



Estimating Global Solar Radiation from Empirical Models: An Application

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Abstract

Many applications and regions of observe require information on solar radiation. Several mathematical models were proposed to forecast worldwide sun radiation in Turkey and different international locations to do this. Some of meteorological information, along with worldwide sun radiation, sunshine period, temperature, air pressure, wind speed, and relative humidity, among January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2014 were measured. These outcomes have been used to create mathematical models to degree the monthly mean daily global solar radiation at the horizontal surface over Eskisehir. The new analytical models have been tested the usage of 9 generally used statistical techniques, along with the relative percentage error (E), the mean percentage error (MPE), the mean absolute percentage error (MAPE), the sum of squares of relative errors (SSRE), the relative standard error (RSE), the mean bias error (MBE), the root mean square error (RMSE), the t-statistic method (t-stat) and coefficient of determination (R^2). The new version is predicted to advantage all people concerned or interested by the layout and observe of sun strength packages which include sun furnaces, timber drying, stoves, concentrating collectors, indoors illumination, and thermal load reading of buildings, along with sun engineers, architects, agriculturists, hydrologists., photovoltaics, and meteorological forecasting.

Keywords: Global solar radiation, empirical models, statistical analysis, Eskisehir city.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this period, the increased decline of power supplies, growing power consumption, and lack of ecological values necessitate a direct response. As the maximum important power fuel, sun power has been part of the answer to the world's power problems. Solar radiation information is wanted for the use, preparation, and creation of sun strength plant life as it tells us how a good deal power moves the earth. Owing to the complexity of sun radiation calculations in phrases of preliminary and restore costs, information on sun radiation is handiest to be had in some geographic locations. As a result, sun power modeling strategies have become an increasing number of applicable because the marketplace for sun power software design, overall performance assessment, and enhancement increases [1-2]. For the improvement and operation of the inexperienced power program, excessive high-satisfactory sun radiation information is wanted to reduce monetary risks. To now, the maximum dependable information have come from a combination of information from ground solar measurement stations and information extracted from satellite TV for PC images [3, 4].

For correct evaluation of sun energy capacity, the use of empirical models is vital for the improvement of sun energy generation and the long-time period survival of natural resources [5]. Long-time period worldwide sun radiation records and different meteorological parameters are regularly used to set up mathematical models for month-to-month implies every day worldwide sun at the horizontal surface prediction. The models are categorized into 3 categories: (1) Only function of sunshine duration; (2) Function of sunshine duration as well as relative humidity and ambient temperature; (3) Independent of sunshine duration and function of relative humidity, ambient temperature and its maximum and minimum.

Several empirical models have been suggested to predict the global solar radiation over Turkey and other countries. Khorasanizadeh and Mohammadi [6] used the eleven empirical models to test for prediction of monthly mean daily global solar radiation over six major cities of Iran, named Isfahan, Karaj, Mashhad, Shiraz, Tabriz and Tehran. Yaiche et al. [7] have used the hourly sunshine duration to develop a global solar irradiation map for all types' of the sky. Robaa [8] reviewed and tested the validity of the existing models

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available for computing the monthly average daily global radiation on a horizontal surface over Egypt. Manzano et al. [9] investigated the performance of Angstrom-Prescott linear equation models to estimate the global solar radiation on horizontal surface at daily and monthly mean daily time over Spain. The existing solar radiation models were analyzed with hourly global solar radiation data measured from January 2009 to December 2011 on Jiading Campus, Tongji University by Yao et al. [10]. The results of this study showed that the existing models established in the form of a Gaussian equation were comparatively accurate, followed by models adjusted or modified from the Whillier – Liu & Jordan models, and the Newell model was of the lowest accuracy.

On the other hand, Mesri [11] showed and evaluated the performance of the most appropriate models used to recover solar components at ground level, via confronting meteorological techniques to selected semi empirical methods. An innovative approach was tested by the numerical simulation. An adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system (ANFIS) was applied to develop a model for estimation of daily horizontal global solar radiation by Mohammadi et al. [12]. Long-term measured data for Iranian city of Tabass was used to train and test the ANFIS model. The statistical results verified that the ANFIS model provides accurate and reliable predictions.

The artificial neural network (ANN) techniques have been used in diverse applications in control, robotics, pattern recognition, forecasting, medicine, power systems, manufacturing, optimization, signal processing, and social/ psychological sciences. In the last years, neural network methods have been employed for the prediction of global solar radiation both in time and space. Linares-Rodriguez et al [13] predicted the solar radiation values in locations without ground measurements, by using the reanalysis data as an alternative to the use of satellite imagery. The model was validated in Andalusia (Spain), using measured data for nine years from 83 ground stations spread over the region. The geographical location (latitude, longitude), the day of the year, the daily clear sky global radiation, and the four meteorological variables was used as input data while the daily global solar radiation was the only output of the ANN in this study. Benghanem et al. [14] used the ANN methods models to estimate and model of daily global solar radiation in their study. The available data such as the global irradiation, diffuse irradiation, air temperature and relative humidity available from 1998 to 2002 at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) website were used. It was found that the model using sunshine duration and air temperature as inputs, presented the good accurate results since the correlation coefficient is 97.65%. Sahin et al. [15] tested the estimation capacities of ANN techniques to predict monthly-average daily solar radiation over Turkey. According to results of the study, the satellite-based solar radiation map for Turkey was generated. On the other hand, Koca et al.

[16] suggested the ANN model to estimate the solar radiation parameters for seven cities from Mediterranean region of Anatolia in Turkey. The obtained results indicated that the method could be used by researchers or scientists to design high efficiency solar devices. Additionally, the ANN techniques were employed for designing solar systems and predicting solar radiations by Qazi et al. [17]. This study indicated that ANN network gave good accuracy in terms of prediction error of less than 20%. Therefore, ANN method as compared to other empirical models was capable to deal with many input meteorological parameters, which made it more accurate and reliable.

Spatial variation of incoming radiation is mainly influenced by topographical and atmospheric features whereas latitudinal gradient is almost insignificant. Park et al. [18] investigated the spatial distribution of solar radiation using topographic factor and sunshine duration in South Korea. Hassan et al. [19] suggested the new ambient-temperature-based models for estimating global solar radiation as alternatives to the widely used sunshine-based models owing to the unavailability of sunshine data at all locations around the world. Seventeen new temperature-based models were established, validated and compared with other three models proposed in the literature (the Annandale, Allen and Goodin models) to estimate the monthly average daily global solar radiation on a horizontal surface.

