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Impact of Partial Shading on Various PV Array Configurations and Different Modeling Approaches: A Comprehensive Review

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ABSTRACT Since the last decade, partial shading conditions (PSCs) and its adverse influences on photovoltaic (PV) system performance have received due attention. It motivates researchers to explore methods to diminish/disperse the shading effects and/or novel PV array configurations to sustain under PSCs. To diminish the effects of PSCs, this article presents a comprehensive review of various PV array configuration models for PV systems and metaheuristic approaches for shade dispersion effectively. Different PV array modeling approaches are identified, emphasizing their benefits, inadequacies and categorized according to vital features such as shade dispersion and improved performance in terms of efficiency; fill factor (FF), and maxima power, minimized power losses (PL) primarily. Besides these various PV array configurations such as hybrid, reconfigured, mathematical/game puzzle based advanced configurations are uniquely discussed with the existing configurations. In the current scenario, the metaheuristic algorithms are explored and widely accepted by researchers due to the less wire length requirement for PV array reconfiguration. This article discusses and deliberates recent developments in methods of solar PV performance enhancement that deserves further study. Overall, the present study is helpful for academicians and researchers in the committed solar power installation area.

INDEX TERMS Photovoltaic system, partial shading condition (PSC), game puzzle, total cross-tied (TCT), honey comb, bridge link, metaheuristic algorithm.

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, solar PV technology is very commanding and fast-growing at a global level from a small rooftop to multi-MW power plants. Solar energy is considered as a promising option of renewable energy [1]–[3]. However, because of the low conversion efficiency of the PV cell, it is necessary to extract maximum energy as much as possible in a practical PV system [4]–[6]. This leads to the design of different PV arrays with various cells/modules arrangement in series and parallel conventionally to achieve the required load power.

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All kinds of PV system installation sites, from off-grid (rural) to residential areas inside the metro cities, often forward to operation at non-uniform irradiation levels due to surrounding obstacles conditions, whereas, it is forced to reduce the size of installation land [7]–[9]. The shading effect has major non-linear impacts on the PV system performance. More than one power maxima point's such as local maximum power point (LMPP) and global maximum power point (GMPP) are available on the power-voltage (P-V) characteristics due to non-uniform solar irradiation levels [10], [11].

The major causes behind the occurrence of PSCs are the non-uniform solar irradiation due to static shading patterns

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FIGURE 1. (a). Schematic diagram of PSCs on PV array (b) Effect of partial shading on P-V and I-V characteristics.

such as nearby trees, pole (especially telecom tower), high rise buildings, bird dropping, passing clouds (dynamic shading), etc. The shading conditions have predominant effects on PV module performance connected in an array. To enhance the PV system performance, an analysis is carried out on the interconnections of modules of the PV array system in some pre-defined configurations. Moreover, it is motivating research activity to gain performance in terms of reducing the shading effect on PV systems. The present research aspect follows extensively for the comprehensive review analysis to investigate the influences of PSCs on PV array performance. The causes and shading influences on PV array are shown in terms of distorted current, voltage, and power characteristics as depicted in Figure 1(a)-(b). The non-linear behavior of P-V characteristics is helpful for performance assessment.

A. NOVELTY OF WORK

The contribution of the present research manuscript is as follows,

- A comprehensive literature review is carried out on the conventional and game puzzle PV array configurations for the extensive comparison in terms of topology, array size, grid connectivity, etc. and uniquely classified according to array configurations.
- A critical review on puzzle/game based advance configurations of the solar module is comprehensively proposed.
- The present study also includes the metaheuristic approaches for showing higher shade dispersion capability and reducing the wire length for PV array reconfigurations.

B. LITEATURE REVIEW

In this article, various types of PV array configuration models are reviewed and investigated in terms of their performance parameters such as accuracy, reliability, GMPP location, FF, minimum power loss, power enhancement (PE), and hardware implementation scope. A wide-range analysis is shown

FIGURE 2. Number of publications on distinct configurations in the time span of year 2002-2020.

related to the accuracy, robustness, ease of execution, efficiency, simplicity, and applications, pointing out the strength and weaknesses of each scheme. Based on the available literature, the research topics explore further investigation are identified and deliberated.

A sufficient number of research papers [12]–[147] are considered for extensive literature review to cover all the present and future research aspects of PV module interconnections along with shade dispersion schemes on PV array for performance improvement under the PSCs.

The significance of the categorized study is depicted in Table 1 based on research publications as available literature as per the author's best knowledge. The number of publications on distinct configurations in the period of the year 2002- 2020 is illustrated in Figure 2 as,

In this present comprehensive study, the performance parameters are considered such as PV array topology, the occurrence of partial shading, irradiation levels for investigation, capacity, and grid integration or standalone mode of power generation. The taxonomy of the PV systems under PSCs is depicted in Table 2 as,

II. PV ARRAY CONFIGURATIONS

It is a very challenging task for researchers to explore more sustainable and reliable solutions to achieve the best

performance of the PV system. The best available methods are to reconfigure the locations of PV modules to form a novel structure of the PV array. Moreover, a state of art study is carried out for various existing configurations of PV array and categorized in Figure 3 as,

A. CONVENTIONAL PV ARRAY CONFIGURATIONS 1) SERIES CONFIGURATION

The authors investigated the partial shading effect on the current-voltage (I-V) characteristic of a series connected PV cell in a module. It is observed that an area of shaded PV cell directly affects the I-V characteristic behavior [16]. Furthermore, the maximum current of 0.8A and 3.3 A is obtained for irradiation level of $200W/m^2$ and $1000W/m^2$ respectively.

The effect of shading on series-connected 108 PV cells in different four strings 6×18 , 4×27 , 3×36 , and 2×54 under different irradiation levels of 250-1000 W/m² is analyzed in [17]. The authors in [21] have investigated the 2-5 PV modules which are connected in the series configuration for analyzing the performance under PSCs at the irradiation level of $200W/m^2$. The observed values for GMPP are found to be 32.65W (in the case of two series-connected PV modules), 3 series-connected PV modules have 50.12W, 4 series-connected PV modules have 67.61W, and 5 series-connected PV modules have 85.21W.

