# INTELLIGENT MODELLING FOR SOLAR ENERGY FORECASTING AND APPLICATIONS

A Thesis submitted to the Delhi Technological University for the award of Doctor of Philosophy

in

## **Electronics and Communication Engineering**

Submitted by: GULNAR PERVEEN (2K14/Ph.D./ECE/08)



Under the Joint Supervision of:

Dr. Nidhi Goel Associate Professor Department of Electronics & Communication Engg. IGDTUW, Delhi Dr. M. Rizwan Associate Professor Department of Electrical Engineering DTU, Delhi

## DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

(Formerly Delhi College of Engineering) DELHI-110042, INDIA

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#### DECLARATION

I Gulnar Perveen, a Ph.D. scholar, Roll No. 2K14/Ph.D./ECE/08 hereby declare that the thesis titled **"Intelligent Modelling for Solar Energy Forecasting and Applications"** which is submitted by me to the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Delhi Technological University, Delhi in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma associateship, fellowship or other similar title or recognition.

Place: Delhi Date: 08.04.2019 (GULNAR PERVEEN)

#### CERTIFICATE

On the basis of declaration submitted by Ms. Gulnar Perveen, a Ph.D. scholar, Roll No. 2K14/Ph.D./ECE/08. I hereby certify that the thesis titled **"Intelligent Modelling for Solar Energy Forecasting and Applications"** which is submitted to the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Delhi Technological University, Delhi in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, is an original contribution with existing knowledge and faithful record of research carried out by her under my guidance and supervision.

To the best of my knowledge this work has not been submitted in part or full for any degree or diploma to this university or elsewhere.

Place: Delhi Date: 08.04.2019

(**Dr. Nidhi Goel**) Supervisor Associate Professor Department of Electronics and Communication Engg. Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women, Delhi (**Dr. M. Rizwan**) Jt. Supervisor Associate Professor Department of Electrical Engg. Delhi Technological University Delhi

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#### (GULNAR PERVEEN)

#### ABSTRACT

Due to the growing population of the world, there is a surge in the demand for energy - specifically element energy. The production of electricity contributes the largest share in the emission of greenhouse gases that emanate from the burning of fossil fuel. So, a need has arisen for a clean form of energy i.e. renewable energy that can contribute to the increasing demand for energy worldwide. For the accurate design and development of solar energy based systems, solar radiation resource data plays a significant role. Unfortunately, the measured data is rarely available for research purpose for these stations where measurement is already being done. Therefore, it is essential to develop modelling techniques that can forecast global solar energy for such locations where measurements have not been done with reasonable accuracy. The number of mathematical models has been developed for assessment of solar energy under cloudless skies. In fact, it is rather difficult to forecast accurately the behaviour of solar radiation by using these stochastic models, as they need the bases of the precise definition of problem domains and these stochastic models were found with relatively large errors and sometimes difficult to be adopted widely. These models developed, however, are not appropriate to forecast solar energy during cloudy sky. So, fuzzy logic based model have been developed in situations when deterministic or probabilistic models do not provide a realistic description of the phenomenon under study. A lot of research has been carried out and it is observed that for modelling complex systems involving large data sets, it is difficult to maintain accuracy with so much of data sets by employing fuzzy logic approach. So, an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) models were introduced, that employ artificial intelligence techniques and are data-driven which can subsequently simulate the structure. For complex function estimation, the prediction of a number of hidden layers and hidden neurons accurately using ANN is difficult as they are large in number. Also, the training time for the conventional neural network is too large, which results in a slower response of the system. The existing neural model performs only

the operation of summation of its weighted inputs; it does not perform the operation of products on its weighted inputs. Therefore, hybrid intelligent models have been introduced for forecasting solar energy which integrates the features of fuzzy logic approach and ANN. Further, the obtained results have been implemented for short-term power forecasting in solar photovoltaic (PV) system under composite climate zone.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATION, SYMBOLS AND NOMENCLATURE

