup>a,b</sup>,  
Winston V. Schoenfeld<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Florida Solar Energy Center, University of Central Florida, 1679 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, FL 32922,

<sup>b</sup> c-Si Division, U.S. Photovoltaic Manufacturing Consortium, 12354 Research Parkway, Orlando, FL 32826

Reliability of Photovoltaic Cells, Modules, Components, and Systems IX, edited by Neelkanth G. Dhere, John H. Wohlgemuth, Keiichiro Sakurai, Proc. of SPIE Vol. 9938, 99380N · © 2016 SPIE  
CCC code: 0277-786X/16/\$18 · doi: 10.1117/12.2236939

Proc. of SPIE Vol. 9938 99380N-1

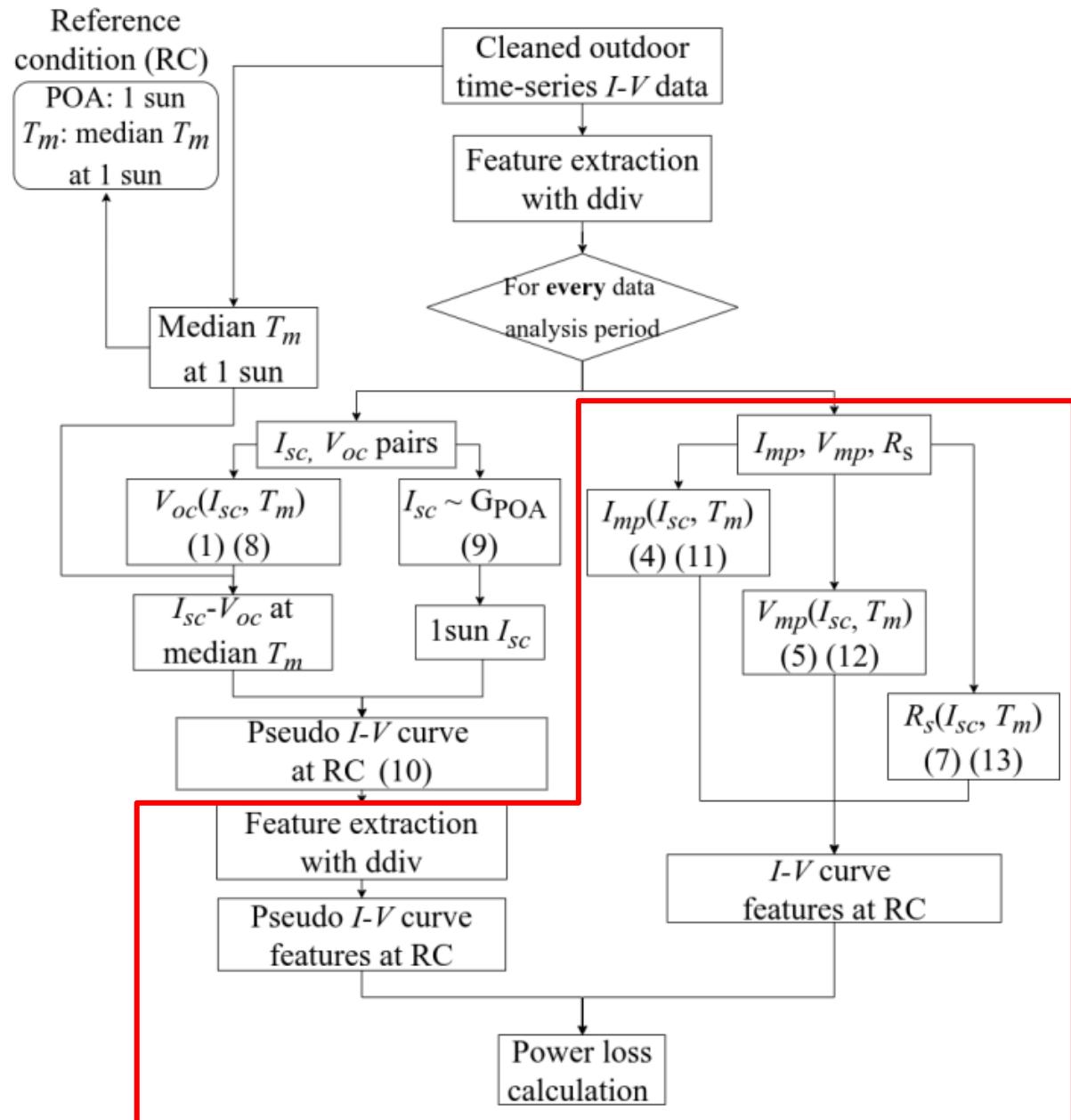