TABLE 1. Types of configurations with the number of publications in the time span of 2002- 2020.

TABLE 2. Taxonomy of the PV system under PSCs.

TABLE 2. (Continued.) Taxonomy of the PV system under PSCs.

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The observation results clearly show that there is a sharp increment in the power loss from 8% to 50% as the irradiation levels increase from 300W/m²-800W/m². Authors have analyzed the impact of PSCs on PV module performance for the off-grid application in [26] and the experimental results illustrate that the reduction of PV module power. They have compared two configurations (S, P) under translucent and opaque shading patterns. In the case of translucent shading for the parallel connection, GMPP sharply increased from 5% to 50% at 97.8% and 72.4% irradiation respectively. While for the series connection GMPP is found 5% at 86.8% irradiation and 50% at 41.9% irradiation. In [29], the authors found GMPP as 1760W and 1610W for ideal and shading condition respectively and there is an increment in power loss of 8.5%. Experimental work is performed by the authors in [30], where series-connected PV modules at different irradiation levels: 500W/m^2 , 750W/m^2 , 1000W/m^2 , and temperature levels: 35◦C, 40◦C, and 45◦C, are analyzed. It was found that power loss is 22% for all the non-uniform irradiation conditions. In [32], a simple mathematical model is implemented to show the robustness of the proposed model and experimental MPP values are 120W and 226.8W at irradiation levels increase from 100-1000 W/m². In [35], laboratory work is performed by the researchers in which PV cells are kept at two different irradiation levels of $160W/m^2$ and $960W/m^2$, found maximum current as 0.5A and 2.8A respectively. An analysis of the performance of PV panels for distinct types of shading patterns are described in [38]. Where 18 PV modules are connected in series and, the value of GMPP is found as 1375W at 50% shading at 70% shading conditions. In [39], authors have

FIGURE 3. Classifications of PV array configurations.

considered eight types of shading cases with irradiation levels varying from 130 to 992W/m^2 . The value of GMPP is found to be 171.5 W and 58W at the irradiation level of 992W/m^2 and $279W/m^2$ respectively. In [45], an experimental study on three PV modules at different irradiation levels: 400 W/m², 700 W/m², 1000 W/m² is performed and found the best value of GMPP as 180W. An experimental and simulation study is carried out in [47] by considering two strings with three PV modules connected in series at different irradiation levels $220-890$ W/m². Furthermore, boost topology is employed to reduce the GMPP error of up to 0.56%. In [48], authors have considered thirty PV modules in the series configuration for different shading cases. The placement of the bypass diode is used to examine the performance of the PV array. It is depicted by the experimental results that the losses produced by shadow depend on the bypass diode configuration for the PV module. In another research study [50], authors have considered series configuration with experimental validation of 56, 96, and 36 number of PV modules to assess the performance and the best value of GMPP is found to be 4900W. In [55], two PV modules are connected in series and are kept at two different irradiation levels of 150 W/m² and 300 W/m². The experimental results depicted that the GMPP is having the best value of 70mW. SP configuration of seventy-two PV cells is investigated by the authors in [63]. The simulation results show that SP configuration is having minimum power losses and generates a maximum output power of 300W at non-uniform irradiation level.

In [64], authors have investigated the series configuration of four PV modules under PSCs. The MPP at 1000W/m² is found as $800W$ while at $250W/m^2$, it is $230W$. A research investigation is performed in [66] where two PV modules are connected in a series configuration to study the effect of insolation, temperature, series resistance, and parallel resistance on the I-V and P-V characteristics. Furthermore, a similar study is also carried out in [68] on twenty-four PV modules connected in series with a power generation capacity of 1.1kW at a minimum irradiation level of 771 $W/m²$.

An experimental analysis is carried out for the performance analysis in [69] by implementing the twenty-five PV modules connected in series under PSCs, where GMPP is found to be 350W at the minimum irradiation level of $400W/m^2$.

Although in another study [71], a comparative study is given by considering the hardware and simulation platform with or without bypass diode PV modules connected in series. While in [72], authors have implemented only the bypass diode to reduce the effect of shading on PV panels. In [74], two PV modules connected in series, generating maximum power of 150W in ideal condition, whereas 110W at an irradiation level of 700 W/m². In [75] authors have implemented three PV panels connected in the series and pointed out the values of GMPP as 165W and 130W at 100% and 30% of irradiance respectively. Authors in [77] employed an experimental setup in real-time, where four PV modules are connected in a series configuration and compared with the simulation results. There is only 0.8% of error as reported between experimental and simulation results. A similar experimental and simulation study is performed by the authors in [86], [90] where sixty PV cells are kept at under different shading conditions: 25%, 50%, and 75%. Moreover, these obtained results are verified with the practical results for all the PSCs. The series configuration of the PV array is illustrated in Figure 4.

FIGURE 4. Series configuration [12], [68].