a,b,c,d	regression coefficients of empirical models (dimensionless)
Ca	average calculated value (dimensionless)
Ci	<i>i</i> <sup>th</sup> calculated value (dimensionless)
E	absolute error (%)
e <sub>i</sub>	<i>i</i> <sup>th</sup> estimated value (dimensionless)
$e_h$	hourly error (hours)
$\mathbf{f}_{i}$	first order polynomial
G <sub>sc</sub>	solar constant (W/m <sup>2</sup> )
GT	solar irradiance at Standard Test Condition (STC) $(W/m^2)$
$\mathrm{GW}_{\mathrm{p}}$	giga watt peak
H <sub>d</sub>	diffuse solar energy (MJ/m <sup>2</sup> )
H/Hg	global solar energy (MJ/m <sup>2</sup> )
Ho	extraterrestrial solar radiation on horizontal surface (MJ/m <sup>2</sup> )
I <sub>pmax</sub>	maximum power point current of solar PV module (A)
I <sub>sc</sub>	short circuit current of solar PV module at STC (A)
kWh/kW <sub>p</sub>	kilowatt hours per kilowatt peak
kWh/m²/day	kilowatt hour per meter square per day
kWh/year	kilowatt hour per year
L	measured data
L <sub>max</sub>	highest value of relevant set of data
$L_{min}$	lowest value of relevant set of data
Ls	normalized/scaled data
$m_a$	average measured value (dimensionless)
$MJ/m^2$	mega joule per meter square

$m_i$	$i^{th}$ measured value (dimensionless)
$\mathbf{MW}_{\mathrm{p}}$	mega watt peak
n	number of observations (dimensionless)
Noct	temperature of solar panel (°C)
NPVP	photovoltaic arrays in parallel (number)
N <sub>PVS</sub>	photovoltaic arrays in series (number)
$O_{l,i}$	output function for fuzzy sets $A_i$
$\mathrm{O}_{I,j}$	output function for fuzzy sets $B_j$
O <sub>2,<i>i</i></sub>	output of $i^{\text{th}}$ node of layer 2
O <sub>3,i</sub>	output of <i>i</i> <sup>th</sup> node of layer 3
O <sub>4,i</sub>	output of <i>i</i> <sup>th</sup> node of layer 4
O <sub>5,i</sub>	output of <i>i</i> <sup>th</sup> node of layer 5
P <sub>m</sub>	measured atmospheric pressure (hPa)
P <sub>max</sub>	power of solar PV module at Maximum Power Point (MPP) (W)
$P_{m,h}$	hourly mean values of the measured power in the <i>h</i> -th hour
Po	maximum possible atmospheric pressure (hPa)
$P_{p,h}$	hourly mean values of the forecasted power in the $h$ -th hour
$P_{PV}$	power output of solar PV array at MPP (W)
P <sub>PV,STC</sub>	rated power output of solar PV system of single array at MPP (W)
r	correlation coefficient (dimensionless)
R <sup>2</sup>	coefficient of determination (dimensionless)
RF <sub>m</sub>	measured rainfall (mm)
RFo	maximum possible rainfall (mm)

RH <sub>m</sub>	measured relative humidity (%)	
$\mathrm{RH}_{\mathrm{o}}$	maximum possible relative humidity (%)	
S	measured sunshine duration (hours)	
So	maximum possible sunshine duration (hours)	
$T_j$	ambient temperature around PV panels (°C)	
$T_{amb}/T_{\rm m}$	measured ambient temperature (°C)	
To	maximum possible ambient temperature (°C)	
V <sub>oc</sub>	open circuit voltage of solar PV module at STC (V)	
V <sub>pmax</sub>	maximum power point voltage of solar PV module (V)	
Wi	<i>i</i> <sup>th</sup> rules strength	
wi	normalized firing rule strength	
Wij	connection weight directed from <i>j</i> neuron to <i>i</i> neuron	
WS <sub>m</sub>	measured wind speed (Km/hr)	
WSo	maximum possible wind speed (Km/hr)	
Xij	<i>j</i> <sup>th</sup> neuron incoming signal	
X <sub>max</sub>	maximum limit of normalized range	
$\mathbf{X}_{\min}$	minimum limit of normalized range	
Greek Symbols		
φ	latitude of the site (degree)	
ω <sub>s</sub>	mean sunrise hour angle (degree)	
<i>N<sub>day</sub></i>	number of days in a year beginning from 1 <sup>st</sup> January (dimensionless)	