In this study, several empirical correlation models for estimating the monthly average daily global solar radiation on the horizontal surface were developed in connection with the measured solar radiation, sunshine duration and ambient temperature. These models were applied to Eskişehir City of Turkey. The results of empirical models were compared using the statistical evaluation methods as the relative percentage error (E), the mean percentage error (MPE), the mean absolute percentage error ($MAPE$), the sum of the squares of relative errors ($SSRE$), the relative standard error (RSE), the mean bias error (MBE), the root square error ($RMSE$), and correlation coefficient (R^2).

2. DATA AND METHODOLOGY

2.1. Data set

The data set of the solar radiation, the wind velocity, the wind direction, the ambient temperature and pressure, and the relative humidity were measured by the measuring station at Eskişehir City of Turkey. The measuring data had been collected between 01 January 2011 and 31 December 2014. The latitude, the longitude, and the elevation of measuring station location is $39^{\circ} 44' 49''$ -N, $30^{\circ} 28' 49''$ -E, and 853 meters, respectively. The photographs of the measuring station [20] are illustrated in Fig.1 and Fig.2.

2.2. Astronomical parameters

2.2.1. Declination angle (δ)

The angle between the earth-sun line and the equatorial

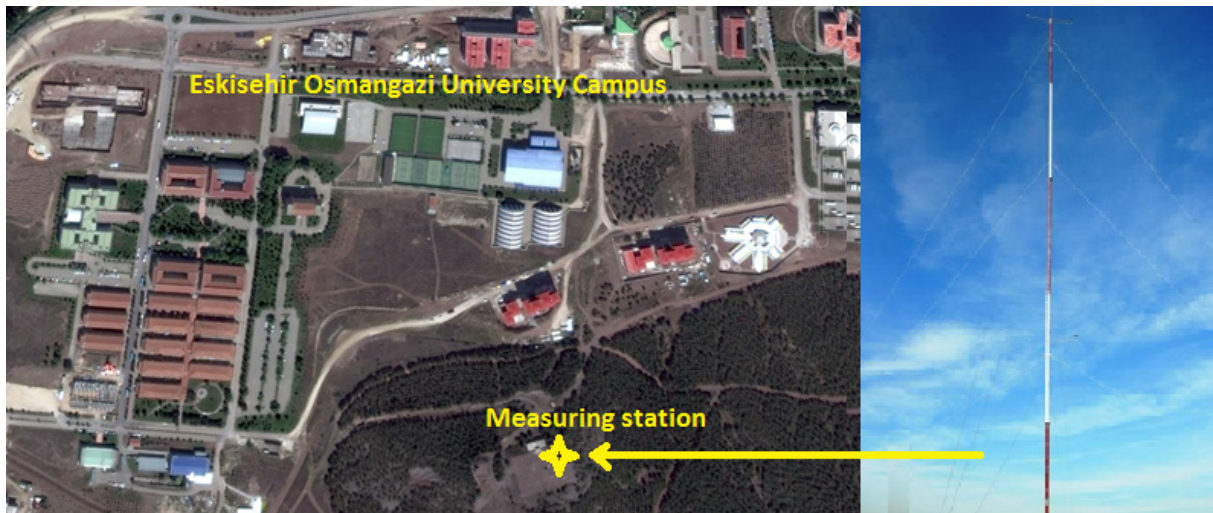


Figure 1. The measuring station at Eskisehir of Turkey [20].

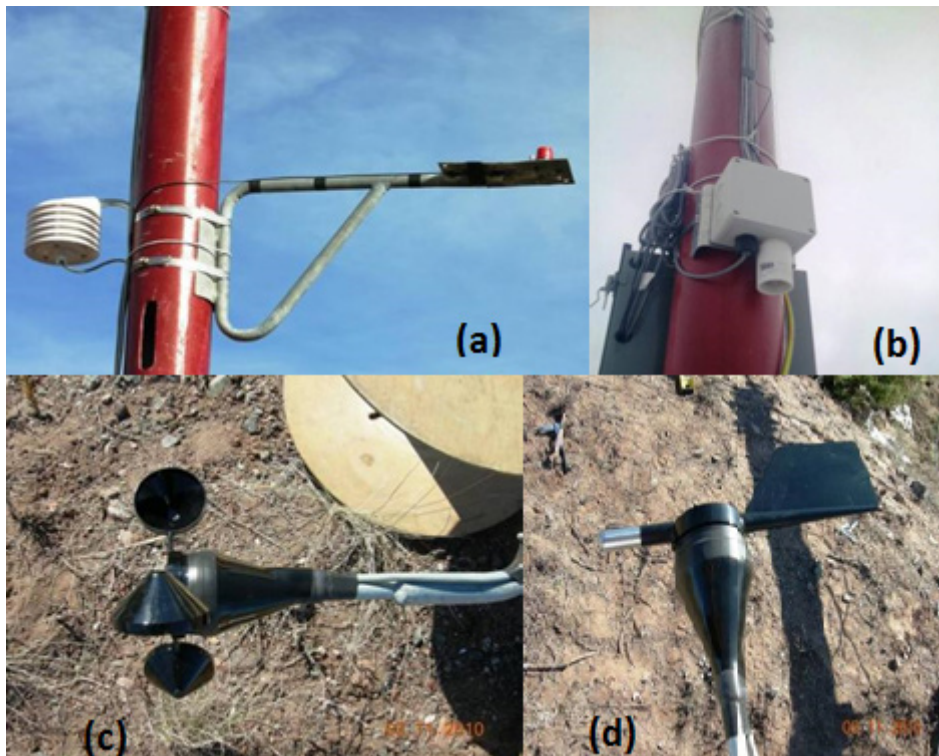


Figure 2. Measurement system parts (a) 110S Temperature sensor with radiation shield for temperature measurement and Li-Cor Li-200R Pyrometer for solar radiation measurement. (b) relative humidity sensor (c) RNRG 40 Anemometer for wind velocity measurement . (d) RNRG 200P Wind vane for wind direction measurement [20].

plane is named the declination angle. It varies over the year from -23.45° at the winter solstice to $+23.45^\circ$ at summer solstice. The declination angle can be estimated the following equation [21-24];

$$\delta = 23.45 \sin\left(\frac{360}{365}(284 + n_{day})\right) \quad (1)$$

where n_{day} is the number of the day corresponding to a given date starting from 1 on 1 January to 365 on 31 December.