2) PARALLEL CONFIGURATION

The authors have implemented a MATLAB/Simulink model to study a parallel configuration of PV arrays for analyzing the performance in [26], [30]. In this work, 20×4 and 3×27 PV array sizes are examined under different PSCs at irradiation levels of 200W/m², 500W/m², and 900W/m² in terms of maximum voltage, current and GMPP. The shading effect is observed extensively under the real environmental conditions to validate the obtained results. In another investigation [34], authors have implemented a laboratory based real-time setup of PV cells in a controlled environmental having an irradiation level of 500-980W/ m^2 along with temperature variation of 31◦C - 34◦C. Each PV module having a capacity of 60W, is connected in series and the parallel arrangement is made to investigate the electrical performance under different shading patterns. In [43], [45], a MATLAB based Simulink model is implemented where the PV modules are arranged in three, four, and eight numbers to form the configuration of SP, parallel, and multi-string for examining the effect of shading pattern on system performance. The best value of GMPP is observed in the case of the SP configuration. In another simulation study [47], [49], the effect of shading patterns is examined by taking the 3×2 PV array size arranged in series and parallel configurations. Where the best value of GMPP (2350W) is observed for the case of the parallel configuration at varying irradiation levels $(132-729 \text{ W/m}^2)$. The authors in [70] implemented an experimental setup, where 4 PV modules are arranged in three configurations: series, parallel, and SP configuration to investigate the electrical performance under different shading patterns. The best value of GMPP is found to be 954.88W for parallel configuration at irradiation level varying from 750 W/m² to 1160 W/m². A hardware implementation of 6×9 PV array size is investigated in [73] to analyze the shading effect for two configurations: series and parallel at irradiation level varying from $100W/m^2$ to 1000W/m² . The experimental results clearly illustrate that PV modules arranged in the parallel configuration are having the best value of GMPP. In [84], the authors affirm the best electrical performance in terms of GMPP and FF for the case of PV modules arranged in a parallel configuration. They have employed a Simulink model in MATLAB for simulating the 10×3 PV array size for both series and parallel configurations and validated the results through hardware implementation. Three shading patterns: A, B, and C are considered for the performance evaluation where the best value of GMPP for three patterns is 290.5W, 214.3W, and 114.3W respectively. Similar work is pointed out by the researchers in [85], where, both simulation and hardware implementation are employed for 4×4 PV array size in series and parallel configurations. The best value of GMPP (16.28W) is observed for the parallel configuration at the irradiation level in the range of 500-1000 W/m². The generalized schematic diagram of the parallel interconnection of PV modules is depicted in Figure 5 as,

FIGURE 5. Parallel configuration.

3) SERIES-PARALLEL-SERIES CONFIGURATION

In [12], the author proposed a modification in the existing PV array configurations for more efficient performance under the PSCs. The series-parallel-series (S-P-S) configuration has a series arrangement of parallel configured PV array and performance comparison shows the best results for S-P-S configuration. The generalized schematic diagram of S-P-S interconnections of PV modules is shown in Figure 6 as,

FIGURE 6. Series-parallel-series configuration [12].

4) SERIES-PARALLEL, TOTAL CROSS-TIED, BRIDGE-LINK AND HONEY-COMB CONFIGURATIONS

In [14], [15] the authors have implemented three types of configurations: SP, TCT, and BL for the two array size 9×4 and 6×6 of PV panels where the performance for both array size is measured in terms of GMPP and FF. Out of which, for TCT configuration, GMPP is found as 13863.40W and FF as 0.72 at different irradiation levels varying from $20W/m^2$ to 1000 W/m². In addition to this, the author has proposed a simulation model based on the Simulink where PV modules having a capacity of 158W, 65W, and 28W are considered for the performance analysis in terms of maximum power, output voltage and current. The simulation results depict the best performance of TCT configuration with GMPP of 158W [18], [19], [25]. A mathematical model is employed for performance investigation of 12 PV modules arranged in 2×6 , 6×2 , 4×3 , 3×4 array sizes. In this work, the TCT configuration illustrates the maximum value of GMPP as 589.79W under the distinct irradiation levels varying from

 $100W/m²$ to $1000W/m²$ [20]. In another study [27], two configurations; S and S-P are implemented for the performance analysis of PV panels having an array size of 9×9 , out of which the best value of GMPP is obtained as 230W for SP configuration at irradiation level from 100-500 W/m^2 . In [28], researchers have analyzed the two types of configurations: S and SP for the size of 36 PV cells at irradiation level varying from $500W/m^2$ to $1000W/m^2$. Experimental results state the better performance of SP configuration where the values of maximum current and voltage are 7.25A and 28.7 V respectively. In [31], the authors have developed a new configuration known as multi-string configuration, where the best value of GMPP is found to be 205W at irradiation levels of 250-750W/m². More recent experimental results based on hardware and simulation model, given in [32], [40], which indicate that for the array size of 4×4 and 3×3 PV modules in SP configuration the finest value of GMPP is 125W. A simulation and hardware model is employed in [41], [42] for the SP configuration of 3×2 PV array size at irradiation level 500-1000W/ m^2 and the finest value of GMPP is found to be 550W for SP configuration. In subsequent investigation [33], three configurations: SP, TCT, and BL are considered for PV modules under different PSCs, where the performance parameters are found better for the TCT configuration in terms of improved FF, minimum power losses, and maximum voltage.

In [36], SP, and TCT configurations having 6×4 size of PV array, the best performance of TCT configuration at GMPP of 1528W is found at irradiation level 250-1000W/m². In [37], a MATLAB/Simulink modeling of 20×3 array of PV size for SP, TCT configurations are considered for the performance evaluation under the non-uniform irradiation. The best value of GMPP (1200W) is found at the irradiation level varying in the range of 200-1000 W/m^2 for TCT configuration. The authors in [44] developed a 9×4 PV array size of SP and TCT configurations under the variable solar irradiance as 500 W/m² to 1000 W/m². Reduced power loss and maximum power and voltage at GMPP (1256W) are observed from the P-V characteristic for TCT configuration.

The modeling of series (24 PV modules), parallel (12 PV modules), SP, TCT, BL, and HC configurations of 4×2 , 2×4 , 6×2 , 2×6 , 4×3 , 3×4 , 3×3 , 4×4 , 6×4 , 4×6 sizes PV array is done for all considered configurations respectively. TCT configuration is found superior in terms of maximum values of power and voltage at GMPP under the artificial shading effect conditions [51]. In [52], the SP configuration is employed for 4 PV modules, irradiation level 400-1000W/m² at variable temperature 25◦C, 28◦C, 33◦C, and 35◦C respectively, GMPP is 135.54W. In [53], four configurations: SP, BL, HC, and TCT are employed for a PV array size of 3×3 . The best value of GMPP (950W) is found for the PV array arranged in TCT configuration while SP configuration has maximum power losses as compared with TCT configuration. In [54], only SP configuration for PV array size 6×3 is employed for three different PSCs. For case-1, case-2, and case-3 the best values of GMPP are 900W, 545 W, and 730W