# $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$ Mechanistic Power Loss Calculation

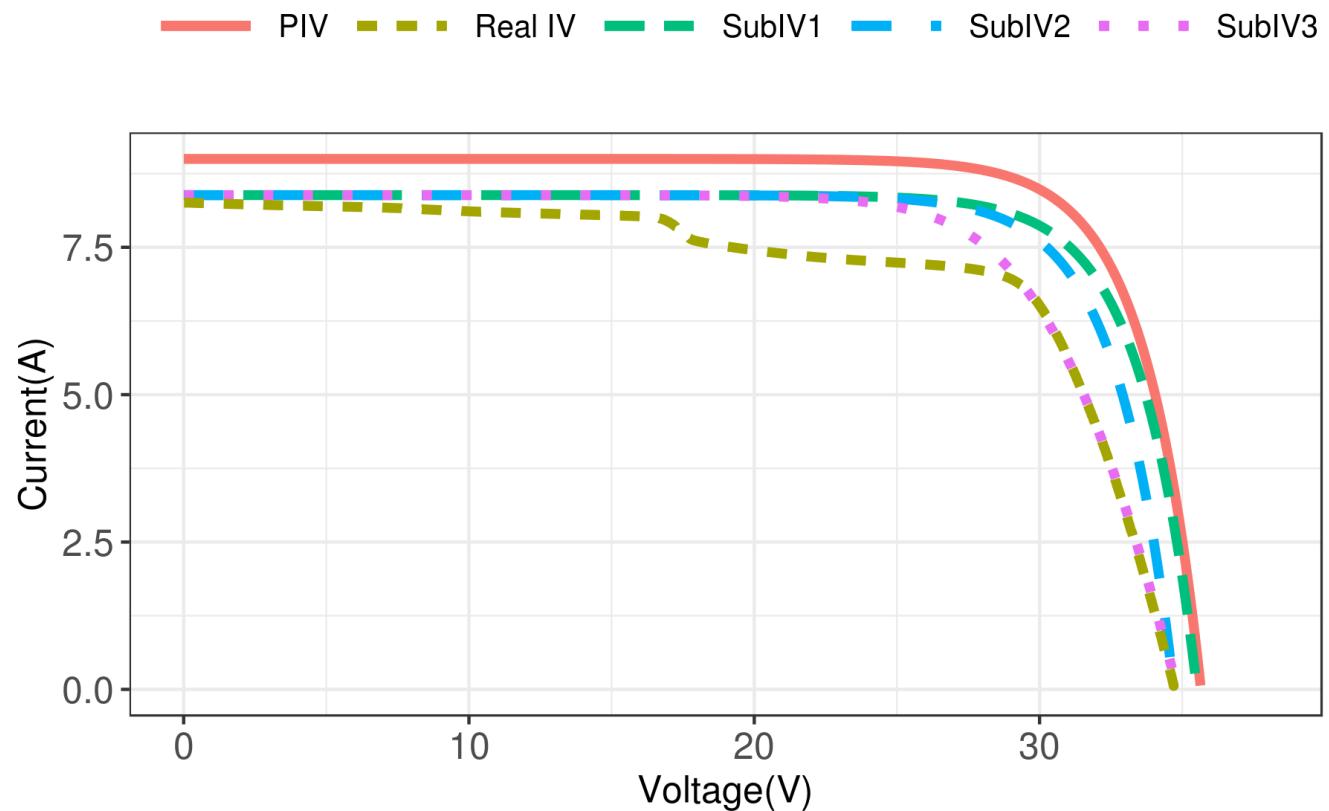
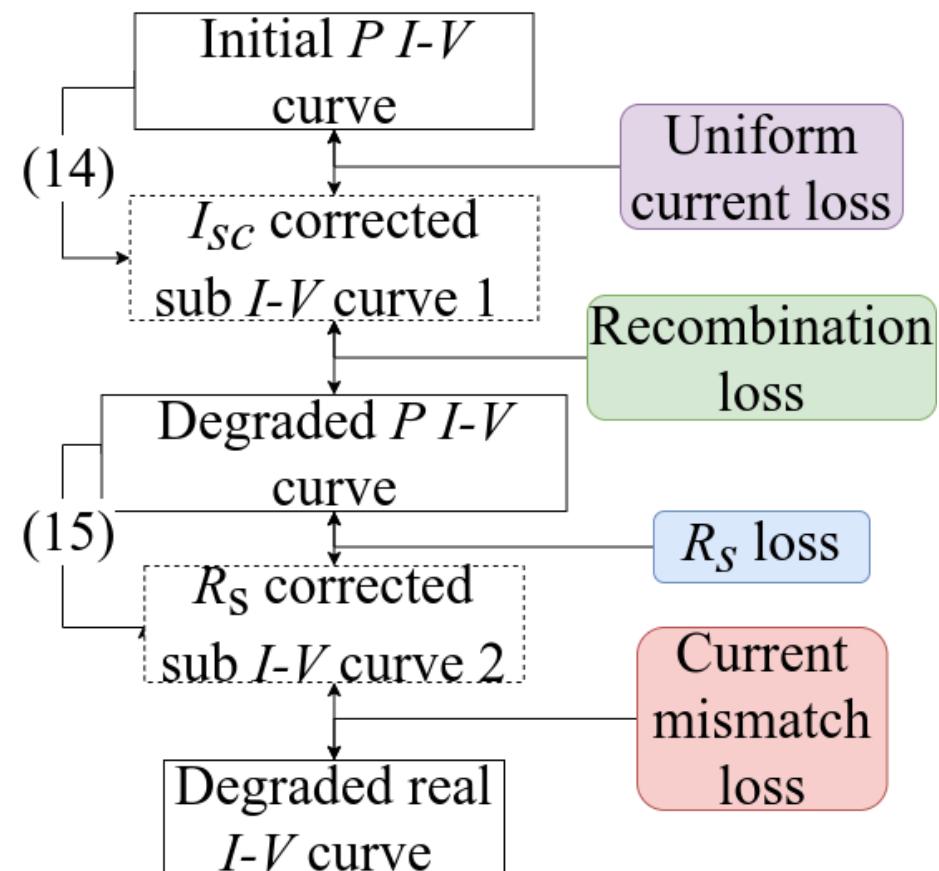
In each analysis period:

- $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$  is constructed and parameterized
- I-V features are modeled

to create the sub-I-V curves for mechanistic power loss calculation



# $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$ Power Loss Calculation



$$I_{C1} = I_{init} - \Delta I_{sc} \quad (14)$$

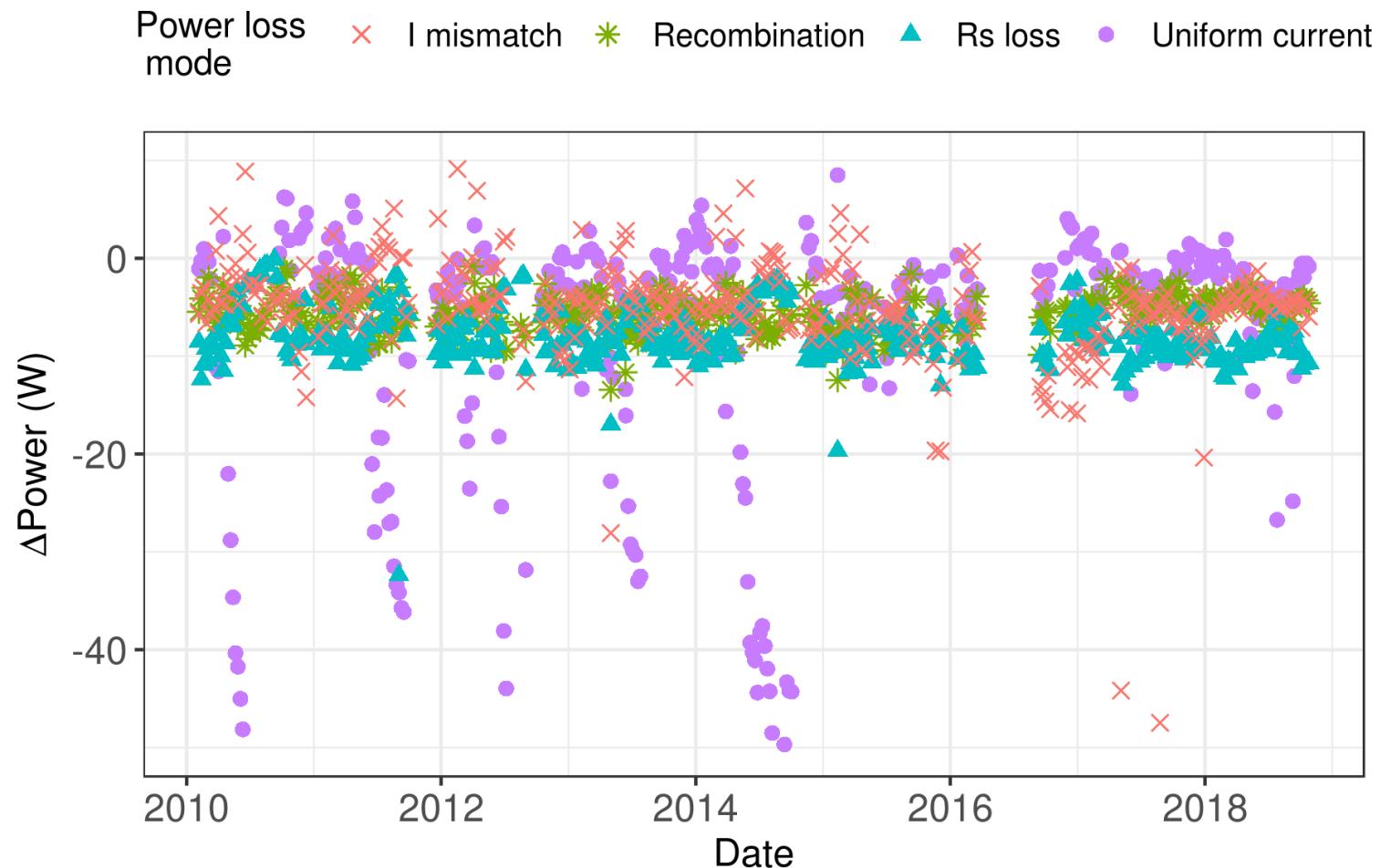
$$V_{C2} = V_{degrPIV} + I \cdot R_{s-degrPIV} - I \cdot R_{s-IV} \quad (15)$$