2.2.2. Sunset hour angle (ω_s)

The sunset hour angle in degrees can be calculated from [21-24];

$$\omega_s = \cos^{-1}(-\tan \phi \tan \delta) \quad (2)$$

2.2.3. Number of daylight hours (daylight duration)

The number of daylight hours (daylight duration) is based on the hour angle and obtained the following equation [21-24];

$$S_o = \frac{2}{15} \omega_s \quad (3)$$

2.2.4. Extraterrestrial radiation (G_o)

The amount of solar energy that would be received in the absence of the atmosphere is called the extraterrestrial radiation. The change in the extraterrestrial radiation is caused by two sources, i.e., variation in radiation emitted by the sun and variation of earth–sun distance. This change is considered taking into account the astronomical factors according to the following relation [21, 23-24];

$$G_{on} = G_{sc} \left(1 + 0.034 \cos \left(\frac{360 n_{day}}{365.25} \right) \right) \quad (4)$$

The monthly average daily extraterrestrial radiation on a horizontal surface (H_o) was obtained from the following equations [8, 21-24],

$$H_o = \frac{24}{\pi} G_{on} \left(\cos \phi \cos \delta \cdot \sin \omega_s + \frac{\pi}{180} \omega_s \cdot \sin \phi \cdot \sin \delta \right) \quad (5)$$

2.3. Global solar radiation models

The most well-known models, Angström-Prescott model, express the monthly average daily global solar radiation as a function of the monthly average daily measure sunshine duration as the following [25- 26];

$$\frac{H}{H_o} \approx f \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) \quad (6)$$

where H is the monthly average daily global solar radiation (MJm^{-2}), H_o is the monthly average daily extraterrestrial radiation (MJm^{-2}), S is the monthly average daily measured sunshine duration (h) and S_o is the monthly average daily daylight duration (h).

The first mathematical expression of this type was the linear regression equation developed by Angstrom and modified by Page, and was between the global solar radiation and the sunshine duration, which is the most convenient and widely used as given by [27]:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \frac{S}{S_o} \quad (7)$$

In the course of time, the nonlinear polynomial relation models derived from Angstrom linear regression equation were suggested for increasing the accuracy of models at extreme points [22, 28]. After that, many researchers have done a large number of modifications on this model to improve accuracy. Several typical models based on sunshine duration are given below [18, 29–36],

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \frac{S}{S_o} + c \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^2 \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \frac{S}{S_o} + c \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^2 + d \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^3 \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \log \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) + c \log \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + \exp \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) + c \exp \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right) \quad (13)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^c \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + b \cos \left(c \frac{S}{S_o} \right) + d \sin \left(c \frac{S}{S_o} \right) + e \cos \left(2c \frac{S}{S_o} \right) + f \sin \left(2c \frac{S}{S_o} \right) \quad (15)$$

where a, b, c, d, e, f are the correlation coefficients.

The strong relation between solar radiation and ambient temperature can be explained by the behavior of the earth's

surface towards the radiation received from the sun. The solar energy that reaches the atmosphere in the form of short-wave electromagnetic radiation is absorbed by the earth's surface, causing the earth to warm up. The warm earth's surface reemits a part of the absorbed energy in the form of long wave radiation to heat up the surrounding ambient air. The ambient air is not directly heated by the solar radiation but is heated by the contact with the hot earth's surface. In general, the fluctuation in air temperature can be affected by radiation balance and air mass advection. The local ambient air temperature and radiation balance are affected by cloud cover and the nature of surface coverage as well as the time of day and day of the year. The systematic variation in incoming solar radiation over the course of a year can be reflected in the annual temperature cycle in which a strong relation between solar radiation and ambient temperature is noticed [36]. Several typical models based on ambient temperature from are given as following [19, 29, 37-41];

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + bT \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + bT + cT^2 \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + bT + cT^2 + cT^3 \quad (18)$$

$$H = a + \exp(bT^c) \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a + bT + cT^2 + cT^3 \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a\Delta T^b + c \quad (21)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = aT^b H_o \quad (22)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = aT^b H_o + c \quad (23)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + b\Delta T)\Delta T^c \quad (24)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + b\Delta T + c\Delta T^2)\Delta T^d \quad (25)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + b\Delta T + c\Delta T^2)\Delta T^{0.5} + d \quad (26)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + b\Delta T + c\Delta T^2)\Delta T^d + e \quad (27)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + b\Delta T + c\Delta T^2 + d\Delta T^3)\Delta T^e + f \quad (28)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + bT)\Delta T^c + d \quad (29)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + bT)\Delta T^c \quad (30)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + bT + cT^2)\Delta T^d + e \quad (31)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + bT + cT^2)\Delta T^d \quad (32)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = (a + bT + cT^2 + dT^3)\Delta T^e \quad (33)$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a(1 + 2.7 \times 10^{-5} Z) \Delta T^{0.5} \tag{34}$$

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = a \left(1 - \exp \left[-b \frac{\Delta T^c}{H_o} \right] \right) \tag{35}$$

where Z is the elevation of site from the sea level.

While the solar radiation (H), sunshine duration (S) and the ambient temperature (T) are measured by the measuring station, the daylight duration (S_o) and the extraterrestrial radiation (H_o) are calculated from the eqn. (3) and (eqn. (5), respectively.

3. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS METHODS

A number of statistical analysis methods have been used to evaluate the accuracy of the models of solar radiation estimations. Some of these, the relative percentage error (E), the mean percentage error (MPE), the mean absolute percentage error (MAPE), the sum of the squares of relative errors (SSRE), the relative standard error (RSE), the mean bias error (MBE), the root square error (RMSE), and correlation coefficient (R²) are the most commonly used to compare the results [5, 8-10, 18, 22, 28, 42-45]. In all the above statistical tests of accuracy, except R², the smaller the value, the better is the model performance. The statistical performance metrics are given in Table 1.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The monthly average daily values of the global solar radiation (H), sunshine duration (S), wind velocity (V), ambient temperature (T), ambient pressure (P), relative humidity (RH), the extraterrestrial radiation (H_o), daylight duration (S_o), solar radiation fraction (H/H_o) and sunshine duration fraction (S/S_o) were calculated from the 10-secondly measuring data and given in Table 2. The monthly average daily values of the solar radiation and the sunshine duration were illustrated in Fig. 3 and Fig.4. Using the data in Table 1 and Minitab™ program; the variations between (H/H_o) and (S/S_o), between (H/H_o) and (T), between (H/H_o) and (V), between (H/H_o) and (RH), and between (H/H_o) and (P) were analyzed and indicated in Fig.5. Minitab™ is a statistical package that provides