respectively, at irradiation level of $100W/m^2$ to $1000W/m^2$. In [56], SP configuration for 3×3 PV array size is employed for five shading cases, whereas for case-5 and case-3 the best value of GMPP is found as 105W and 65W respectively. In [57], SP configuration is employed for the PV array size of 2×2 and the best value of GMPP is found as 689W at two levels of irradiation 500 and 1000 W/m^2 . In [59], [114], the MATLAB/Simulink model of three configurations: TCT, half reconfigured PV array (HRPVA) and full reconfigured PV array (FRPVA) is presented by the authors for four different shading patterns: single row shading, double row, quarter and oblique array. The best value of GMPP is obtained for FRPVA configuration under all four shading patterns at two different irradiation levels $500W/m^2$ and $1000W/m^2$. Moreover, the performance investigation in terms of maximum power and voltage at GMPP with improved FF, and minimize power losses under the PSCs, is also reported by the authors. In [131], the authors have taken a 3×3 size PV system for performance evaluation under the obscured irradiance such as 380-710W/m². An electromechanical relay system is used and remotely controlled using an embedded based designed system to switch from SP to TCT configuration for achieving higher power and voltage at GMPP, power loss, and FF. Comprehensive analysis of PV system deficiencies due to non-uniform irradiance conditions of 400-1000W/m² on configured PV systems SP, HC, BL, and TCT, reconfigured method (RM). A special case of multiple PV array defects with a uniform irradiance is also examined its cumulative effect on the various PV connections. Various shading scenarios are considered for detailed quantification of the impact of the PV faults studied on the power grid [135], [140].

In [60]–[62], the mathematical modeling of a PV module including shaded solar cells in SP configuration of $4 \times 3, 6 \times 5$, 6×6 sizes are proposed for MPP tracking under uniform insolation conditions. Moreover, an experimental investigation has also been performed to confirm the validity of simulation results. In [65], the authors simulated the SP and TCT configurations of a 2×2 size PV array system. The performance is tested under the shading effect and observed that the TCT configuration has maximum power and voltage, 140W GMPP at irradiation level as $332.63 - 560.60$ W/m². In [78], an experimental setup of PV array configurations: BL, TCT of 2×4 size are implemented under ten different shading patterns for validation of result. The experimental results clearly show that TCT configuration has maximum power as 678.40W for variation of irradiation level in the range of 289-992W/m². Similar system configurations are developed of 4×4 size in the Simulink environment for the investigation during the shadow effect. In both types of study, the TCT configuration outperformed the other configurations [79] for eight different shading cases. Where, for shading cases IV and VIII, GMPP is the same for all configurations while in other shading cases, TCT has developed maximum GMPP. In [80], array of 3×3 PV modules connected in SP arrangement, GMPP is 40W at irradiation level range of $100-1000$ W/m². In [81], [83], the authors investigated the performance of PV array configurations such as 4×2 , 2×4 , 6×2 , 2×6 , 4×3 , 3×4 , 3×3 , 4×4 , 4×6 , 6×4 sizes under the non-uniform irradiance as $100-1000$ W/m². The TCT has maximum voltage and current at most of the shading environment as compared to other PV array configurations. In [87], a comprehensive study on shaded S, P, SP, TCT, BL, and HC configured 24 PV modules (6×4) under the artificially indoor PSCs is carried out for performance assessment in terms of obtained maximum power, voltage, and improved FF, where the best value of GMPP (1446W) is found for TCT configuration at irradiation level 300-1000 W/m². A MATLAB/Simulink modeling of PV array configurations such as S, P, SP, TCT, BL, and HC of 2×2 , 6×8 , 8×3 sizes is presented in [88]. Performance comparison is carried out among the configurations under the predefined shading scenarios in terms of maximum power generation and the maximum GMPP is found for TCT configuration as 2724W at variable irradiation levels ranging from 100-1000 W/m². In [93], the performance evaluation of configurations: S, P, SP, TCT, BL, HC is carried out, and also proposed a new PV array configuration for array size of 2×18 , 3×12 , 4×9 , 6×6 , 9×4 , 12×3 , 18×2 (total 38 PV modules) under shading cases as 300-1000W/m² . The best value of GMPP is found at 981.3W, at irradiation level of 200 W/m². Moreover, the TCT and new configurations have more efficient results in terms of improved FF, minimum power losses. In [96], a simulation study is carried out for SP configuration, where the finest value of GMPP is found to be 40.5kW for the 10×100 PV array size. Similarly, in [97], laboratory-based experimental and simulation work is presented for two configurations: S and SP. Where, SP configuration is having better performance with a GMPP of 38.06 at irradiation levels of 100-1000 W/m². In a subsequent study presented by authors in [98], SP configuration is implemented for 2×2 and 2×3 PV array size. The experimental results are obtained for a laboratory-based system and illustrate the best value of GMPP as 40W for varying irradiation levels in the range of $100-1000$ W/m². In [101], three configurations: S, P, and SP are implemented at irradiation levels as $400-600-1000$ W/m², where thirty PV modules are bifurcated in distinct sizes and configurations. An experimental and simulation work is presented for two configurations: S and SP at irradiation level 100-980 W/m², 2 \times 4 PV array size is considered. SP configuration shows the best performance with the best value of GMPP as 225W [103]. In [104], four configurations: SP, BL, TCT, bypass, and reconfigured (BR) topology are implemented for GMPP, where TCT is having the best performance with GMPP of 180W in all five-shading patterns. In [105], simulation work is presented for S and P configurations where parallel configuration performed well with GMPP of 375W at irradiation levels of 800-1200W/m². In [106], [108], experimental work is presented for one PV module with a total of sixteen PV cells are arranged in 4×4 array size for, three configurations: S, P, and TCT. Experimental results show that TCT has minimum current loss with maximum FF in all shading patterns (progressive shading increment from left to right and diagonally). Another

simulation study is presented in [107] for four configurations: SP, BL, TCT, and HC for 4×4 PV array size with two shading patterns: first shading pattern (5 cases) and a second pattern (4 cases), where, TCT configuration performed well in first and second shading pattern as compared with SP and BL configurations, at irradiation level $200-1000$ W/m². In [109], an experimental analysis for S and SP configurations is performed for 2×4 PV array size, where SP configuration is reported as the best performance with the finest value of GMPP as 119.7W at irradiation level $100-2000$ W/m². In [128], simulation and experimental work are presented for SP, TCT, HC, and BL. The best performance is found for TCT configuration, 3×3 PV array size, with GMPP of 400W. In all the shading conditions, TCT has improved performance as compared with other configurations. The schematic diagrams of SP, TCT, BL, HC configurations are clearly depicted in Figure 7-10.

