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**UTHM**  
Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

**UNIVERSITI TUN HUSSEIN ONN MALAYSIA**

**FINAL EXAMINATION  
SEMESTER I  
SESSION 2022/2023**

COURSE NAME : PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS  
COURSE CODE : BEE 41503  
PROGRAMME CODE : BEV & BEJ  
EXAMINATION DATE : FEBRUARY 2023  
DURATION : 3 HOURS  
INSTRUCTION : 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS  
2. THIS FINAL EXAMINATION IS CONDUCTED VIA **CLOSED BOOK**.  
3. STUDENTS ARE **PROHIBITED** TO CONSULT THEIR OWN MATERIAL OR ANY EXTERNAL RESOURCES DURING THE EXAMINATION CONDUCTED VIA CLOSED BOOK

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF **EIGHT (8)** PAGES

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- Q1** (a) List down the environmental factors that can affect the output of a PV panel. (3 marks)
- (b) Describe **three (3)** impacts of high temperature of PV cells towards the output of PV panel. (3 marks)
- (c) The datasheet of SuriaCinta 315 PV panel is tabulated in **TableQ1(c)**. Determine the expected maximum power output the PV panel when it is exposed to the following real operating condition:
- Operating PV cell temperature of 65°C.
  - Irradiance of 800Wm<sup>-2</sup>
  - Dirt 2%, no shading
  - LID degradation is 2.5% on the zeroth year.
- (14 marks)
- Q2** (a) Sketch the indirect feed-in grid connected photovoltaic (GCPV) system in low voltage system. (3 marks)
- (b) Draw and label the single-phase GCPV schematic diagram according to the MS1837. (7 marks)
- (c) Differentiate the advantages and disadvantages of the micro-inverter and central inverter. (4 marks)
- (d) Explain the **three (3)** main features of the GCPV inverter. (6 marks)
- Q3** (a) A house has PV space area of 20m in length and 6 m in width. By using the QCells solar module shown in **FigureQ3(a)** and assuming the inter-module gap of 10mm,
- (i) Determine the number of panels can be installed in landscape orientation. (5 marks)
- (ii) Determine the number of panels can be installed in portrait orientation. (5 marks)
- (iii) Justify the best orientation to maximize the energy harvesting for this house. (2 marks)

- (b) Mr. Razali plans to have a GCPV system that is capable for reducing annual energy consumption up to 80%. The monthly electricity consumption of his house is presented in **TableQ3(b)**. He plans to design the system with the following details:

- New QCells PV module 420W, datasheet is shown in **FigureQ3(a)**
- Average daily peak sun hour (PSH) of 4.5 h
- 4 % loss due to dirt
- 2.5 % cable loss
- 98 % inverter efficiency
- No shading
- Power degradation factor is 2%
- Average cell temperature is 55° C

Calculate the total number of PV modules to meet his target.

(8marks)

- Q4** (a) After considering several constraints, a client planned to install 27 units of QCells 430 W PV modules (datasheet given in **Figure 3(a)**) and an inverter in **Table 4 (a)**. Given the maximum and minimum cell temperatures are 75° C and 20° C respectively.

- (i) Determine the suitable inverter nominal power rating required if the DC/AC ratio set to 1.2. (1 mark)
- (ii) Determine the maximum number PV modules in series per string that will not damage the inverter. (3 marks)
- (iii) Determine the maximum number of PV modules in series per string based on the MPPT mode. (3 marks)
- (iv) Determine the maximum number of PV modules in series per string based on the maximum system voltage. (3 marks)
- (v) Find the maximum number of PV modules that can be connected in series. (1 marks)
- (vi) Determine the minimum number of PV modules in series per string based on MPPT mode. Given cable efficiency is 0.97. (3 marks)
- (vii) Determine the minimum number of PV modules in series per string that shall start up the inverter from the OFF mode. (3 marks)
- (viii) Find the minimum number of PV modules to connected in series. (1 mark)
- (ix) Find the maximum number of string per MPPT. (2 marks)