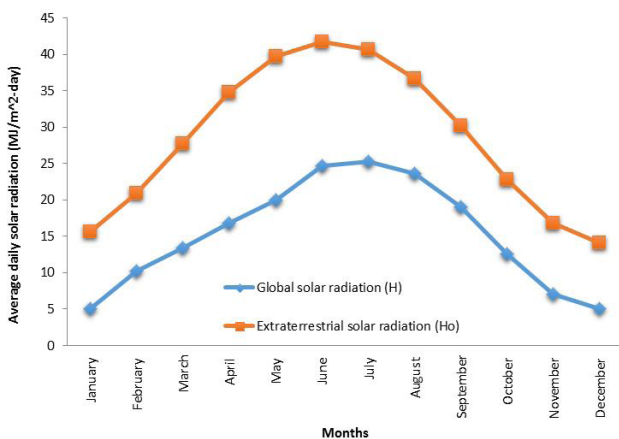


Figure 3. The annually distributions of the monthly average daily global and extraterrestrial solar radiations

a broad range of basic and advanced data analysis techniques. It includes regression techniques, analysis of variance experimental design and control charts, quality tools, survival analysis, multivariate analyses, time series, descriptive and non-parametric statistics exploratory data analysis, power and sample-size calculation. The results of analysis, the sunshine duration fraction (S/S_o) and the ambient temperature (T) were determined to be more impressive on the solar radiation fraction (H/H_o). After that, the new twelve empirical models relating to H, H/H_o, S/S_o, and T were suggested as fitted to experimental data. The regression graphs, the correlation coefficients (a, b, c, d, ...) and coefficient of determination (R²) obtained from Minitab™ were demonstrated in Fig.6-17. The obtained equations for new models are given as the following;

Model-1:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.1761 + 0.6021 \frac{S}{S_o}, \quad (R^2 = 0.935) \tag{45}$$

Model-2:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.1640 + 0.6529 \frac{S}{S_o} - 0.0482 \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^2, \quad (R^2 = 0.935) \tag{46}$$

Model-3:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.0315 + 1.528 \frac{S}{S_o} - 1.835 \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^2 + 1.144 \left(\frac{S}{S_o} \right)^3, \quad (R^2 = 0.936) \tag{47}$$

Model-4:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.3721 + 0.01178T, \quad (R^2 = 0.814) \tag{48}$$

Model-5:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.3620 + 0.01478T - 0.000128T^2, \quad (R^2 = 0.817) \tag{49}$$

Model-6:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.3364 + 0.02911T - 0.001668T^2 + 0.000043T^3, \quad (R^2 = 0.827) \tag{50}$$

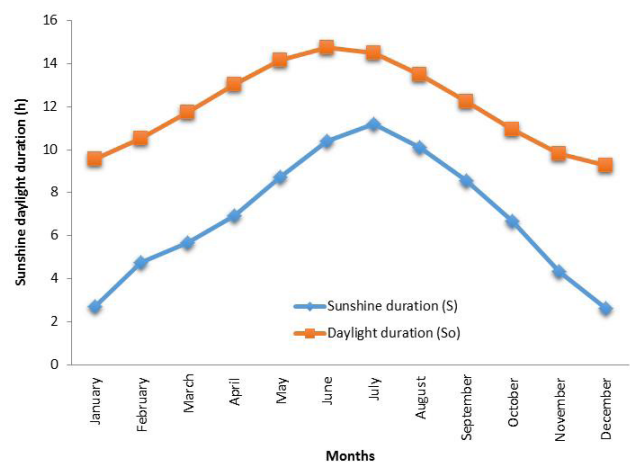


Figure 4. The annually distributions of the monthly average daily sunshine duration and daylight duration.

Table 1. The performance tools for statistical analysis

Metrics	Relations	Explanation	Eqn. No.
Relative percentage error (E)	$E = \left(\frac{C_i - m_i}{m_i} \right) 100$	The E provides the percentage deviation data between the calculated and measured. The ideal value of E equals to zero. here C_i is the ith calculated value, m_i is the ith measured value	(36)
Mean percentage error (MPE)	$MPE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n E}{n}$	The mean percentage error is explained as the average value of percentage deviation between estimated and measured solar radiations. Where n is the number of measured and estimated values	(37)
Mean absolute percentage error (MAPE)	$MAPE = ABS \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n E}{n} \right)$	The mean absolute percentage error is expressed as the absolute average value of percentage deviation between estimated and measured solar radiations	(38)
Sum of the squares of relative error (SSRE)	$SSRE = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{C_i - m_i}{m_i} \right)^2$	The SSRE give us the positive value of sum of squares of relative deviations throughout the year. The ideal value of SSRE equals to zero.	(39)
Relative standard error (RSE)	$RSE = \sqrt{\frac{SSRE}{n}}$	The RSE provides the degree of accuracy of estimation correlations.	(40)
Mean bias error (MBE)	$MBE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (C_i - m_i)$	The mean bias error is the average difference between measured and estimated values. The MBE gives some information on the long-term performance of correlations. The positive MBE indicates an overestimation, while a negative MBE shows an underestimation. The ideal value of MBE is zero.	(41)
Root mean square error (RMSE)	$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (C_i - m_i)^2}$	The RMSE provides a general indicator about on the short-term performance of correlations. The RMSE is always positive. Because the lower of RMSE values shows the more accurate model, the ideal value of RMSE equals to zero and is always positive	(42)
Correlation coefficient (R²)	$R^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (C_i - C_a)(m_i - m_a)}{\sqrt{\left[\sum_{i=1}^n (C_i - C_a)^2 \right] \left[\sum_{i=1}^n (m_i - m_a)^2 \right]}}$	The correlation coefficient is used to analyze for determining the relation between estimated and measured values. Where C_a and m_a expressed the average of the calculated and measured values, respectively.	(43)
t-statistic method (t-stat)	$t - stat = \sqrt{\frac{(n-1)MBE^2}{RMSE^2 - MBE^2}}$	To determine whether or not the equation estimates are statistically significant, i.e., not significantly different from their actual counterparts, at a particular confidence level, it is proposed the t-statistic as the correlation.	(44)

Model-7:

$$H = -1.981 + 2.496S, (R^2 = 0.979) \tag{51}$$

Model-8:

$$H = -1.717 + 2.402S + 0.00683S^2, (R^2 = 0.979) \tag{52}$$

Model-9:

$$H = 2.086 + 0.238S + 0.3616S^2 - 0.01744S^3, (R^2 = 0.98) \tag{53}$$

Model-10:

$$H = 4.959 + 0.8847T, (R^2 = 0.910) \tag{54}$$

Model-11:

$$H = 5.018 + 0.8669T + 0.00076T^2, (R^2 = 0.910) \tag{55}$$

Model-12:

$$H = 54.617 + 1.091T - 0.0234T^2 + 0.00068T^3, (R^2 = 0.910) \tag{56}$$

The measured and estimated values of H were given in Table 3 and shown in Fig.18-21. By using the statistical analysis methods, the values of H in Table 3 estimated from new models were compared with the measured values and tabulated in Table 4. The main remarkable statistical results are given as the following;

- (i) Between the new models, Model 1(eqn.(45)) has the best MAPE value with 4.52 between the new models.
- (ii) Model-3 (eqn.(47)) has the best MPE, SSRE, RSE, RMSE and R² values with 0.22, SSRE= 0.00257, RSE= 0.01463, RMSE=0.77312 and 0.99457.
- (iii) Model-11 has the best MBE and t-stat values with 0.00022 and 0.00034 between the new models.