# Analytic $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$ Obtained Loss Mechanism Time-series



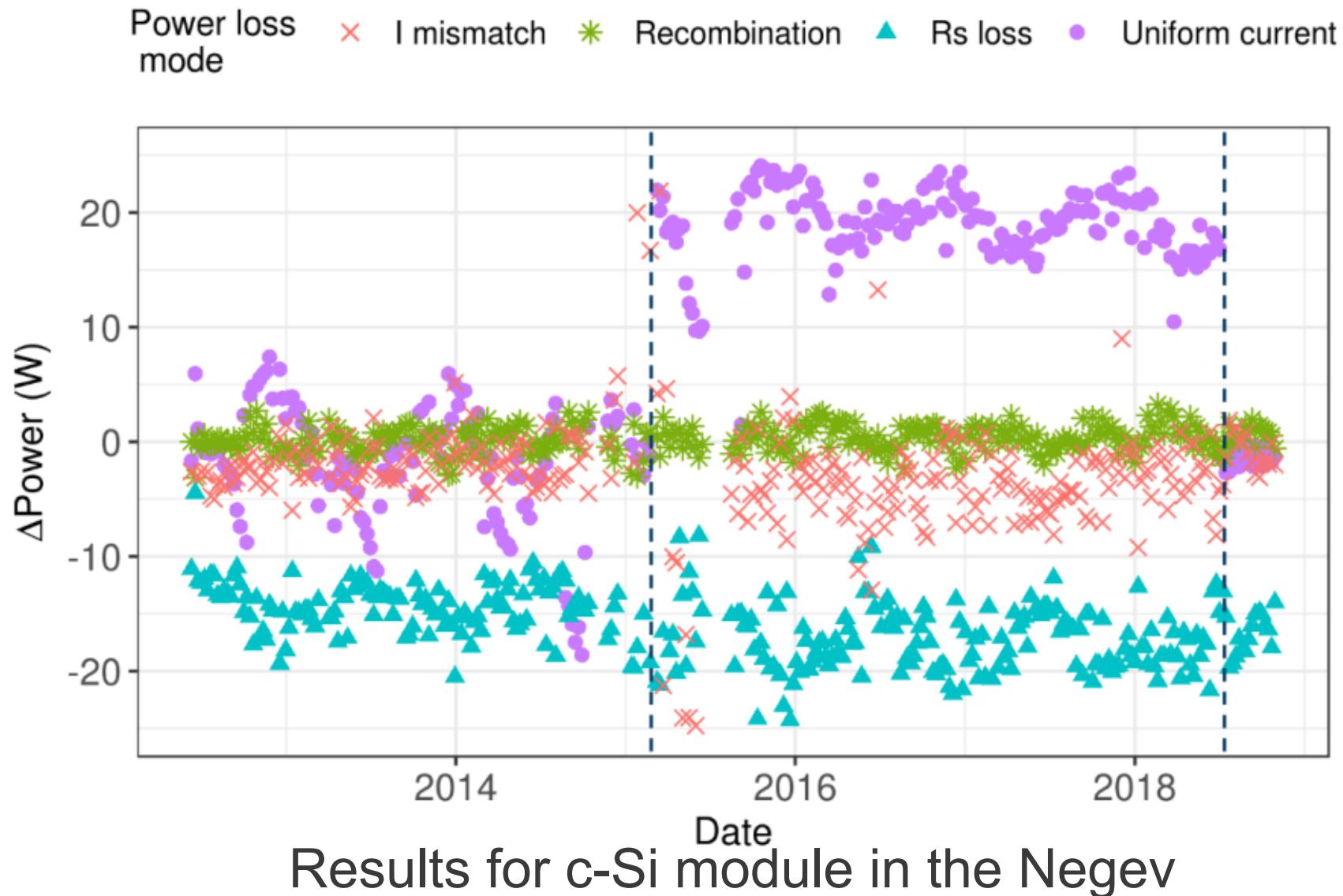
For outdoor I-V data:

- loss mechanisms as time-series variables

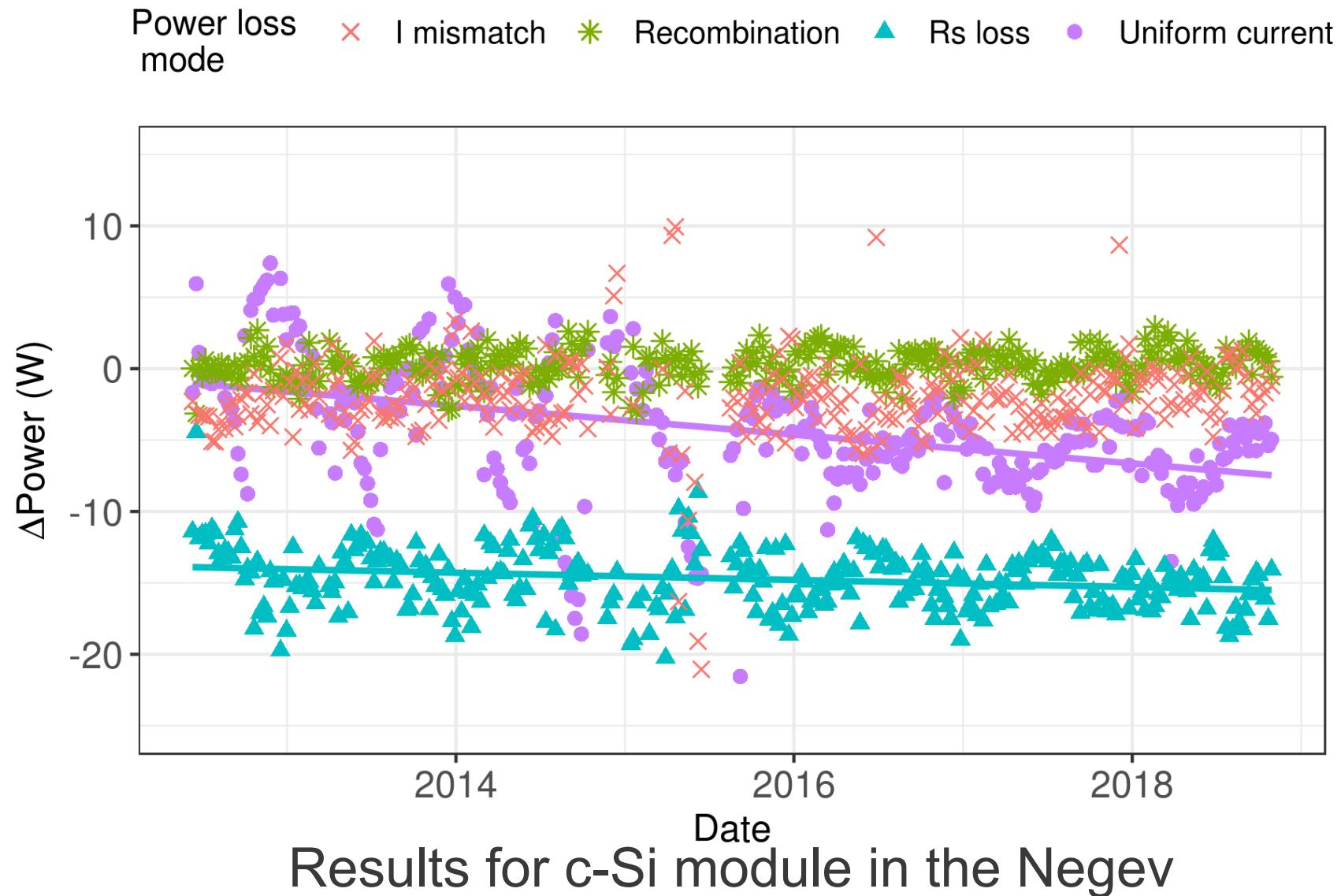


Results for c-Si module in Gran  
Canaria

# Analytic $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$ Obtained Loss Mechanism Time-series



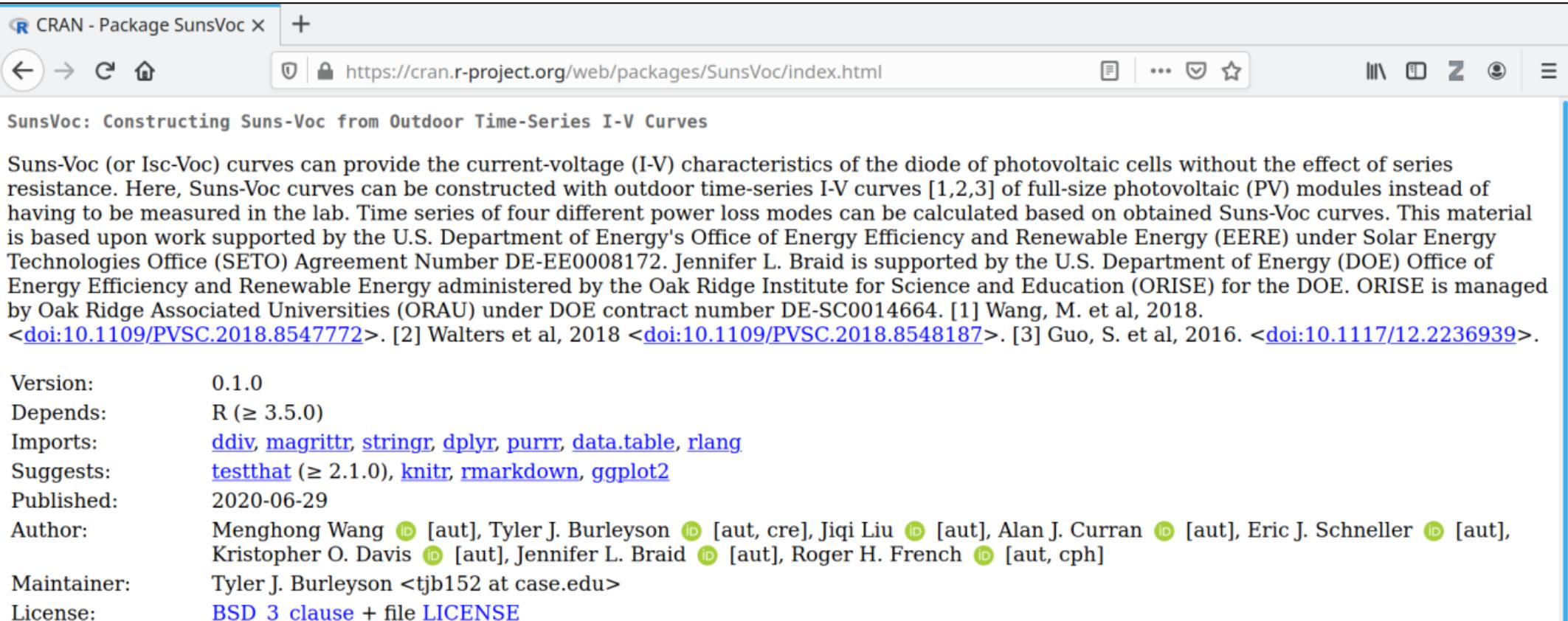
# Analytic $I_{SC}$ - $V_{OC}$ Obtained Loss Mechanism Time-series





# Analytic $I_{sc}$ - $V_{oc}$ Method and Power Loss Modes From Outdoor Time-Series $I$ - $V$ Curves

Menghong Wang , Jiqi Liu , Tyler J. Burleyson , Eric J. Schneller , Kristopher O. Davis , Roger H. French , Member, IEEE, and Jennifer L. Braid , Member, IEEE

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the CRAN package page for SunsVoc. The title bar shows 'CRAN - Package SunsVoc'. The URL in the address bar is 'https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/SunsVoc/index.html'. The main content area is titled 'SunsVoc: Constructing Suns-Voc from Outdoor Time-Series I-V Curves'. The text describes the package's purpose: 'Suns-Voc (or  $I_{sc}$ - $V_{oc}$ ) curves can provide the current-voltage (I-V) characteristics of the diode of photovoltaic cells without the effect of series resistance. Here, Suns-Voc curves can be constructed with outdoor time-series I-V curves [1,2,3] of full-size photovoltaic (PV) modules instead of having to be measured in the lab. Time series of four different power loss modes can be calculated based on obtained Suns-Voc curves. This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) under Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) Agreement Number DE-EE0008172. Jennifer L. Braid is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) for the DOE. ORISE is managed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) under DOE contract number DE-SC0014664. [1] Wang, M. et al, 2018. <[doi:10.1109/PVSC.2018.8547772](https://doi.org/10.1109/PVSC.2018.8547772)>. [2] Walters et al, 2018 <[doi:10.1109/PVSC.2018.8548187](https://doi.org/10.1109/PVSC.2018.8548187)>. [3] Guo, S. et al, 2016. <[doi:10.1117/12.2236939](https://doi.org/10.1117/12.2236939)>.

Version:	0.1.0
Depends:	R ( $\geq$ 3.5.0)
Imports:	<a href="#">ddiv</a> , <a href="#">magrittr</a> , <a href="#">stringr</a> , <a href="#">dplyr</a> , <a href="#">purrr</a> , <a href="#">data.table</a> , <a href="#">rlang</a>
Suggests:	<a href="#">testthat</a> ( $\geq$ 2.1.0), <a href="#">knitr</a> , <a href="#">rmarkdown</a> , <a href="#">ggplot2</a>
Published:	2020-06-29
Author:	Menghong Wang  , Tyler J. Burleyson  , Jiqi Liu  , Alan J. Curran  , Eric J. Schneller  , Kristopher O. Davis  , Jennifer L. Braid  , Roger H. French  [aut], cph]
Maintainer:	Tyler J. Burleyson <tjb152 at case.edu>
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# Analytic External Quantum Efficiency