FIGURE 7. PV modules connected in SP configuration [18]–[20].

FIGURE 8. PV modules connected in TCT configuration [33], [51].

5) MULTI-STRING CONFIGURATION

An experimental analysis is carried out for performance enhancement under uniform and non-uniform irradiation levels. For the performance assessment in terms of maximum voltage and power at GMPP are observed from the performance I-V and P-V characteristics of multi-string PV array configuration, where the best value of GMPP is found to be 205W at irradiation levels in the range of $250-750$ W/m² [31]. In [43], the authors have implemented a multi-string SP and P

FIGURE 9. PV modules connected in BL configuration [53], [59].

FIGURE 10. PV modules connected in HC configuration [51], [53].

configurations for a 4×8 PV array module to investigate the performance of the PV system under PSCs. The experimental results illustrate the best performance of the SP configuration with total power enhancement (PE) of 10W. The schematic diagram of the multi-string arrangement of PV modules is shown in figure 11.

B. HYBRID PV ARRAY CONFIGURATIONS

SP-TCT, BL-TCT and BL-HC PV Array Configurations: For the performance analysis and improvement, hybrid configurations such as SP-TCT, BL-TCT, and BL-HC configuration (a combination of conventional SP, BL, HC, and TCT configurations) for 4×4 , 5×4 , and 6×4 PV array sizes are proposed by various researchers. The progressive shading patterns (i) from left to the right side (ii) from bottom to the top side (iii) diagonally shading movement etc. are considered for the performance evaluation. Simulation analysis for

FIGURE 11. PV modules connected in multi-string configuration [43].

three types of configurations including hybrid configurations: SP, SP-TCT, and Su-Do-Ku is implemented by the authors for 4×4 PV array size at irradiation level in the range of $350-1000$ W/m², where the performance of Su-Do-Ku configuration is found superior with the finest value of GMPP as 2278W [102].

Moreover, in a subsequent research investigation [116], MATLAB based Simulink model is developed to simulate SP, TCT, BL, HC, BL-TCT, SP-TCT, and novel structure (NS-1, NS-2) configurations. Results show the best performance of NS-1 configuration for the PV module array sizes of 5×4 and 9×4 with GMPP as 2733W at 350-1000 W/m² irradiation level. In [118], authors have designed a MATLAB based Simulink model for TCT, reconfigured total cross-tied (RTCT), reconfigured hybrid series-parallel total cross-tied (RSP-TCT), S-P-TCT, reconfigured bridge-link total cross-tied (RBL-TCT), BL-HC, and magic square (MS) for performance analysis of 4×4 PV array size module, whereas the best performance is found for MS configuration with the finest value of GMPP as 2733W at irradiation level in the varying range of $350-1000$ W/m². In another subsequent study [126], a simulation model is proposed for a 6×4 PV array size to implement the TCT, BL-TCT, BL-HC, SP-TCT, and novel structure (NS) configurations at four different irradiation levels: 350 W/m², 500 W/m², 800 W/m² and 1000 W/m². By experimental analysis, it is observed that the numbers of ties are lower as compared to the TCT configuration for modeling of the same size PV array configuration. The schematic diagrams of hybrid SP-TCT, BL-TCT, and BL-HC configurations are depicted in Figure 12- 14.

C. MODIFIED PV ARRAY CONFIGURATIONS

1) RTCT, RSP-TCT, RBL-TCT, RBL-HC AND S-M-TCT CONFIGURATIONS

Hardware-based, 6×6 PV array size module is designed [100] for TCT and RTCT (Su-Do-Ku puzzle-based rearrangement of TCT) configuration to analyze the electrical performance in terms of output power and current. The best performance

FIGURE 12. PV modules connected in SP-TCT configuration [116].

FIGURE 13. PV modules connected in BL-TCT configuration [116], [118].

parameters are observed for RTCT configuration with GMPP of 1160W at irradiation level $200-1000$ W/m². In [118], the authors have implemented the reconfigured PV array configurations: RTCT, RSP-TCT, RBL-TCT, and RBL-HC for 4×4 PV array size to investigate the electrical performance. Moreover, these hybrid configurations are reconfigured based on the Su-Do-Ku puzzle pattern. In most of the shading cases, RSP-TCT configuration outperformed as compared with other configurations. The authors in [121] have implemented a hardware-based model for 3×3 and 2×2 PV array size modules to analyze and compare the performance of TCT and S-M-TCT (reconfigured TCT configuration: altering the electrical connections of PV modules but the physical position is to remain fixed) configuration, where the experimental results show that S-M-TCT has maximum FF and minimum power losses as compared to the existing TCT configuration with the finest value of GMPP as 540W at interval of irradiation level varying in the range of 200-900W/m². The schematic diagrams of RTCT, RSP-TCT,

FIGURE 14. PV modules connected in BL-HC configuration [118].

RBL-TCT, RBL-HC, S-M-TCT configurations with their PV module interconnections are shown in Figure 15- 19 as,

FIGURE 15. PV modules connected in RTCT configuration [100], [118].

D. PUZZLE BASED ADVANCED PV ARRAY **CONFIGURATIONS**

1) SU-DO-KU CONFIGURATION

Simulation-based modeling of 9×9 PV array size module is implemented in [67] for TCT and Su-Do-Ku configurations at irradiation level varying from 200W/m² to 900W/m². Four different shading cases: short wide (SW), long wide (LW), short narrow (SN), and long narrow (LN) are considered for the performance investigation in terms of PE, maximum power, and voltage. Experimental results illustrate the best performance for the Su-Do-Ku configuration with the best value of GMPP as 4532W. Recently, authors in [89], [95] have employed hardware-based experimental analysis for 9 \times 9 and 6 \times 6 array size PV module to analyze the reduction of line and mismatch losses (ML) in PV array

FIGURE 16. PV modules connected in RSP-TCT configuration [118].

