# SOLAR PRO.

### Motors for solar power generation

Can solar powered motors be used in industrial machines?

Such solar-powered motors could somedaybe used in industrial machines, household appliances, and even electric cars. Bismit Mohanty, the lead author on the study, says the focus of the model was on boosting the overall efficiency of the system, to obtain the highest output of the motor for the solar power available.

#### What is a solar powered Stirling engine?

A solar powered Stirling engine is a heat engine powered by a temperature gradient generated by the sun. Even though Stirling engines can run with a small temperature gradient, it is more efficient to use concentrated solar power. The mechanical output can be used directly (e.g. pumps) or be used to create electricity.

#### How does a solar motor work?

According to the model, when it's sunny, the solar array generates enough power to operate the motor, storing excess energy in the battery. When it's overcast, the motor runs off the battery. The motor's regenerative braking system charges the battery whenever the brakes are applied, turning kinetic energy into electrical energy.

#### Can a solar powered motor be used in a car?

The system relies on AI to optimize the solar array's output and operate the motor at 88 percent efficiency; real-world DC electric motors have efficiencies of 75 to 80 percent. Such solar-powered motors could someday be used in industrial machines, household appliances, and even electric cars.

#### Could a solar powered electric motor be used in a home?

This model for a solar-powered electric motor could be used in an industrial setting or for household appliances, such as refrigerators and fans. Mohanty says he hopes to see such a system someday used in electric vehicles, which would eliminate the need to plug the EV into the main power grid.

#### Can a Stirling engine be used for solar thermal energy conversion?

Solar thermal generation has had less development and the technology is less mature, despite possessing a set of potentially crucial advantages, such as energy storage, combined heat and power, and potentially low-cost. This dissertation will discuss the design and development of a prototype Stirling engine for solar thermal energy conversion.

OverviewNASAMeijerSunventionComparison to Solar PanelsSee alsoA solar powered Stirling engine is a heat engine powered by a temperature gradient generated by the sun. Even though Stirling engines can run with a small temperature gradient, it is more efficient to use concentrated solar power. The mechanical output can be used directly (e.g. pumps) or be used to create electricity.



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