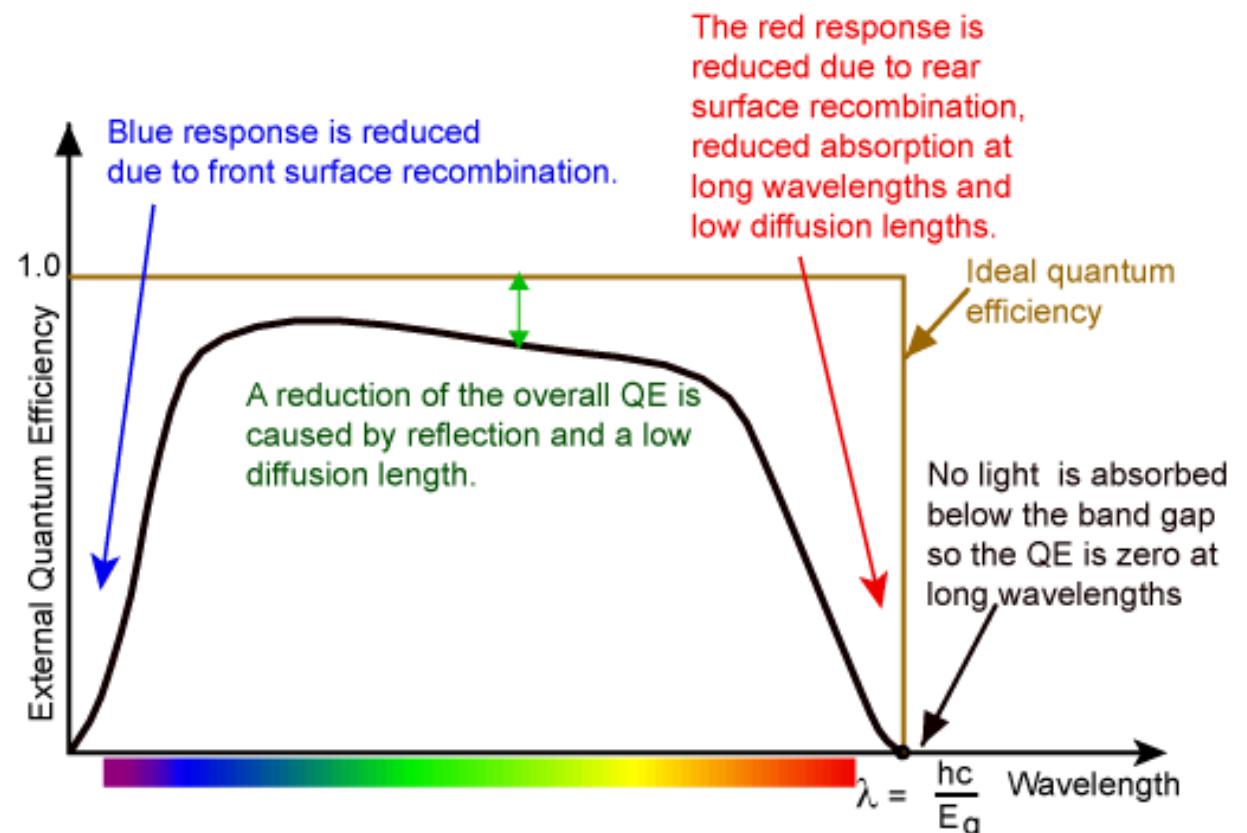




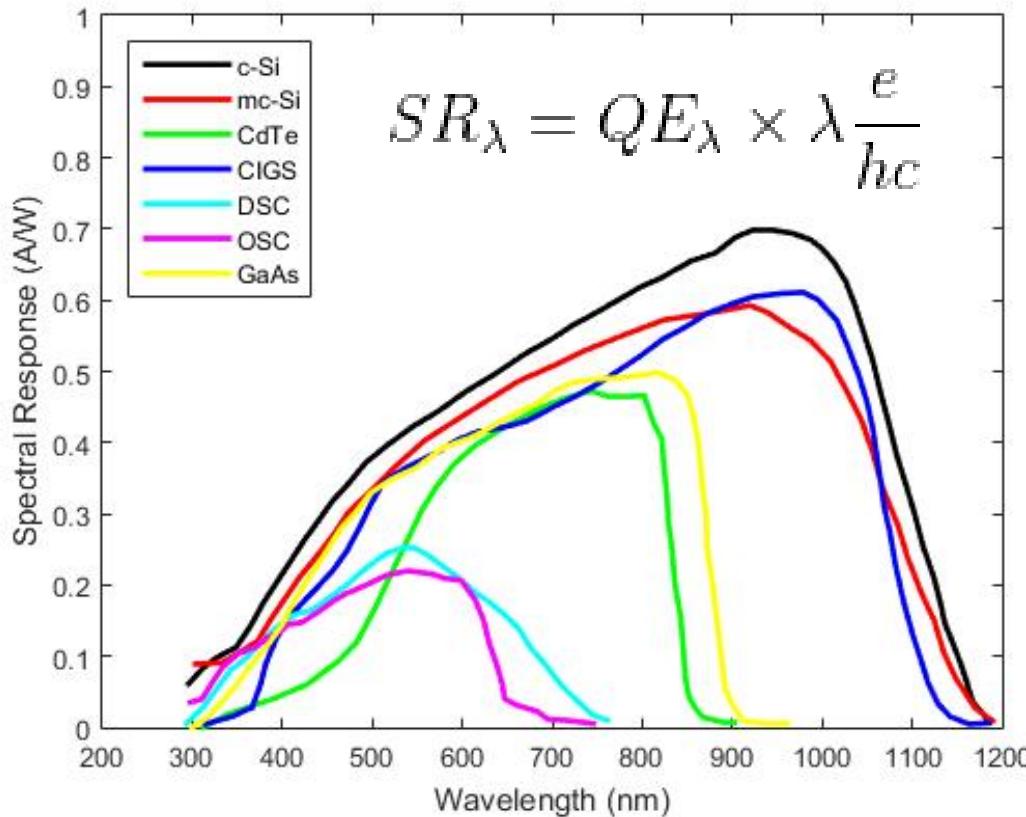
## External Quantum Efficiency (EQE)

- Ratio of collected electrons to incident photons on device
- Depends on absorption of light and collection of charge carriers
- Usually measured on cells using monochromator
- Unique challenges for modules

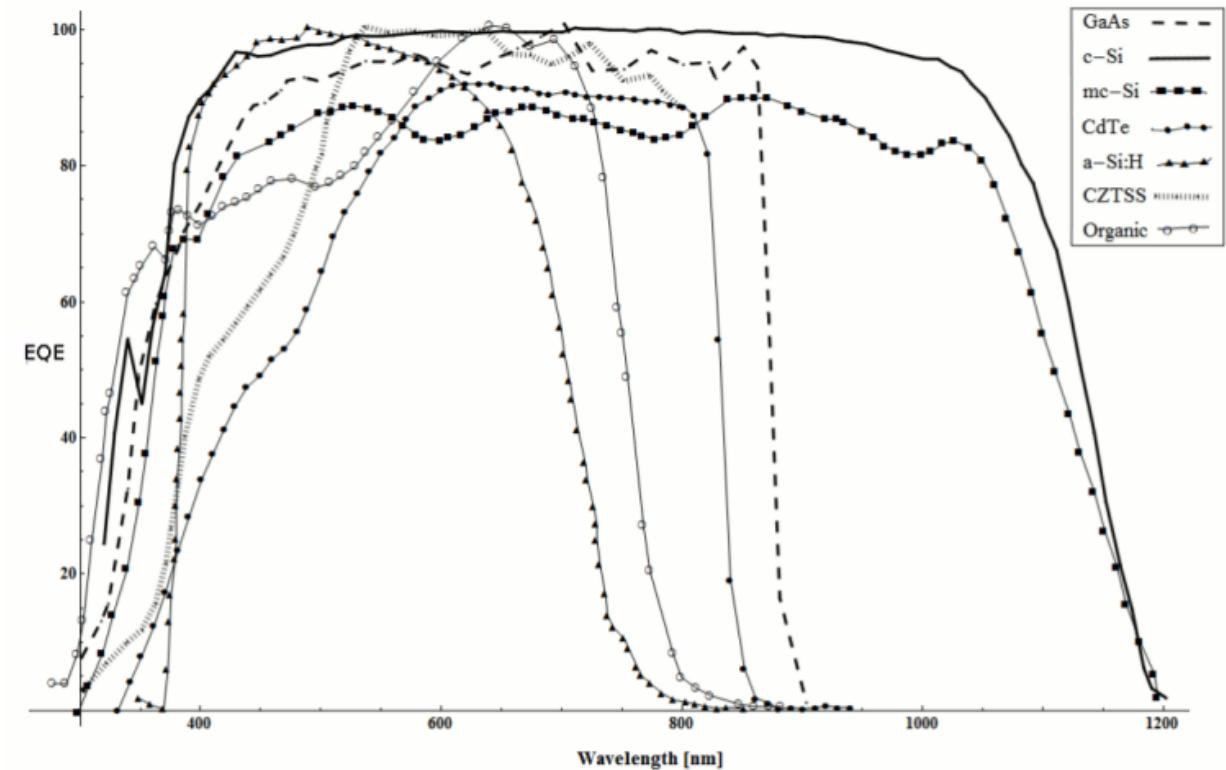
$$EQE = \frac{J_{SC} / q}{\phi_{in}}$$



# Spectral Response vs EQE



<https://pvpmc.sandia.gov/modeling-steps/2-dc-module-iv/effective-irradiance/spectral-response/>