FIGURE 17. PV modules connected in RBL-TCT configuration [118].

FIGURE 18. PV modules connected in RBL-HC configuration [118].

modules under distinct PSCs, where TCT and Su-Do-Ku configurations are compared by using GA for maximum power extraction. The electrical performance for both the

FIGURE 19. PV modules connected in S-M-TCT configuration [121].

configurations is evaluated under the variable shading cases: Long, narrow, short and wide at irradiation level varying from $200W/m^2$ to $900W/m^2$ with the finest value of GMPP as 4802W.

In subsequent study [95], an improved version of Su-Do-Ku configuration is implemented to reduce the mismatch and line losses in PV array modules and compared with both normal TCT and Su-Do-Ku configuration. Where the best value of GMPP is found to be 5168W in the case of improved Su-Do-Ku configuration at regular interval of irradiation level: $200W/m^2$, $400W/m^2$, $600W/m^2$, and 900 W/m². In [99], authors have investigated the hardware-based 6×6 PV array size module for power loss under different PSCs. Experimental results clearly illustrate the best value of GMPP as 1250W in the case of Su-Do-Ku configuration. The schematic diagram of the 6×6 PV array size module in the Su-Do-Ko puzzle configuration is shown in Figure 20.

FIGURE 20. PV modules connected in Su-do-Ku configuration [95], [100], [121].

2) NEW SCHEME-1 (NS-1), NEW SCHEME-2 (NS-2) AND NOVEL STRUCTURE (NS) CONFIGURATIONS

In [116], [126], the authors have implemented three types of configurations: NS-1, NS-2, and NS for 5×4 and 6×4 PV array size module, where the electrical performance is evaluated in terms of GMPP, maximum FF, and reduced power losses under the progressive shading cases. Moreover, NS-1, NS-2, and NS configurations are found to be better in most of the shading cases as compared to conventional configurations. The schematic diagrams of NS-1, NS-2, and NS configurations are shown in Figure 21- 23.

FIGURE 21. PV modules connected in NS-1 configuration [116].

FIGURE 22. PV modules connected in NS-2 configuration [116].

3) PHYSICAL REALLOCATION OF MODULE-FIXED ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS (PRM-FEC) CONFIGURATION

The authors in [111] have employed a ubiquitous method for the physical relocation of the 7×5 PV array size module with a fixed electrical connection in the case of TCT configuration. The experimental results are analyzed based on the MATLAB/Simulink model having the best value of GMPP as 73.55W at irradiation level 195-940W/m². The 7×5 PV array size modules connected in PRM-FEC configuration is depicted in Figure 24 as,

11	42	23	54
21	52	33	64
31	62	43	14
41	12	53	$\overline{24}$
51	$\frac{1}{22}$	63	34
61	32	13	44

FIGURE 23. PV modules connected in NS configuration [126].

FIGURE 24. PV modules connected in PRM-FEC configuration [111].

4) OPTIMAL TOTAL-CROSS-TIED AND NOVEL CROSS-TIED CONFIGURATIONS

The mathematical modeling and comparison study are carried out for TCT and optimal total-cross tied (OTCT) configuration to obtain the optimal position of PV modules [115]. Where Zig-Zag pattern is adopted to reconfigure the TCT connections and a new configuration is designed known as NTCT configuration. The comparative study is done between TCT, OTCT, and NTCT configurations for the array size of 4×3 PV modules. The best value of GMPP is found in the case of NTCT configuration as 567W at irradiation level 500-1000W/m². Moreover, under the predefined shading conditions, NTCT configuration also shows better results in terms of voltage, power at GMPP, FF, PE, and performance ratio (PR) than other configurations. The schematic sketches of OTCT and NTCT configurations are shown in Figures 25 and 26 as,

5) MAGIC SQUARE CONFIGURATION

A comprehensive research investigation of 4×4 PV array size modules is carried out by the researchers in [110] for two configurations: TCT and MS. Where four shading

FIGURE 25. PV modules connected in OTCT configuration [115].

FIGURE 26. PV modules connected in NTCT configuration [115].

cases: SW, LW, SN, and LN are considered. The obtained results for the TCT and MS puzzle configuration are compared and it is observed that the MS puzzle configuration has maximum FF, power, and voltage at GMPP of 960W with reduced power losses. The authors in [113], implemented an experimental PV array system of 3×3 and 6×6 sizes for SP, BL, TCT, and MS puzzle configurations under the predefined partial shading patterns. Where the performance of MS puzzle configuration is found best and acquires the maximum voltage at GMPP of 2.88W with a varying range of irradiation level 200-900W/m².

Moreover, in a subsequent study [118], authors have found the best performance of 4×4 size MS puzzle-based PV array configuration related to TCT and hybrid SP-TCT, BL-TCT, BL-HC configurations in terms of voltage, power at GMPP, improved FF. In [127], both simulation and hardware study is performed by the authors to compare the performance of 6×6 PV array size module for the case of TCT and MS puzzle-based configurations, where the finest value of GMPP is found as 300W in the case of MS puzzle-based configuration at irradiation level 500-1000W/m². The schematic diagram of the MS puzzle-based PV array configuration is shown in Figure 27.

The performance of 5×5 and 4×4 PV array size modules is investigated for TCT and Futoshiki puzzle-based configuration under the distinguished PSCs [112]. Both PV array configurations are compared with each other and validated experimentally. Where, in terms of electric performance parameters, Futoshiki puzzle-based configuration is found best with a GMPP of 64.87W. The schematic diagram of the Futoshiki puzzle configuration is shown in Figure 28.

FIGURE 28. PV modules connected in Futoshiki configuration [112].

