Julián Ascencio-Vásquez

LPVO, University of Ljubljana

My career started in Chile, where I decided to pursue studies in Electrical Engineering in Valparaiso. During this period, I gradually became more interested in research and programming, which offers possibilities to discover things and keep the curiosity and creativity alive. With this mindset, I moved to France, where I got opportunities to study and work on renewable energies. Later, solar energy became my addiction for many reasons. How to provide clean energy in a fast, cheap, and durable way to people living in developing countries or remote areas? How to fight oil production, pollution emissions, and climate change? The answer is simple, and it starts with "Photovoltaics".

SOLAR-TRAIN and the LPVO, gave me the space and network to explore different ways of doing research, as well as to investigate various topics in the field of PV reliability and modelling. From electrical engineering, this project pushed me to know more about data science and meteorology, where the synergy among them became most interesting goal.

Global modelling of performance and degradation rates of PV systems.

For the last three years, my work and PhD thesis has focused on understanding the climatic impact on the performance and aging of PV modules and PV systems. By analyzing single time-series, we found the possibility to expand the results worldwide using global gridded data. Along this process, I discovered the importance of making science attractive to all the community, and a smooth but time-consuming way is possible by plotting nice charts.

Even though you follow specific goals during the PhD, the freedom to explore can sometimes cause confusion and lead you to spend time on paths that get nowhere. However, without any doubt, the whole experience acquired during the SOLAR-TRAIN project has given me a strong base for my further growth and work on the PV R&D community.

My Solar-Train story

"Think globally, act locally"

The experience is even better than expected. The SOLAR-TRAIN project gave me the chance to enter the PV community and to get to know amazing people and mentors from the public and private sectors. The take-home message is to work hard and with passion for fulfilling own dreams, but also for contributing to a more sustainable world.

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 programme under GA. No. 721452.

University of Ljubljana Faculty of Electrical Engineering

solartrain