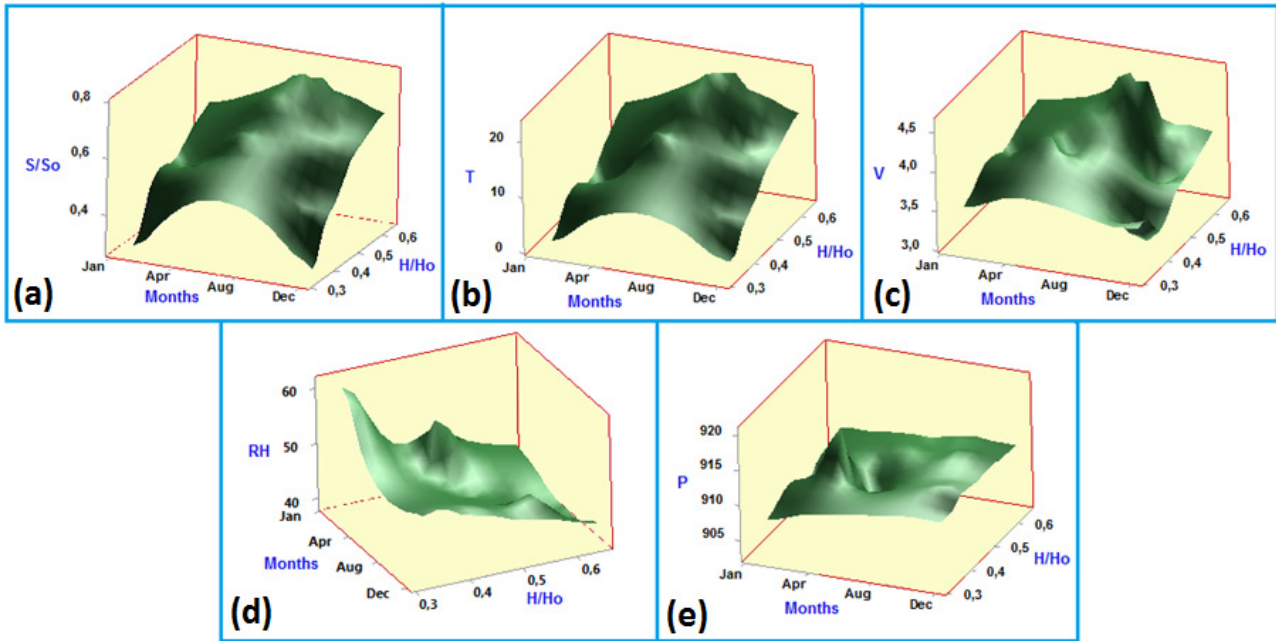


Figure 5. The variations (a) between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and $(\frac{S}{S_o})$, (b) between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and (T) , (c) between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and (V) , (d) between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and (RH) , (e) between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and (P) .

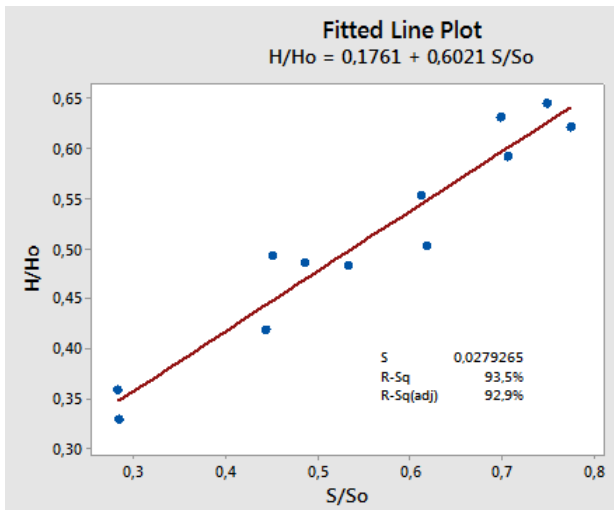


Figure 6. Linear regression between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and $(\frac{S}{S_o})$

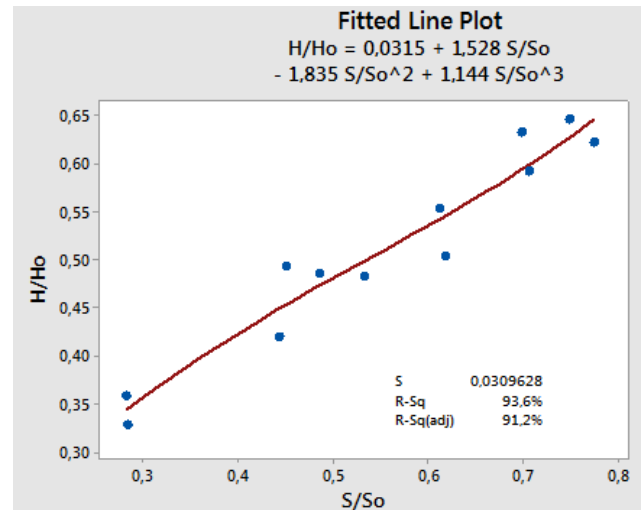


Figure 8. Third order polynomial regression line between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and $(\frac{S}{S_o})$

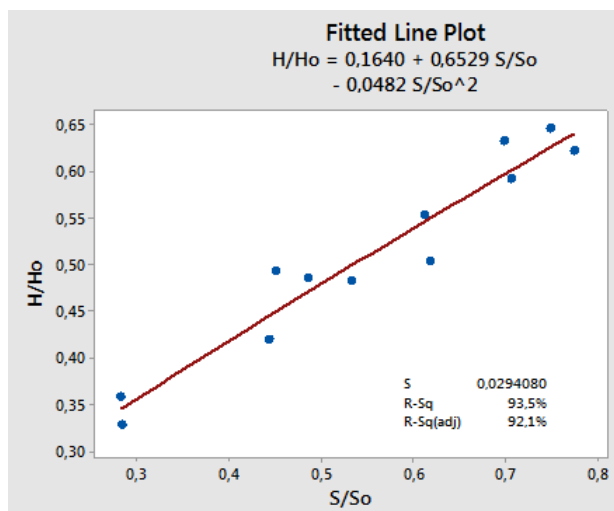


Figure 7. Second order polynomial regression line between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and $(\frac{S}{S_o})$