δ solar declination angle (degree) optical efficiency (%)  $\eta_0$ temperature parameter at MPP (dimensionless) γ  $\theta_i$ bias of *i* neuron  $\mu_A(Y)$ membership function of subset A of universal set Y membership function degree of fuzzy sets  $A_i$  $\mu_{A,i}(x)$  $\mu_{A\cup B}(Y)$ union of fuzzy sets A and B of universal set Y intersection of fuzzy sets A and B of universal set Y  $\mu_{A\cap B}(Y)$  $\mu_B(Y)$ membership function of subset B of universal set Y  $\mu_{B,j}(y)$ membership function degree of fuzzy sets  $B_i$ membership function  $\mu_p$  $\mu_p(Y)$ grade of membership function of universal set Y Ν normalization to the firing strength Σ summation function υ union  $\cap$ intersection

#### Nomenclature

AC	Alternating Current
ANFIS	Adaptive Neural-Fuzzy Inference System
ANN	Artificial Neural Network
AR	Auto Regressive
ARMA	Auto Regressive Moving Average
CFNN	Cascade Forward Neural Network
CPCR2	Code for Physical Computation of Radiation, 2 bands
CWET	Centre for Wind Energy Technology

DNI	Direct Normal Irradiance
EMR	Eastern Mediterranean Region
EMS	Energy Management System
ENN	Elman Neural Network
FCS-MPC	Finite Control Set-Model Predictive Control
FFNN	Feed Forward Neural Network
FIS	Fuzzy Inference System
FY	Financial Year
GA	Genetic Algorithm
GBIs	Generation Based Incentives
GRNN	Generalized Regression Neural Network
GWO	Grey Wolf Optimization
Н	High
НН	High-High
HIT	Heterojunction with Intrinsic Thin Layer
IMD	Indian Meteorological Department
INC	Incremental Conductance
ISA	International Solar Alliance
IST	Indian Standard Time
JNNSM	Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission
L	Low
LAT	Local Apparent Time
LM	Low-Medium

LNN	Linear Neural Network
LRNN	Layered Recurrent Neural Network
LVQ	Learning Vector Quantization
Μ	Medium
MAPE	Mean Absolute Percentage Error
MBE	Mean Bias Error
MF	Membership Function
МН	Medium-High
MLFFNN	Multi-Layer Feed Forward Neural Network
MNRE	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
MPC	Model Predictive Control
MPE	Mean Percentage Error
MPP	Maximum Power Point
MPPT	Maximum Power Point Tracking
NAPCC	National Action Plan on Climatic Change
NISE	National Institute of Solar Energy
NIWE	National Institute of Wind Energy
NMAE	Normalized Mean Absolute Error
nRMSE	Normalized Root Mean Square Error
NWP	Numerical Weather Prediction
P&O	Perturb and Observe
PSO	Particle Swarm Optimization
PV	Photovoltaic

RBFNN	Radial Basis Function Neural Network
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
REST	Reference Evaluation of Solar Transmittance
REST2	Reference Evaluation of Solar Transmittance, 2 bands
RMSE	Root Mean Square Error
SEC	Solar Energy Centre
SOM	Self-Organizing Map
SPV	Solar Photovoltaic
SRRA	Solar Radiation Resource Assessment
STC	Standard Test Condition
SVM	Support Vector Machine
SVR	Support Vector Regression
SVR-RBF	Support Vector Regression -Radial Basis Function
TRAINLM	Levenberg-Marquardt Training algorithm
TSK	Takagi, Sugeno & Kang
VH	Very-High

VL Very-Low