Introduction to Resource Assessments

Carsten Hoyer-Klick
Global Horizontal Irradiation (GHI)

- Direct Horizontal Irradiation (DHI)
- Diffuse Irradiation (DIF)

GHI = DHI + DIF

Example:
- DHI = 600 W/m²
- DIF = 150 W/m²
- → GHI = 750 W/m²

Direct Normal Irradiation (DNI)

DNI = DHI / \sin \alpha

Example:
- DHI = 600 W/m²
  - \alpha = 50°
  - → DNI = 848 W/m²
  - DNI > DHI
Solar Energy Resources

Fixed Non-Concentrating PV
- Global (Direct+Diffuse) Irradiation on a Surface tilted towards Equator (GTI)

Sun-Tracking Non-Concentrating PV
- Global Normal (Perpendicular) Irradiation on a Surface Tracking the Sun (GNI)

Sun-Tracking Concentrating PV and CSP
- Direct Normal Irradiation on a Surface Tracking the Sun (DNI)

Fixed Horizontal Array and Solar Updraft
- Global Horizontal Irradiance (GHI)

Solar Energy Resources Time Series

site: Munich, data: meteonorm
Ground Measurements

Solar radiation instruments

global irradiance

- pyranometer: uncertainty: 2%* – 5%
- reference cells: uncertainty: 5% – 10%

*target accuracy of Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN)
Solar radiation instruments

**diffuse irradiance**
- shaded pyranometers
  - pyranometer with shading ring
  - pyranometer with shading disc and sun tracking device
- uncertainty: 4%* - 8%

*target accuracy of Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN)*

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Solar radiation instruments

**direct irradiance**
- field pyrheliometer
- absolute cavity radiometer (current world reference of calibration)
- combined measurements uncertainty: 1%*
- rotating shadowband pyranometer uncertainty: 2%

*target accuracy of Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN)*
Precise sensors (also for calibration of RSP):

**Thermal sensors:**
pyranometer and pyrheliometer, precise 2-axis tracking

**Advantage:**
+ high accuracy
+ separate GHI, DNI and DHI sensors
  (cross-check through redundant measurements)

**Disadvantages:**
- high acquisition and O&M costs
- high susceptibility for soiling
- high power supply

Instrumentation for unattended abroad sites:
Rotating Shadowband Pyranometer (RSP)

**Sensor:** Si photodiode

**Advantages:**
+ fairly acquisition costs
+ small maintenance costs
+ low susceptibility for soiling
+ low power supply

**Disadvantage:**
- special correction for good accuracy necessary (established by DLR)
Availability of ground measured data

**long term measurements at meteorological stations**
- National Meteorological offices
- World radiometric Network (by World Meteorological Organisation)
- Baseline Surface Radiation Network

**World radiometric network (WRDC)**
- global irradiance & sunshine duration
- ca. 1200 stations
- monthly or daily values

World Radiometric network 1966-1993
(source: WRDC/WMO, Cros et al., 2004)
Baseline surface radiation network BSRN)

- high quality measurements
- global, direct, diffuse
- minute values

Resource products based on ground measured data

- spatial interpolation techniques to derive maps and site specific data
- stochastic models or average daily profiles to derive values with high temporal resolution (daily, hourly or minute values)
- statistical global to beam models to derive DNI
Properties of Solar Radiation

1. Radiation at the top of atmosphere
2. Absorption (ca. 1%)
3. Rayleigh scattering and absorption (ca. 15%)
4. Scatter and Absorption (≥ ca. 15%, max. 100%)
5. Reflection, Scatter, Absorption (max. 100%)
6. Absorption (ca. 15%)
7. Direct normal irradiance at ground

- Ozone
- Air molecules
- Aerosol
- Clouds
- Water Vapor
Clear sky Model input data

- Aerosol optical thickness
  GACP Resolution 4°x5°, monthly climatology
  MATCH Resolution 1.9°x1.9°, daily climatology

- Water Vapor: NCAR/NCEP Reanalysis
  Resolution 1.125°x1.125°, daily values

- Ozone: TOMS sensor
  Resolution 1.25°x1.25°, monthly values

How to derive cloud data from satellites

- The Meteosat satellite is located in a geostationary orbit
- The satellite scans the earth line by line every half hour
How to derive cloud data from satellites