7) IRREGULAR CONFIGURATION

The interconnection of PV modules in the irregular order to form an 'n \times n' PV array size configuration is known as 'Irregular configuration' [91]. A MATLAB/Simulink model is implemented to compare the irregular configuration with other existing configurations such as SP, TCT, and BL, where the best performance of irregular configuration is found with GMPP of 353W. The schematic diagram of the Irregular configuration of PV array is shown in Figure 29 as,

8) NEW CONFIGURATION

A simulation study, presenting the best performance of 'New' configuration, is proposed by the authors in [93] for a 6×6 PV array size module. Where the 'New' configuration is

FIGURE 29. PV modules connected in Irregular configuration [91].

compared with the conventional PV array configurations: S, P, SP, TCT, BL, and HC. The performance is evaluated in terms of maximum power and voltage under distinct PSCs. The best value of GMPP is found to be 981.3W for 'New' configuration at regular interval of irradiation level 300- 500-700-800-1000 W/m^2 . The schematic design of the 'New' configuration of the PV array is shown in Figure 30.

FIGURE 30. PV modules connected in new configuration [93].

9) NOVEL CONFIGURATION

In [120], the authors have modified the pre-existing conventional TCT configuration and designed a ubiquitous configuration know as a 'Novel' configuration for a 4×5 PV array size module. An experimental analysis is also carried out to compare the 'Novel' configuration with SP, TCT, BL, and HC configuration with the best value of GMPP as 1290W, at irradiation level in the range of $100-980$ W/m². The schematic design of the 'Novel' configuration of PV array is shown in Figure 31 as,

10) SHADOW DISPERSION SCHEME CONFIGURATION

In [124], authors anticipated a new configuration (based on the shade dispersion) known as shadow dispersion scheme (SDS) for 3×3 and 7×7 PV array size module

FIGURE 31. PV modules connected in novel configuration [120].

at irradiation level of 400-1000W/m² . Where, the authors have compared the SDS configuration with the pre-existed PV array configurations [124]. Three shading patterns: SW, LW, SN, and LN are considered for performance evaluation. The finest value of GMPP as 1746W is found for SDS configuration. The schematic design of the SDS configuration of PV array is shown in Figure 32 as,

FIGURE 32. PV modules connected in SDS configuration [120].

11) LATIN SQUARE CONFIGURATION

In [129], the Latin square (LS) game puzzle is used to modify the TCT configuration entitled LS-TCT for performance evaluation under a realistic approach of progressive shading patterns (i.e. bottom to top, left to right, diagonal multi-story building pattern). Only three performance indexes such as FF, PL, and GMPP are assessed for LS-TCT configuration and found best values as 78.7%, 330W, and 2279W respectively as compared with TCT configuration. Some more important performance parameters can be analyzed such as PR and ML, which are helpful for new learners. The LS configuration is shown in Figure 33 as,

12) DOMINANCE SQUARE CONFIGURATION

During the reconfiguration, the challenge to minimize the wire length for PV module interconnections is solved by the

FIGURE 33. Latin square (LS-TCT) configuration [129].

authors in [130]. The 9×9 size of Dominance Square (DS) is reconfigured using column index method (CIM) and compared with SP and TCT configurations during SW, LW, SN, and LN shadow types in terms of GMPP location (4.647kW), ML (3.453kW), PL (0.43W) and FF (0.75). The irradiation levels are kept regular during the study as 200 W/m^2 , 400W/m^2 , 600W/m^2 , and 900W/m^2 . DS configuration is shown in Figure 34 as,

FIGURE 34. DS configuration [130].

13) ODD-EVEN CONFIGURATION

Efficiency assessment of solar PV configurations is the most required performance parameter along with GMPP, ML, and FF, which is evaluated for improved Su-Do-Ku puzzle-based TCT reconfigured PV array system. A comprehensive comparison is carried out during shadow test cases and observed that the improved Su-Do-Ku arrangement enhance the GMPP by 26.9%, 30.3%, 30.8%, 16.8%, 4.2%, and 6.3% as compared to existing SP, BL, HC, and TCT and Su-Do-Ku arrangement of PV array [132]. The scattering behavior of the shading pattern reduces the impact on PV array performance. For achieving high shade dispersion capability of shadow, ODD-EVEN (OE) PV number module methodology is used to reconfigure the existing TCT connection. A comprehensive comparative study is performed under four realistic shading

FIGURE 35. ODD- EVEN configuration [133].

cases: Dwarf broad, tall broad, dwarf narrow, and tall narrow shading patterns. Proposed OE configuration is observed highest values of FF as 30.88%, 14.31%, 8.47%, and 2.18% as compared SP, BL, and TCT conventional PV configuration [133].

14) SKYSCRAPER CONFIGURATION

In [134], authors have introduced new PV configurations i.e. Skyscraper puzzle-based, and found higher power at GMPP as 22.36%, 43.36%, and 39.31% compared with DS puzzle-based PV array configuration. The major performance indices are found best also for Skyscraper PV configuration than TCT, DS, and Su-Do-Ku configurations under LW, SN, and SW shadowing test cases. Simulation and real-time experimental studies are carried on 9×9 and 5×5 size PV arrays respectively. The skyscraper configuration is shown in Figure 36 as,

FIGURE 36. Skyscraper configuration [134].

15) LADDER CONFIGURATION

In [135]–[137], along with conventional PV configuration, the authors have introduced ladder (LD) configuration for

performance evaluation under obscured irradiation levels from $300W/m^2$ -1000W/m². The efficient performance index output such as V_{oc} , I_{sc} , V_{m} , I_{m} , P_{m} , PL, ML, and FF are observed and found that the hybrid and LD based configurations are having superior performance under all climatic conditions. Ladder configuration is shown in Figure 37 as,

FIGURE 37. Ladder configuration [136].

The utilization of a smaller number of switches during electrical connections of the PV array system is a novel work reported in [138]. The proposed two-step reconfiguration scheme is investigated experimentally under distinguished realistic shading patterns (200W/m²-950W/m²). The proposed configuration is reconfigured and divided into small sub-matrices of 2×4 size using the Su-Do-Ku puzzle and achieved minimized ML values as 6.7%, 8%, 9.9%, 23.7%, and 5% as compared to others during experimentation.