- Q5** (a) List the importance of system performance and evaluations of a PV system (4 marks)
- (b) Differentiate between global monitoring and analytical monitoring for PV systems. (6 marks)
- (c) Your company has installed one GCPV system at Site A and another GCPV system at Site B. As the head of the project, you are instructed to evaluate which GCPV system is better in terms of acceptance ratio (AR) and energy performance index (EPI). The information for both sites is tabulated in **TableQ5(c)**. (10 marks)

**-END OF QUESTIONS**

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Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
Maximum power	315 W	$\gamma_{Pmax}$	-0.37% °C <sup>-1</sup>
Power tolerance	0 ~ +3%	$\beta_{Voc}$	-0.28% °C <sup>-1</sup>
Short circuit current	10.05 A	$\alpha_{Isc}$	0.048% °C <sup>-1</sup>
Open circuit voltage	40.5 V	NOCT	47 °C
Current at maximum power	9.49 A	Efficiency	18.9%
Voltage at maximum power	33.2 V	Max. system voltage	1 500 V DC

**TableQ1(c)**



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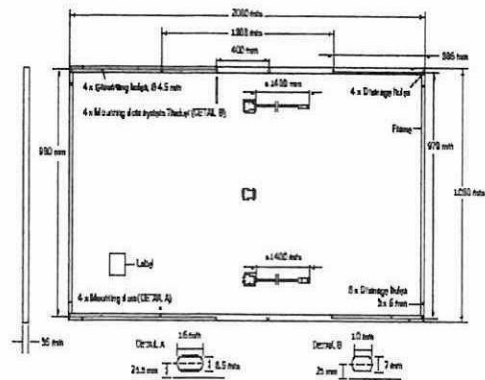
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PV Modules Datasheet (QCells)

MECHANICAL SPECIFICATION

Format	2080 mm × 1030 mm × 35 mm (including frame)
Weight	24.5 kg
Front Cover	3.2 mm thermally pre-stressed glass with anti-reflection technology
Back Cover	Composite film
Frame	Anodised aluminium
Cell	6 × 24 monocrystalline Q. ANTUM solar half cells
Junction box	53-101 mm × 32-60 mm × 15-18 mm Protection class IP67, with bypass diodes
Cable	4 mm <sup>2</sup> Solar cable; (+) ≥1400 mm, (-) ≥1400 mm*
Connector	Stäubli MC4-Evo2, Hanwha Q CELLS HQC4, Amphenol UTX, Renhe 05-8, JMTHY JM601A, Tongling Cable01S-F, IP68 or Friends PV2e; IP67

\*Short cables (+) ≥700 mm, (-) ≥350 mm are available upon request.



ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

POWER CLASS		420	425	430	435	
MINIMUM PERFORMANCE AT STANDARD TEST CONDITIONS, STC <sup>1</sup> (POWER TOLERANCE +5W / -0 W)						
Minimum	Power at MPP <sup>1</sup>	$P_{MPP}$ [W]	420	425	430	435
	Short Circuit Current <sup>1</sup>	$I_{SC}$ [A]	10.74	10.78	10.83	10.87
	Open Circuit Voltage <sup>1</sup>	$V_{OC}$ [V]	48.84	49.09	49.33	49.58
	Current at MPP	$I_{MPP}$ [A]	10.22	10.27	10.31	10.36
	Voltage at MPP	$V_{MPP}$ [V]	41.08	41.39	41.70	42.00
	Efficiency <sup>1</sup>	$\eta$ [%]	≥19.6	≥19.8	≥20.1	≥20.3
MINIMUM PERFORMANCE AT NORMAL OPERATING CONDITIONS, NMOT <sup>2</sup>						
Minimum	Power at MPP	$P_{MPP}$ [W]	314.5	318.3	322.0	325.8
	Short Circuit Current	$I_{SC}$ [A]	8.65	8.69	8.72	8.76
	Open Circuit Voltage	$V_{OC}$ [V]	46.05	46.29	46.52	46.76
	Current at MPP	$I_{MPP}$ [A]	8.05	8.08	8.12	8.15
	Voltage at MPP	$V_{MPP}$ [V]	39.09	39.38	39.67	39.96

