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The value of solar forecasting for energy-related applications: a treasure box of literature yet to be opened

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The solar forecasting literature is rich and diverse; to navigate it, practitioners can rely on review papers, or on recent papers' introduction sections. In a considerable share of the literature, however, the focus is put almost exclusively on model design and statistical assessment aspects. The economic value of solar forecasting research, on the other hand, is seldom discussed. Looking, for example, at two prominent review works [1,2], only 5-10% of their references address this issue. However, it is important not to assume from this that there is a lack of research done on this topic.

The present work aims to share the preliminary results of the analysis of an abundant and diverse amount of literature addressing the economic value of solar forecasts for energy-related applications. The goal is to better understand how that value depends on the accuracy of a given forecasting model, and how much it varies from one application to another. It is also of relevance to discuss how researchers infer such value.

References

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