- The Meteosat satellite is located in a geostationary orbit
- The satellite scans the earth line by line every half hour
- The earth is scanned in the visible and infra red spectrum
Calculation of solar radiation from remote sensing

\[ G_{\text{clear sky}} = G_{\text{direct, clear}} + G_{\text{diffuse, clear}} \]

Methods used:
- Heliosat-2 for the visible channel
- IR brightness temperature as indicator for high cirrus clouds (T < -30°C, DNI = 0)

Radiative Transfer in the Atmosphere

- Extraterrestrial
- O2 and CO2
- Ozone
- Rayleigh
- Water Vapor
- Aerosol
- Clouds
Comparing ground and satellite data: time scales

- Ground measurements are typically pin point measurements which are temporally integrated.
- Satellite measurements are instantaneous spatial averages.
- Hourly values are calculated from temporal and spatial averaging (cloud movement).

Example for hourly time series for Plataforma Solar de Almería (Spain)

Validation of the data
Ground measurements vs. satellite derived data

Ground measurements

Advantages
+ high accuracy (depending on sensors)
+ high time resolution

Disadvantages
- high costs for installation and O&M
- soiling of the sensors
- sometimes sensor failure
- no possibility to gain data of the past

Satellite data

Advantages
+ spatial coverage
+ long-term data (more than 20 years)
+ effectively no failures
+ no soiling
+ no ground site necessary
+ low costs

Disadvantages
- lower time resolution
- low accuracy at high time resolution

Inter annual variability

Strong inter annual and regional variations

Average of the direct normal irradiance from 1999-2003

1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
Long-term variability of solar irradiance

- over 10 years of measurement to get long-term mean within ±5%

Data Sources
NASA-SSE

Earth System Science

NASA Satellite Measurements, Analysis and Terra Aqua GMAO

SSE Web Site

Over 200 solar energy and meteorology parameters averaged from 10 years of data

Applied Science Outcome

Surface Meteorology and Solar Energy (SSE) Datasets And Web interface

Growing over the last 7 years to nearly 14,000 users, nearly 6.4 million hits and 1.25 million data downloads

http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse/

Satel-light

- 5 years of half hour data from 1996 to 2000
- Coverage: Europe

Maps

Diagrams

Data files

www.satel-light.com
Meteonorm

- Based on ground data
- Satellite assisted interpolation between stations
- Stochastic models to derive higher resolution data
- Global to tilted models

Climate data
Chain of Algorithms

- 8050 stations
- 8 parameters:
  - Global radiation (horizontal, inclined)
  - Air temperature
  - Dewpoint temperature
  - Wind speed and direction
  - Sunshine duration
  - Precipitation
  - Days with precipitation
PVGIS

DATA
- solar radiation (Europe, Africa & SW Asia)
- ambient temperature (Europe)
  + terrain, land cover...

ASSESSMENT TOOLS
- solar radiation for fixed and sun-tracking surfaces
- output from grid-connected PV
- performance of standalone PV (only Africa)

MAPS
- interactive
- static

http://re.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pvgis/

Calculation of grid-connected PV performance
- Calculation takes into account angle-of-incidence effects
- For crystalline silicon and CIS/CIGS, the effects of temperature and irradiance on the conversion efficiency are modelled.
- Generic (user-selected) value for BOS losses.
- Calculates output for:
  - Specified inclination and orientation
  - Optimum inclination for given orientation
  - Optimum inclination and orientation
  - 1- and 2-axis flat-plate tracking
Helioclim

- same area for H1, H2, H3
- uncertainties of irradiance values assessed and provided
- dissemination through the SoDa Service
- access to data in one click
- access on-pay, except 1985-1989 (daily) and 2005
- coupled to other services, e.g. irradiance on inclined surface

Satellite data: SOLEMI – Solar Energy Mining

- SOLEMI is a service for high resolution and high quality data
- Coverage: Meteosat Prime up to 22 years, Meteosat East 10 years (in 2008)
Results of the satellite-based solar assessment

Digital maps: e.g. annual sum of direct normal irradiation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>kWh/m²/y</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000-1799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700-1049</td>
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<tr>
<td>600-1099</td>
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<tr>
<td>500-1199</td>
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<tr>
<td>400-1349</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>270-2899</td>
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<tr>
<td>290-3600</td>
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</table>

The original digital maps can be navigated and zoomed with Geographical Information Systems like ArcView or Idrisi.