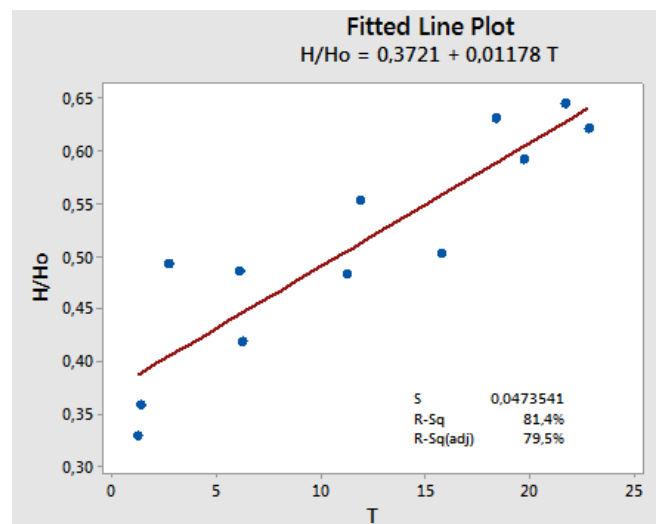


Figure 9. Linear regression between $(\frac{H}{H_o})$ and (T)

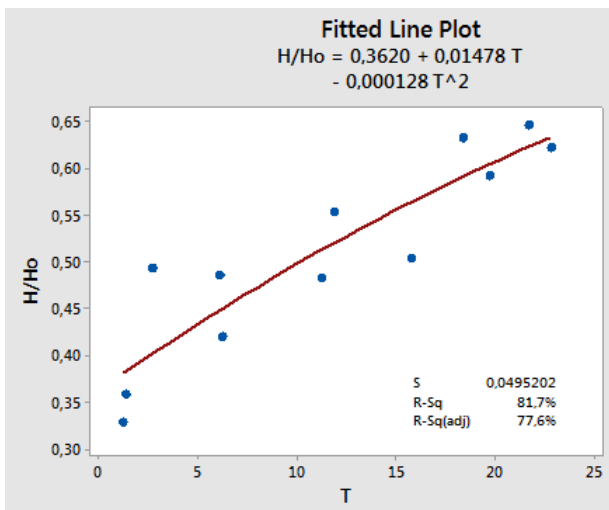


Figure 10. Second order polynomial regression line between $\left(\frac{H}{H_o}\right)$ and (T)

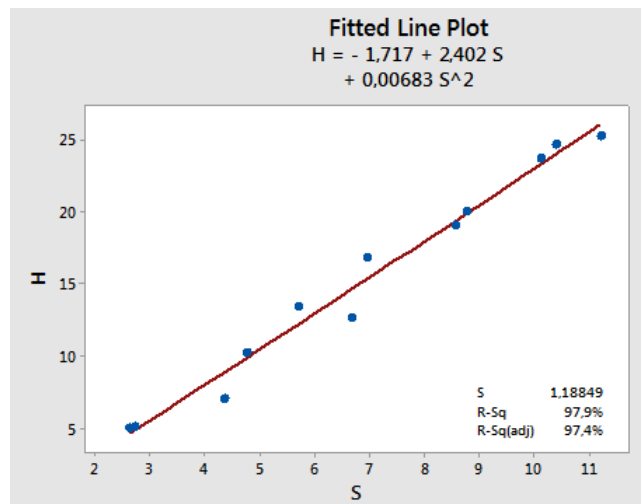


Figure 13. Second order polynomial regression line between (H) and (S)

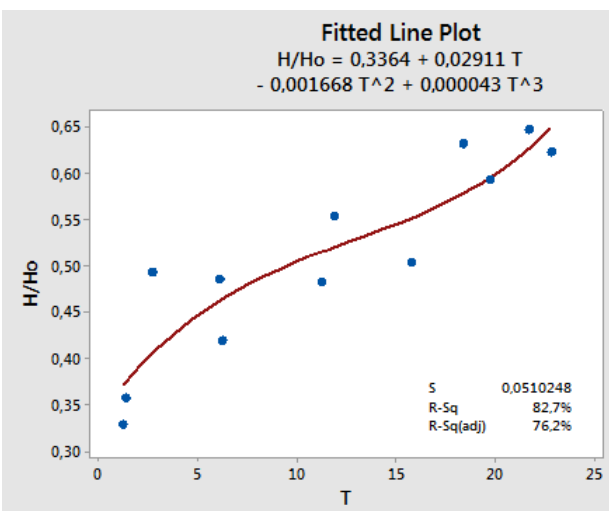


Figure 11. Third order polynomial regression line between $\left(\frac{H}{H_o}\right)$ and (T)

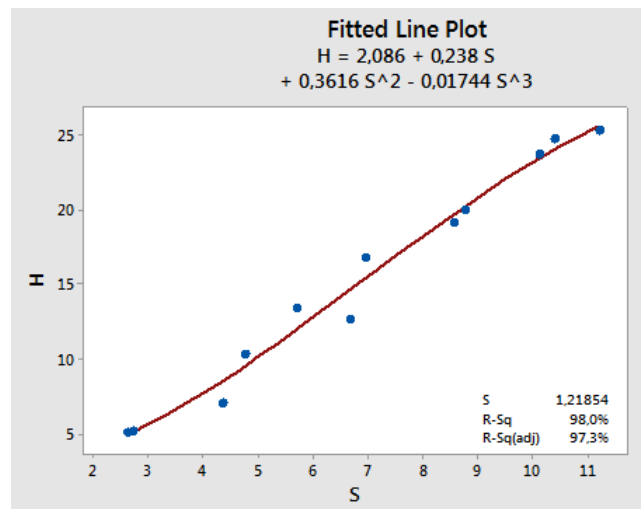


Figure 14. Third order polynomial regression line between (H) and (S)

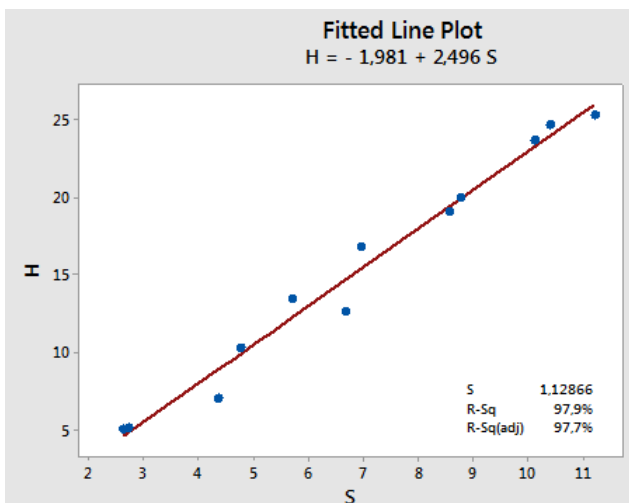


Figure 12. Linear regression between (H) and (S)