16) CS AND LO SHU CONFIGURATIONS

A critical approach is adopted for extensive analysis of TCT, Su-Do-Ku, DS, Competence Square (CS), and Lo Shu puzzle-based configurations $(9 \times 9 \text{ size})$ is carried out in [139]. Novel performance indexes such as capacity factor (CF), execution ratio (ER), and capture loss (CL) are included along with conventional parameters for result analysis perspective under SW, LW, LN, and SN shading conditions $(200 \text{W/m}^2 - 900 \text{W/m}^2)$. During the study, the performance of Lo Shu configuration is achieved as best in terms of reduced ML (2542W), reduced PL 3%, high CF as 0.69, and reduced CL as 135.08, highest 91% ER, and 100% value of PR parameters as compared to other considered PV array configurations. The schematic diagram of the Lo Shu configuration is shown in Figure 38 as,

E. METAHUERISTIC-TCT BASED PV ARRAY **CONFIGURATIONS**

Although the game puzzle-based PV array reconfiguration has a wide acceptable solution to diminish the effect of PSCs, it is observed that this game puzzle theory requires relocation/reconfigure of PV modules in an array system. In addition to this, higher numbers of tie connections are required for shade dispersion purpose. To avoid such economic liability, researchers have explored metaheuristic

FIGURE 38. Reconfigured Lo Shu configuration [139].

algorithms to enhance shade dispersion capability on the entire PV array with minimum wire length requirement from conventional TCT configuration. Various metaheuristic approaches are used for performance enhancement as discussed.

1) PARTICLE SWARM OPTIMIZATION (PSO) BASED SWITCH MATRIX ALGORITHM

In [141], PSO algorithm based adaptive switch matrix (ASM) used to reduce the number of power maxima points along with wire length between PV modules. ASM is used to reconfigure SP during the shading and malfunction test cases. Enhanced power output is observed as 3.22%, 16.68%, and 5.62% under test cases as compared to SP.

2) FLOW REGIME ALGORITHM (FRA), SOCIAL MIMIC OPTIMIZATION (SMO), RAO OPTIMIZATION

In this sequence, a GA is devoted to reconfigure the PV array using a switch matrix operation. The results obtained as a higher power performance side as 17% and 22% as compared to conventional Brute force algorithm based 3×3 size SP configuration under non-uniform irradiation levels (400W/m², 700W/m², and 1000W/m²) [142]. Moreover, high shade dispersion property is introduced by using FRA, SMO algorithm, and RAO algorithm which helped to enhance power 13%, 11%, and 9% respectively as compared to 9 \times 9 size of TCT, CS, GA configurations. Performance parameters such as FF, ML, %PL and %PE are observed and found higher power, reduced MPP for FRA under three non-uniform shading levels with $200W/m^2$, $400W/m^2$, $500W/m^2$, $600W/m^2$ and $900W/m^2$ [143].

TABLE 3. Purview of work.

TABLE 3. (Continued.) Purview of work.

TABLE 3. (Continued.) Purview of work.

TABLE 3. (Continued.) Purview of work.

* PE= POWER ENHANCEMENT, P_M= MAXIMUM POWER, V_M=MAXIMUM VOLTAGE, I_M= MAXIMUM CURRENT, CF= CAPACITY FACTOR, ER= EXECUTION RATIO, $CI = CAPTURE LOSS$

3) GRASSHOPPER OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM (GOA)

In [144], presents a new methodology named the GOA in reconfiguring the partially shaded PV array to extract GMPP. Different shadow patterns SW, SN, LW, and LN are studied, and the obtained results are compared with TCT, Su-Do-Ku and GA connected PV array. The proposed GOA enhances the power output by 3.361%, 10.949%, 0.864%, and 6.748% under shading cases respectively.

4) PSO, BUTTERFLY OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM (BOA) AND MODIFIED HARRIS HAWKS OPTIMIZATION (MHHO) ALGORITHMS

In [145], PSO is introduced to enhance shade dispersion and has the best results 5530W and 6150W as compared with TCT, Su-Do-Ku, and GA based configuration under

mixed irradiation levels from $200W/m^2$ -900W/m². In [146], the BOA is investigated and found best output power 27.42% as compared to existed SP-TCT configurations under mixed irradiation levels from $350W/m^2$ -1000W/m². MHHO is investigated for the same environment and compared with TCT, CS, PSO, GA based on various performance indices i.e. FF, %PL, %PE and found higher power by 33.27%, 27.79%, 6.69%, and 7.17% [147].

III. CONTRIBUTION WORK AND PERFORMANCE PARAMETERS OF PV SYSTEM

The identified performance parameters of PV systems and year of publications of the available literature [12]–[147] are depicted in the Table 3 as,

IV. CONCLUSION

In this article, a novel state of the art on the development of various PV array configuration models for the PV system to counter the effect of partial shading has been introduced. Each configuration is reported and discussed from view points of benefits, inadequacies, and vital features. Following are the main concluding remarks as,

- An extensive literature survey on the existing PV configurations is carried out to compare them, based on topology, modeling, performance, scale, grid connectivity, etc.
- These PV array configurations are uniquely classified based on conventional, hybrid, reconfigured, and puzzle-based advanced configurations.
- In conventional configurations, the TCT scheme is found to have superior performance as compared to other configurations in this sub-category.
- In the hybrid configuration, various modeling approaches using conventional configurations are proposed and analyzed.
- In reconfigured/modified configuration, RTCT and S-M-TCT schemes possess relatively superior performance as compared to others in this sub-category.
- In the puzzle-based configuration, distinct types of mathematical/game puzzles are introduced, and performance is evaluated. The performance of these game puzzle-based configurations is found better as compared with conventional configurations.
- Due to lengthy wire requirements and higher number of tie between PV modules connections in an array system, the metaheuristic algorithms are studied and found the best performance as compared to game puzzle configurations. Moreover, metaheuristic approaches in the concern research area explored novel research directions because of higher shade dispersion capability.

Overall, the study will be useful for researchers, participating industries, and practicing engineering in this area, which will work as a benchmark for future study.

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