<sup>1</sup>Measurement tolerances  $P_{MPP} \pm 3\%$ ;  $I_{SC}$ ;  $V_{OC} \pm 5\%$  at STC: 1000 W/m<sup>2</sup>, 25 ± 2 °C, AM 1.5 according to IEC 60904-3 • <sup>2</sup>800 W/m<sup>2</sup>, NMOT, spectrum AM 1.5

TEMPERATURE COEFFICIENTS

Temperature Coefficient of $I_{SC}$	$\alpha$ [%/K]	+0.04	Temperature Coefficient of $V_{OC}$	$\beta$ [%/K]	-0.27
Temperature Coefficient of $P_{MPP}$	$\gamma$ [%/K]	-0.35	Nominal Module Operating Temperature	NMOT [°C]	43 ± 3

Maximum system voltage = 1000 V

Figure Q3(a)

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Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Energy (kWh)	800	N.A	900	850	N.A	910	870	900	800	850	900	850

N.A – Not available

**TableQ3(b)**

**Inverter Datasheet**

Technical Data	Rating
Input (DC)	
Maximum input voltage	1100 V
Start Voltage	150 V
MPPT Voltage Range	160 V-1000 V
Maximum Input Current per MPPT	11 A
Max DC Short Circuit Current	20 A
Number of MPPT	2
Number of Input per MPPT	2
Output (AC)	
Nominal or Rated Power	10,000 W
Rated Voltage	230 V / 50 Hz
Efficiency	98 %

**TableQ4(a)**

Site A		Site B	
Pout measured	32 280 W	Pout measured	23 156 W
Pout expected	31 305 W	Pout expected	28 880 W
Eout measured	59.01 MWh	Eout measured	43.16 MWh
Eout expected	56.17 MWh	Eout expected	48.88 MWh

**TableQ5(c)**

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**List of Formulae**

$$P_{max} = P_{maxSTC} \times f_{mm} \times f_{degrad} \times f_{temp_p} \times f_g \times f_{clean} \times f_{unshade}$$

$$f_{degrade} = f_{LID} \times f_{age}$$

$$f_g = \frac{G_t}{1000}$$

$$f_{temp_p} = 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\gamma_{pmax}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod} - T_{STC}) \right]$$

$$E_{Req} = \frac{\varepsilon}{100\%} \times \frac{12}{n} \times \sum_{m=1}^{12} E_m$$

$$P_{Array\_STC} = \frac{E_{req}}{PSH \times k_{deteration} \times n_{sub\_system}}$$

$$f_{temp\_ave} = 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\gamma_{pmax}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod\_ave} - T_{STC}) \right]$$

$$P_{nom\_inv} \geq \frac{P_{A\_STC}}{f_1}$$

$$V_{oc\_max} = V_{oc\_STC} \times \left\{ 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\beta_{voc}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod\_min} - T_{STC}) \right] \right\}$$

$$V_{P_{max\_max}} = V_{P_{max} \times STC} \times \left\{ 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\beta_{vpmax}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod\_min} - T_{STC}) \right] \right\}$$

$$V_{OC\_min} = V_{OC\_STC} \times \left\{ 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\beta_{voc}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod\_min} - T_{STC}) \right] \right\}$$

$$V_{P_{max\_min}} = V_{P_{max} \times STC} \times \left\{ 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\beta_{vpmax}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod\_max} - T_{STC}) \right] \right\}$$

$$V_{OC\_min} = V_{OC\_STC} \times \left\{ 1 + \left[ \left( \frac{\beta_{voc}}{100} \right) \times (T_{mod\_max} - T_{STC}) \right] \right\}$$

$$N_{p_{max\_per\_mppi}} = r.d \left[ \frac{I_{SC\_max\_mppi}}{I_{SC\_STC} \times sf} \right]$$

$$AR = \frac{P_{out\ measured}}{P_{out\ expected}} \quad EPI = \frac{E_{out\ measured}}{E_{out\ expected}}$$