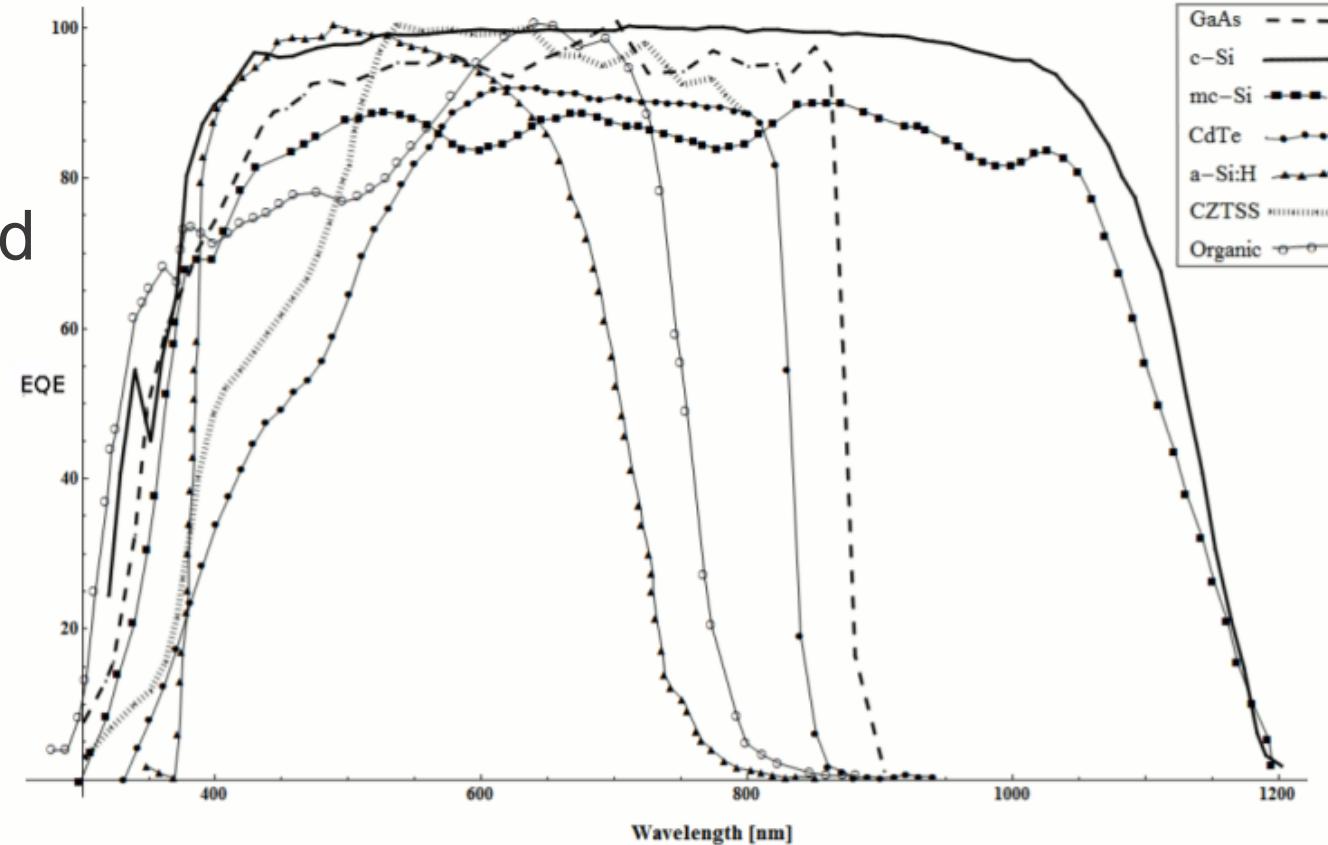
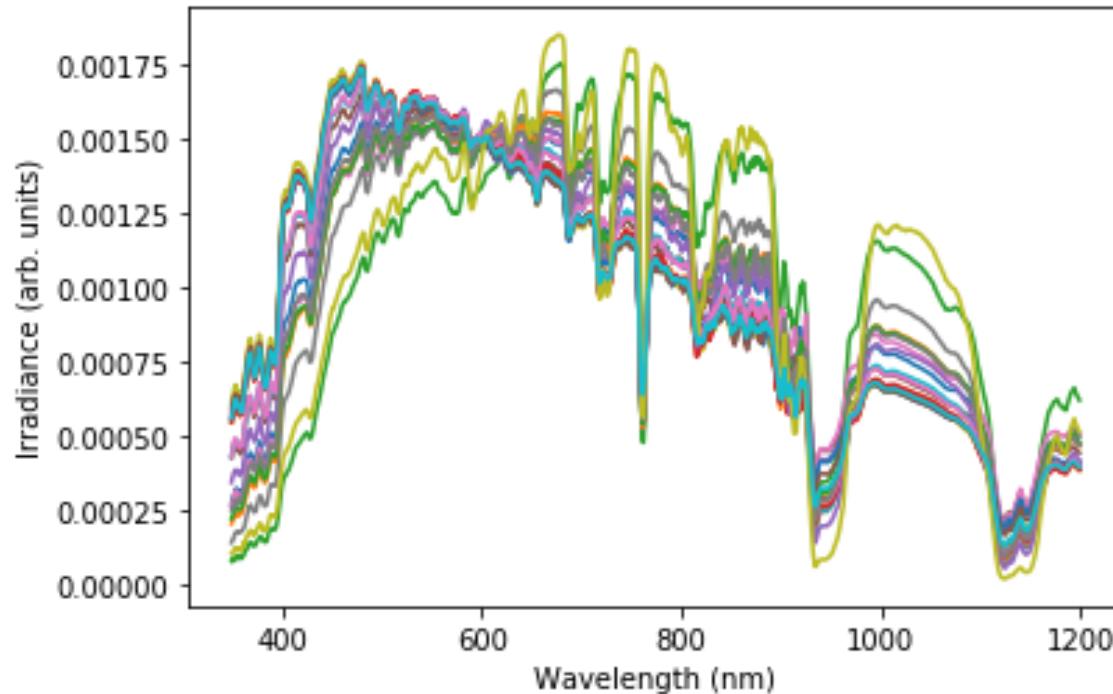
Brennan, M.P.; Abrahamse, A.; Andrews, R.; Pearce, J. (2014). Effects of Spectral Albedo on Solar Photovoltaic Devices. *Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells*. 124. 111–116. 10.1016/j.solmat.2014.01.046.

# Mining EQE from Field Data



Relies on natural variations in the incident solar spectrum

Similar to Analytic Suns- $V_{OC}$ , need sufficiently long and varying time series



Brennan, M.P.; Abrahamse, A.; Andrews, R.; Pearce, J. (2014). Effects of Spectral Albedo on Solar Photovoltaic Devices. *Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells*. 124. 111–116. 10.1016/j.solmat.2014.01.046.