Temporal resolution of input data: 1 hour
Spatial resolution of digital map: 1 km x 1 km per Pixel
Long term analysis: up to 20 years of data

www.dlr.de/tt/csp-resources

Results of the satellite-based solar assessment

Time series: for single sites, e.g. hourly, monthly or annual

Hourly DNI [Wh/m²] for one site

Monthly sums of DNI [kWh/m²] for one site

Annual sums of DNI [kWh/m²] for one site

Hourly monthly mean of DNI in Wh/m²

Source: MED-CP 3505
Unifying Access

- Lessons learned from SoDa:
  - General portal is beneficial for solar energy users
  - SoDa used proprietary software and communication standards
  - High maintenance efforts in operating the portal

- New approach in MESoR:
  - Open source software portal with large development community Internet standard communication protocols
  - Google Maps API for ease of use
  - The portal is a broker for data bases located elsewhere, it does not store and offer data itself
  - Connexion with larger initiative (GEO/GEOSS - IEA-Task36 SHC)

Resource products: input and extension

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>product</th>
<th>input</th>
<th>area</th>
<th>period</th>
<th>provider</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NASA SSE</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td>World</td>
<td>1983-2005</td>
<td>NASA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meteonorm</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td>World</td>
<td>1981-2000</td>
<td>Meteotest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solemi</td>
<td>🌞</td>
<td></td>
<td>1991-&gt;</td>
<td>DLR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helioclim</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td></td>
<td>1985-&gt;</td>
<td>Ecole de Mines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EnMetSol</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td></td>
<td>1995-&gt;</td>
<td>Univ. of Oldenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satel-light</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>1996-2001</td>
<td>ENTPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVGIS Europe</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>1981-1990</td>
<td>JRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESRA</td>
<td>☀️</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>1981-1990</td>
<td>Ecole de Mines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- <10 years
- 10-20 years
- >20 years
### Resource products: Resolution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Input</th>
<th>Temp Resolution</th>
<th>Spatial Resolution</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NASA SSE</td>
<td>Averag. daily profile</td>
<td>100 km</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meteonorm</td>
<td>Synthetic hourly/min</td>
<td>1 km (+SRTM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solemi</td>
<td>1h</td>
<td>1 km</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helioclim</td>
<td>15min/30min</td>
<td>30 km // 3-7 km</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EnMetSol</td>
<td>15min/1h</td>
<td>3-7 km // 1-3 km</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satel-light</td>
<td>30min</td>
<td>5-7 km</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVGIS Europe</td>
<td>Averag. daily profile</td>
<td>1 km (+ SRTM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESRA</td>
<td>Averag. daily profile</td>
<td>10 km</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Synthetic high resolution values**
- **Measured high resolution values**

### Resource products: parameters

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Parameters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>NASA SSE</td>
<td>GHI, DNI, DHI, clouds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meteonorm</td>
<td>GHI, DNI, DHI, shadowing, illuminance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solemi</td>
<td>GHI, DNI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helioclim</td>
<td>GHI, DNI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EnMetSol</td>
<td>GHI, DNI, DHI, spectra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satel-light</td>
<td>GHI, DNI, DHI, illuminance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVGIS Europe</td>
<td>GHI, DNI, DHI, shadowing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESRA</td>
<td>GHI, DNI, DHI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Combining Ground and Satellite Assessments

- Satellite data
  - Long term average
  - Year to year variability
  - Regional assessment

- Ground data
  - Site specific
  - High temporal resolution possible (up to 1 min to model transient effects)
  - Good distribution function

Good Solar Resource Assessments

- Based on long term data
- Site specific, high spatial resolution
- Sufficient temporal resolution for the application
- Modeled data set has been benchmarked, information on quality is available
- For large projects: Based on combined sources (e.g. Satellite and ground data).
Wind Resource Assessment

Outline

- Logarithmic wind profile
- WASP based Resource Assessments
- Numerical Wind Atlases
- Offshore wind estimations
Logarithmic wind profile

- Wind speed increases with height above ground
- Profile depends on surface properties (roughness length)
- Resource assessments therefore need exact characterizations of the surroundings of the measurement and wind turbine site

Site specific wind resource assessment

Important information is:

- **Distribution of wind speeds**
  (can be approximated by a Weibull distribution with parameters A and K)

- **Distribution of wind directions**
  Wind rose shows probability of a wind from a certain sector
  (This needs to be set in relation with the local roughness in this sector)
How do I estimate the resource at a site?

