

European Solar and Energy Storage Solutions

Instrument for aircraft to detect photovoltaic panels



Overview

With the recent advances in low-weight, high-precision, and fast-response thermal cameras, along with professional aerial platforms, aerial infrared thermography (aIRT) is currently the most popular method for non-destructive, fast, and relatively inexpensive monitoring of photovoltaic (PV) power plants.

With the recent advances in low-weight, high-precision, and fast-response thermal cameras, along with professional aerial platforms, aerial infrared thermography (aIRT) is currently the most popular method for non-destructive, fast, and relatively inexpensive monitoring of photovoltaic (PV) power plants.

Scientists in Italy have investigated the performance of drones and a human-crewed airplanes for carrying out aerial infrared thermography inspections on PV power plants.

The usage of Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) for infrared (IR) imaging of PV systems for health status monitoring of PV modules has been identified as a cost-effective approach which offers 10–15 fold lower inspection times than conventional techniques.

The SLS cameras combine long-wave infrared (LWIR) imaging, one of the requirements for IEC-compliant inspections, with long lenses (50–200 mm focal length), which enables sensors to be farther away from solar PV modules (i.e., a safe altitude for aircraft).

In certain conditions of sun path, the glare from solar photovoltaic modules may reduce visibility of pilots and air traffic controllers. Despite the threat to aviation safety with solar installations in airport, only a few countries have framed regulation on glare impact. Are aircraft-based inspections better than UAV surveys for solar PV plants?

Airplane-based inspections are more convenient than UAV surveys for PV plants > 40 MW. The continuous increase in the number and scale of solar photovoltaic power plants requires the implementation of reliable diagnostic

tools for fault detection.

Can drone IR cameras detect faults in solar PV plants?

The objective of this research is to compare the fault detection analyses performed, for two different solar PV plants, using alternatively an unmanned drone and a manned aircraft as aerial platforms, equipped with different IR cameras to provide reliable and comparable thermal images over the same inspected sites.

Can aerial infrared thermography be used to inspect PV plants?

This study presents two distinct techniques for aerial infrared thermography (aIRT) inspection of PV plants, employing remote sensing via UAV and aircraft platforms.

Which metric is suitable for glare assessment in airport solar PV installations?

Among the studied methodologies, Ho et al. approach is the detailed and validated approach which is also accepted by FAA for glare assessment in airport areas. Among the available metrics, it was concluded that the Ho et al. metric is the suitable parameter for solar glare assessment in airport solar PV installations.

Can a heliostat detect glare in a solar PV system?

Based on this assessment, it is reported that an intense glare is observed from the mirrors of the heliostat over 1700 m away. This helicopter approach is suitable for analysing glare for existing solar PV installations. The glare impact can be analysed for a proposed solar PV system also.

How does a solar PV module work?

The solar PV module is placed in random locations within the selected site. The tilt and orientation of PV module is varied from minimum to the maximum value. For each configuration, the reflectivity on observers such as air traffic controllers and pilots is noted from a helicopter.

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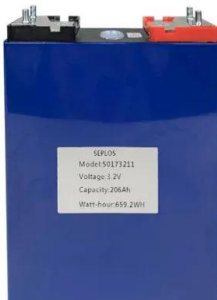


An Unmanned Inspection System for Multiple Defects Detection in

This article presents an algorithmic solution for the rapid and sensitive detection of photovoltaic modules with multiple visible defects by an image analyzing apparatus mounted onto an ...

(PDF) Dust detection in solar panel using image

Dust detection in solar panel using image processing techniques: A review . Detección de polvo en el panel solar utilizando técnicas de procesamiento por imágenes: U na revisión .



Infrared thermography monitoring of solar photovoltaic systems: ...

DOI: 10.1016/j.tsep.2023.102379 Corpus ID: 266698556; Infrared thermography monitoring of solar photovoltaic systems: A comparison between UAV and aircraft remote sensing platforms

A review of automated solar photovoltaic defect detection systems

Different statistical outcomes have affirmed the significance of Photovoltaic (PV) systems and grid-connected PV plants worldwide. Surprisingly, the global cumulative installed ...



Application of Artificial Intelligence in PV Fault ...

The rapid revolution in the solar industry over the last several years has increased the significance of photovoltaic (PV) systems. Power photovoltaic generation systems work in various outdoor climate conditions; ...



Micro-Fractures in Solar Modules: Causes, Detection and Prevention

Detection of missing or interrupted screen-printed fingers; Selecting a solar panel manufacturer that acknowledges the prevention of micro-cracks is a critical part of the solution. falling ...



(PDF) Hotspots Detection in Photovoltaic Modules ...

In other approach, the utilization of thermal energy by means of the photovoltaic-thermal systems has been investigated regarding the efficiency energy output enhancement of photovoltaic panels [3



A Method for Extracting Photovoltaic Panels from ...

The extraction of photovoltaic (PV) panels from remote sensing images is of great significance for estimating the power generation of solar photovoltaic systems and informing government decisions. The ...



Automatic defect identification of PV panels with IR images ...

Using RPA and IR for the inspection and fault diagnosis of PV modules follows several steps given by Figure 1 and depends on two main technologies: The first is collecting IR images ...

Cameras for Manned Aircraft Solar Inspections

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