# Time Series Matrix Representation



$$J_{SC} = q \int EQE(\lambda) \phi(\lambda) d\lambda$$

$$J_{SC} = q \sum_{\lambda_1} \phi_1(\lambda_1) \phi_2(\lambda_2) \dots \phi_t(\lambda_t) \dots$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} J_{SC1} \\ J_{SC2} \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ J_{SCt} \end{bmatrix} = q \begin{bmatrix} \dots & \phi_1(\lambda_n) \\ \phi_2(\lambda_1) & \phi_2(\lambda_2) \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \phi_2(\lambda_n) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \phi_t(\lambda_1) & \phi_t(\lambda_2) & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} EQE(\lambda_1) \\ EQE(\lambda_2) \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ EQE(\lambda_n) \end{bmatrix} \Delta\lambda$$

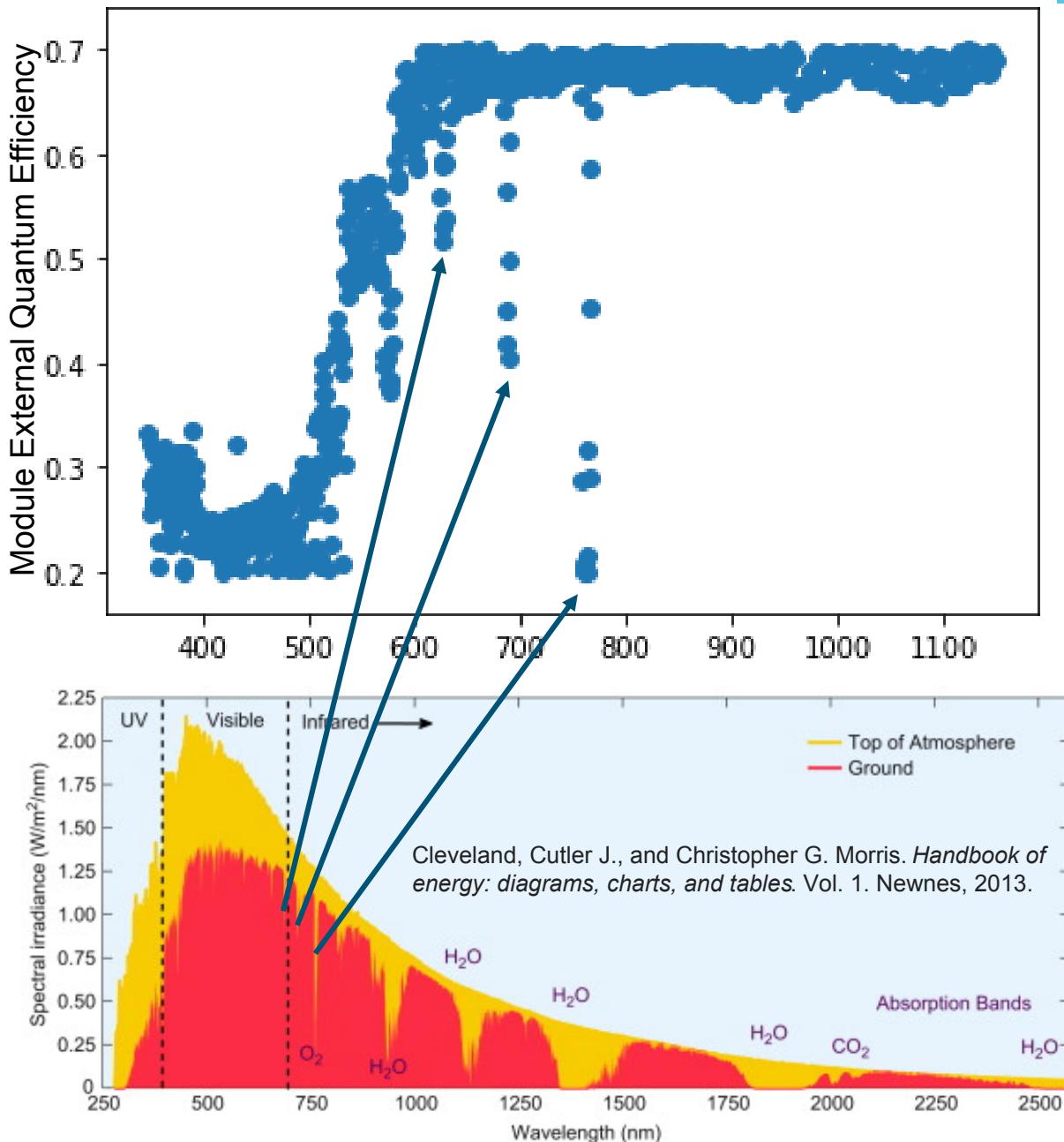
# Naive EQE result



Using bound least-squares matrix inversion

Local minima corresponding to  $O_2$  and  $H_2O$  absorbance in AM1.5G spectrum

EQE is overestimated in IR region due to temperature effect on the band gap



# Temperature-based band gap shift applied to spectral data



Varshni, Y. P.  
1967

Physica 34  
149-154

## TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCE OF THE ENERGY GAP IN SEMICONDUCTORS

by Y. P. VARSHNI

Department of Physics, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

### Synopsis

A relation for the variation of the energy gap ( $E_g$ ) with temperature ( $T$ ) in semiconductors is proposed:

$$E_g = E_0 - \alpha T^2 / (T + \beta)$$

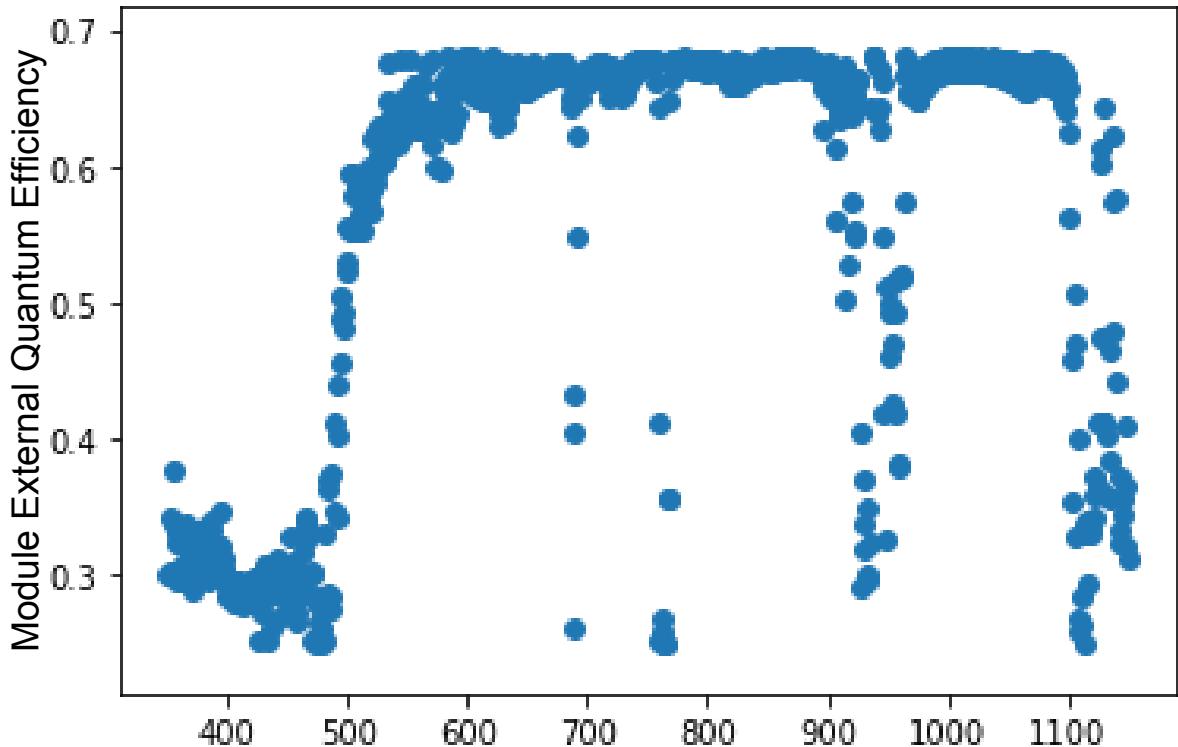
where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are constants. The equation satisfactorily represents the experimental data for diamond, Si, Ge, 6H-SiC, GaAs, InP and InAs.