- Local measurement
  - High effort, needs time

- Estimation from a more distant measurement
  - The WAsP Method

- Wind Atlases
  - Based on measurements
  - Numerical wind atlas

Measurements

- Measurements of meteorological stations at 10m above ground are often of limited accuracy and use for wind energy applications

- Dedicated 50m masts with at least 3 sensors at different heights are much more expensive but much better suited to derive data for wind energy.

- Most such measurements are operated privately and the data is not accessible.
The WAsP Method

WAsP: Wind Atlas Analysis Application Program

- How to apply measurements from one location to new locations?
  - Step 1: Create a generalized wind climate by removing local effects at measurement site
  - Step 2: Create a new local wind climate by adding local effects at the wind turbine site.

What are local effects?

- Nearby obstacles: Houses, close trees, etc.
- Changes in roughness: From fields to wood, to settlements, ...
- Changes in orography: Hills, valleys

Image source: RISØ/DTU
The WAsP Approach

- Local effects are removed from wind measurements to derive a generalized wind climate (for a uniform surface).
- The generalized wind climate is adapted to proposed sites.
- Input:
  - A suitable number of measurements
  - A Meso-Scale numerical weather model.

Wind Atlas based on measurements

- A suitable number of high quality measurements is characterized for its local effects.
- A generalized wind climate is produced for each measurement (roughness 0.03m, 50 m height).
- The measurements are combined into an atlas.
- Limitations for complex terrain and coastal zones.
Offshore

- The wind profile is more complex due to
  - larger thermal inertia of the water
  - wind and wave interactions
  - time lag of wave development

- Nearly no measurements, very few platforms e.g. in front of the Danish or German coast

- But: Wind speed can be assessed by measuring the wave height with radar satellites. Limitations exist close to the coast.

Data sources

- Wind Atlases of RISØ/DTU: [www.windatlas.dk](http://www.windatlas.dk)
- SWERA: [http://swera.unep.net](http://swera.unep.net)

- Wind resource assessment is a commercial business
- Some companies/institutions are:
  - AWS Truewind
  - 3tier
  - Garrad Hassan
  - Cener
  - NREL
  - National Met Offices
Sample Applications

Example: Global Wind Atlas
Annual Average Wind Speed at 50 m Height

http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse/

Example: Wind Cost Potential Functions
Wind Power Potentials in Europe
Resource and Land Availability

Wind Speed in m/s

Wind Data:
German Meteorological service

Scholz 2009

Wind Electricity Cost: Technology and Cost Status 2006

€ / kWh
- < 0.04
- 0.04 - 0.08
- 0.08 - 0.12
- 0.12 - 0.16
- 0.16 - 0.2
- > 0.2

Scholz 2009
Cost Potential Functions for Wind Power in Germany

Example: Offshore Wind Potentials
Progressive Model

DRAFT!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>AEP [TWh/a]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BE</td>
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<tr>
<td>DE</td>
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<tr>
<td>DK</td>
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<td>NL</td>
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<td>NO</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>1050.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

www.windspeed.eu

Example: CSP Export Potentials
Solar Energy Resource Assessment

Data based on the GCOS dataset for the 20-year period (July 1983 - June 2003)
(http://www.bacvarc.gmd.de)
Map created and map support by 2006
Info: www.dlr.de

Land Area Resource Assessment

Exclusion of:
- slope,
- land use,
- water,
- dunes,
- national parks,
- infrastructure,
- etc....

www.dlr.de/tt/csp-resources
Solar Electricity Corridors to Europe: REACCESS *

![Map of HVDC interconnections for CSP (REACCESS)](www.dlr.de/tt/csp-resources)