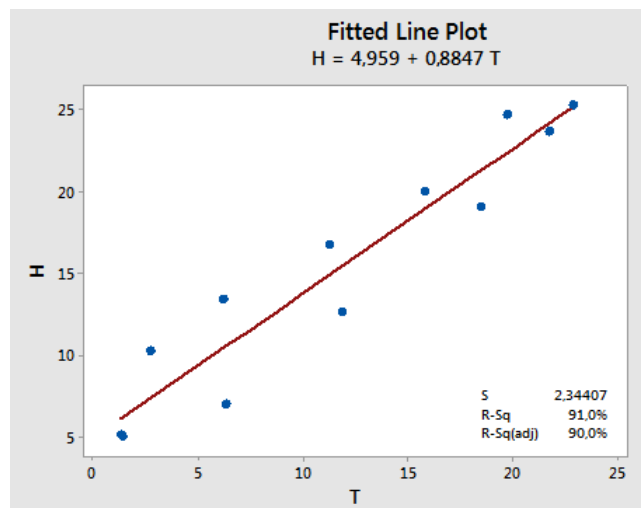


Figure 15. Linear regression between (H) and (T)

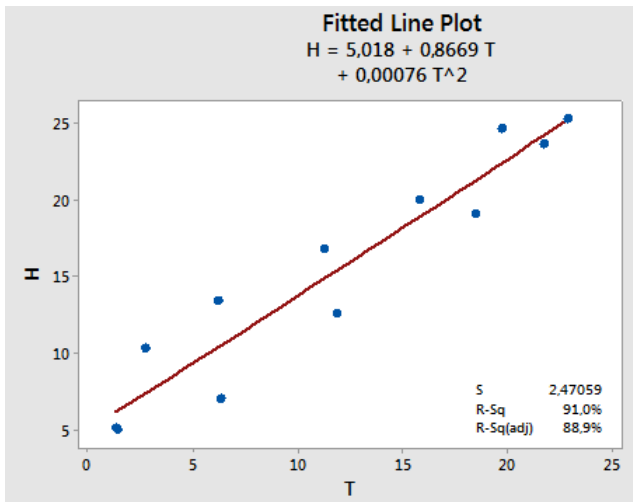


Figure 16. Second order polynomial regression line between (H) and (T)

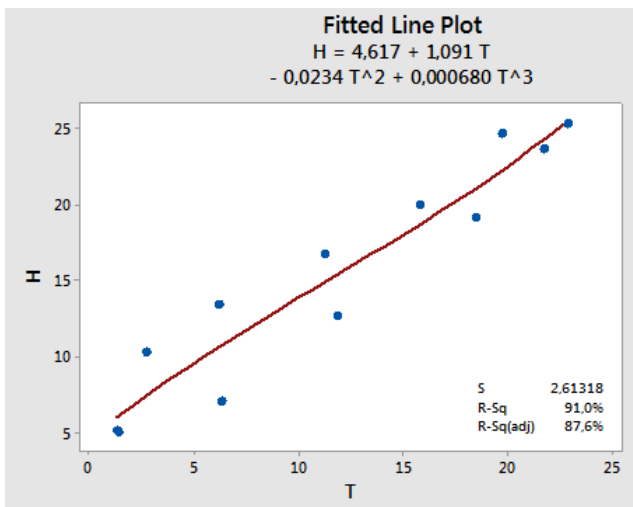


Figure 17. Third order polynomial regression line between (H) and (T)

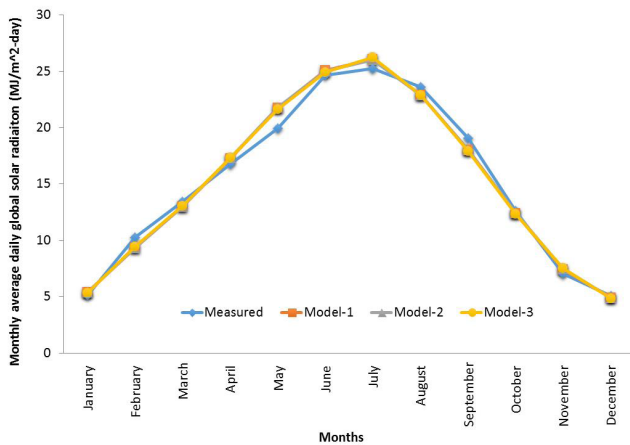


Figure 18. The annually distributions of the monthly average daily solar radiation estimated from Model-1, Model-2 and Model-3.

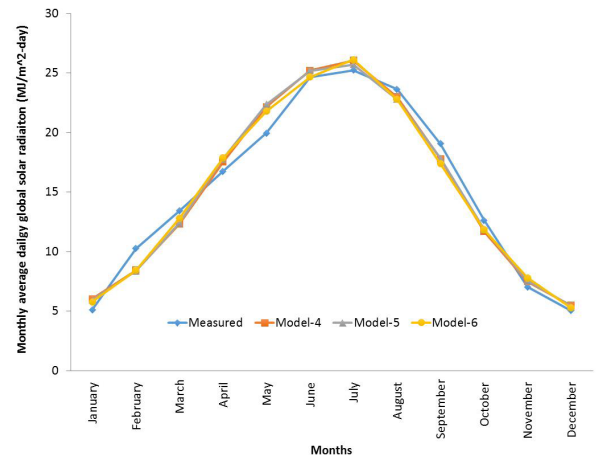


Figure 19. The annually distributions of the monthly average daily solar radiation estimated from Model-4, Model-5 and Model-6.

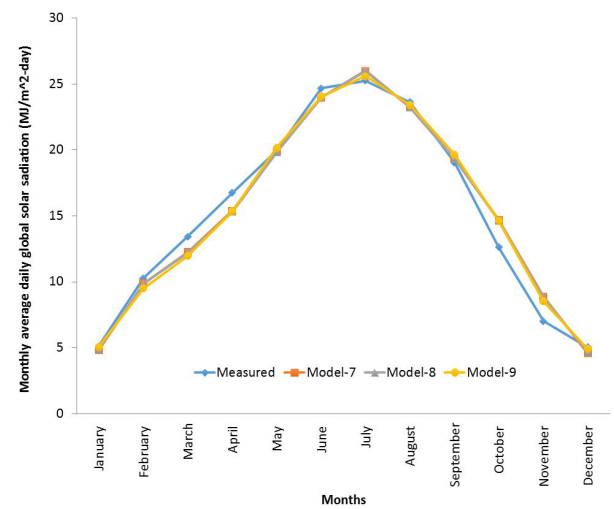


Figure 20. The annually distributions of the monthly average daily solar radiation estimated from Model-7, Model-8 and Model-9.