Requires forced bounds

Does not remove spectral bias

$$E_g(T) = E_g(0) - \frac{\alpha T^2}{T + \beta}$$

$$\lambda'_i = \lambda_i \times \frac{E_g(T)}{E_g(300)}$$

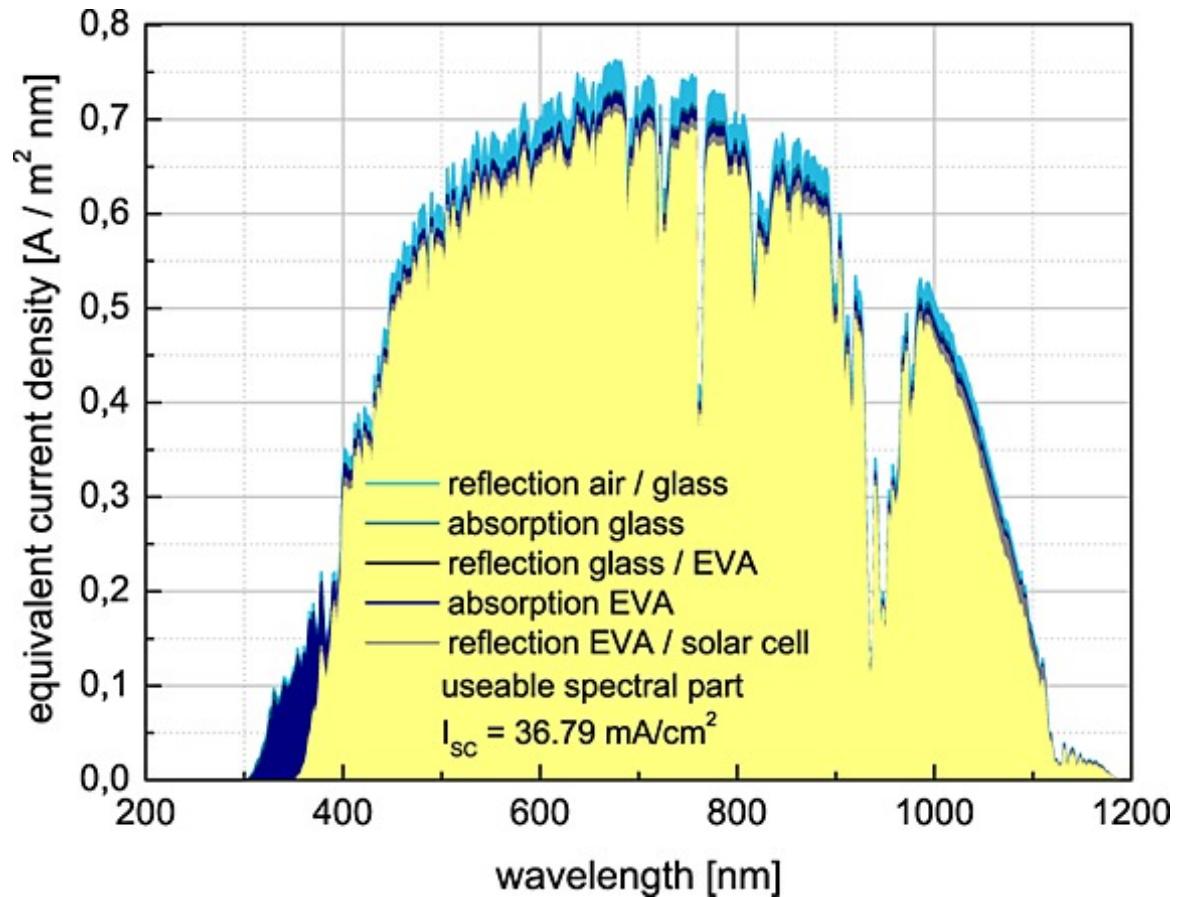


# Spectral Current Density

$$J_{SC}(\lambda) = \frac{q\lambda}{hc} \phi(\lambda) EQE(\lambda)$$

Effective current density for the selected spectrum

Reflects actual charge conversion of the device during outdoor operation



Schneider, J., Turek, M., Dyrba, M., Baumann, I., Koll, B., & Booz, T. (2014). Combined effect of light harvesting strings, anti-reflective coating, thin glass, and high ultraviolet transmission encapsulant to reduce optical losses in solar modules. *Progress in Photovoltaics: Research and Applications*, 22(7), 830-837.

# Spectral Current Density Results

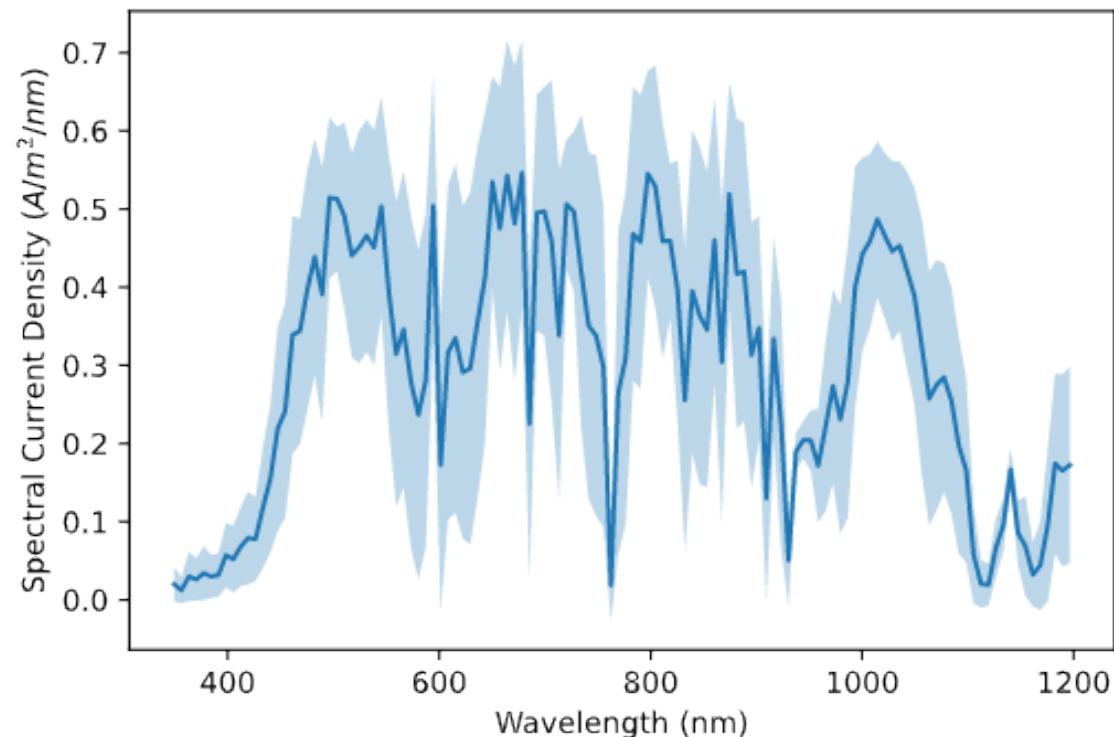


Using principal component for standard incident spectrum

Bootstrap approach for approximation and confidence intervals of result

Time-series analysis can be used to monitor changes in spectral response of the module:

- Spectral absorption changes in glass/encapsulant
- Front and rear side recombination changes in cells





Mechanistic performance data mined from time-series can be used to:

- evaluate long-term trends in performance
- identify dominant or changing degradation mechanisms

Or can be used as a monitoring tool to:

- alert operators to “abnormal” conditions or data issues
- indicate need for service e.g., cleaning

Future work:

- Validation of mined datatypes with laboratory measurements
- Adapt analytic  $I_{sc}$ - $V_{oc}$  and EQE measurements for inverter data



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