## Development of IoT based Maximum Power Point Tracking with Fault Detection Techniques

M.R. Rashel<sup>1,2,4</sup>, M.T. Ahmed<sup>1</sup>, Md S. Ali, H.M. Ashfaque, M. Tlemcani<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Instituto de Ciências da Terra, Universidade de Évora, Portugal <sup>3</sup>Instrumentation and Control Lab, Department of Mechatronics Engineering, Universidade de Evora, Portugal <sup>4</sup>UniversaPulsar LDA, Portugal\* \* Email: mrashel@uevora.pt

The primary objective of this study is to detect the faulty PV panel amidst a significant number of PV panels that are operational in the real phase. The number of PV plants worldwide is rapidly increasing, and





Fig.1 P-V curve from real time data

they necessitate continuous monitoring to maintain high performance. However, identifying a specific PV panel in a large plant can be challenging. Although monitoring systems are available in the market, they are expensive, require significant investment, and it is challenging to obtain information about a single panel. In this study, a cost-effective device has been developed that monitors each PV panel in real-time, and its cost is lower than the current monitoring systems. The device is connected to a central server that sends messages to small devices, making it more flexible to observe from anywhere in the world.

The detection of faults plays a crucial role in improving the performance of PV panels. A single faulty panel in the operational phase can significantly reduce the overall system's performance. Identifying the type of fault can suggest various solutions to improve the efficiency of the system. This study aims to continuously monitor the panels and detect the level of fault through artificial intelligence. This process helps to identify and eliminate faults, ultimately improving the efficiency of the PV panel system.

## Acknowledgment

The author would like to thank the UniversaPulsar LDA for supporting the work and ICT (Institute of Earth Sciences) of University of Évora for the help to enable the work. The second author would like to acknowledge Foundation of Science and Technology (FCT) Portugal of MCTES of ESF of European Union, doctoral research grant 2020.06312.BD for funding the work.

[1] Rashel, M.R., Albino, A., Gonçalves, T., Veiga, A., Ahmed, T., Tlemçani, M., "Comparison of Photovoltaic panel's standard and simplified models", in Proc. of *International Conference for Students on Applied Engineering*, UK, October 2016.

[2] Jummat, S.A., Othman, M.H., "Solar Energy Measurement Using Arduino", MATEC Web of Conferences 150, 01007 2018.

[3] Rashel, M.R., Albino, A., Gonçalves, T., Tlemçani, M., "MATLAB Simulink modeling of photovoltaic cells for understanding shadow effect", in Proc. Of International Conference on Renewable Energy Research and Applications, Birmingham, UK, November 2016.