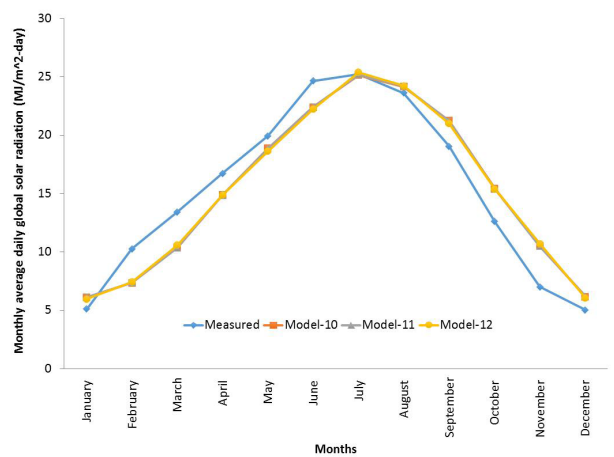


Figure 21. The annually distributions of the monthly average daily solar radiation estimated from Model-10, Model-11 and Model-12.

Table 2. Measured and calculated metrological data for Eskisehir City.

Months	Measured values						Calculated Values			
	H	S	V	T	P	RH	Ho	So	H/Ho	S/So
January	5.11	2.72	3.50	1.29	907.41	60.89	15.57	9.56	0.328	0.285
February	10.27	4.75	3.58	2.73	902.91	53.48	20.87	10.55	0.492	0.450
March	13.43	5.7	3.97	6.14	920.32	43.00	27.70	11.73	0.485	0.486
April	16.75	6.95	4.05	11.24	907.68	42.56	34.77	13.05	0.482	0.533
May	19.96	8.75	3.75	15.75	904.44	41.88	39.71	14.17	0.503	0.618
June	24.66	10.4	4.02	19.73	910.98	39.77	41.71	14.74	0.591	0.706
July	25.24	11.2	4.60	22.82	910.17	39.24	40.64	14.48	0.621	0.774
August	23.63	10.1	4.39	21.73	911.33	40.18	36.61	13.51	0.645	0.747
September	19.06	8.55	3.75	18.42	912.01	39.54	30.20	12.24	0.631	0.698
October	12.62	6.68	3.37	11.87	912.84	47.14	22.83	10.93	0.553	0.611
November	7.03	4.35	3.11	6.29	912.50	48.55	16.79	9.82	0.419	0.443
December	5.05	2.63	3.58	1.39	910.69	50.78	14.12	9.27	0.357	0.284
Average	15.23	6.90	3.81	11.62	910.27	45.58	28.46	12.00	0.509	0.553

Table 3. The monthly average daily global solar radiation values estimated from the developed models.

Months	Measured	Model-1	Model-2	Model-3	Model-4	Model-5	Model-6	Model-7	Model-8	Model-9	Model-10	Model-11	Model-12
January	5.11	5.41	5.39	5.36	6.03	5.93	5.78	4.81	4.87	5.06	6.10	6.13	5.98
February	10.27	9.34	9.36	9.43	8.44	8.38	8.44	9.88	9.85	9.51	7.37	7.39	7.43
March	13.43	12.98	13.01	13.07	12.31	12.41	12.80	12.25	12.20	11.96	10.39	10.37	10.59
April	16.75	17.28	17.32	17.31	17.54	17.80	17.87	15.37	15.31	15.35	14.90	14.86	14.89
May	19.96	21.76	21.80	21.63	22.14	22.36	21.80	19.86	19.82	20.17	18.89	18.86	18.65
June	24.66	25.07	25.05	24.94	25.21	25.18	24.67	23.98	24.00	24.05	22.41	22.41	22.25
July	25.24	26.08	26.02	26.21	26.04	25.71	26.13	25.97	26.04	25.61	25.15	25.20	25.41
August	23.63	22.92	22.88	22.92	22.99	22.80	22.79	23.23	23.24	23.41	24.18	24.21	24.25
September	19.06	18.02	18.01	17.92	17.79	17.84	17.38	19.36	19.32	19.65	21.25	21.24	21.02
October	12.62	12.42	12.44	12.35	11.69	11.86	11.85	14.69	14.63	14.61	15.46	15.41	15.40
November	7.03	7.44	7.45	7.52	7.49	7.55	7.79	8.88	8.86	8.53	10.53	10.50	10.73
December	5.05	4.90	4.88	4.85	5.48	5.40	5.28	4.58	4.65	4.90	6.19	6.23	6.09
Average	15.23	15.30	15.30	15.29	15.26	15.27	15.22	15.24	15.23	15.23	15.23	15.23	15.22

Table 4. The statistical analysis results of the new developed models

Months	Relative Percentage Error (E)											
	Model-1	Model-2	Model-3	Model-4	Model-5	Model-6	Model-7	Model-8	Model-9	Model-10	Model-11	Model-12
January	5.93	5.46	4.91	18.06	16.09	13.16	-5.86	-4.71	-0.97	19.38	20.11	17.15
February	-9.10	-8.90	-8.15	-17.85	-18.43	-17.84	-3.86	-4.13	-7.45	-28.20	-28.05	-27.61
March	-3.33	-3.08	-2.65	-8.32	-7.60	-4.65	-8.80	-9.17	-10.92	-22.64	-22.80	-21.15
April	3.11	3.38	3.29	4.69	6.24	6.65	-8.29	-8.64	-8.37	-11.05	-11.32	-11.14
May	9.01	9.19	8.38	10.93	12.00	9.23	-0.51	-0.69	1.04	-5.37	-5.54	-6.58
June	1.66	1.61	1.15	2.24	2.12	0.07	-2.76	-2.66	-2.45	-9.11	-9.10	-9.76
July	3.33	3.06	3.83	3.18	1.84	3.52	2.90	3.17	1.45	-0.38	-0.19	0.65
August	-3.00	-3.16	-3.00	-2.69	-3.52	-3.55	-1.70	-1.65	-0.94	2.35	2.48	2.64
September	-5.49	-5.51	-6.01	-6.68	-6.40	-8.85	1.56	1.35	3.11	11.50	11.44	10.28
October	-1.60	-1.43	-2.14	-7.40	-6.05	-6.15	16.39	15.93	15.77	22.45	22.09	22.04
November	5.80	6.03	6.98	6.61	7.49	10.91	26.30	26.08	21.35	49.80	49.47	52.63
December	-2.93	-3.37	-3.91	8.69	6.96	4.57	-9.16	-7.89	-2.97	22.67	23.38	20.72
MPE	0.28	0.27	0.22	0.95	0.89	0.59	0.52	0.58	0.72	4.28	4.33	4.16
MAPE	4.52	4.52	4.53	8.11	7.90	7.43	7.34	7.17	6.40	17.08	17.16	16.86
SSRE	0.00265	0.00264	0.00257	0.00913	0.00868	0.00770	0.01051	0.01013	0.00815	0.04628	0.04643	0.04637
RSE	0.01485	0.01482	0.01463	0.02759	0.02690	0.02532	0.02960	0.02906	0.02607	0.06210	0.06220	0.06216
MBE	0.06611	0.06655	0.05849	0.02936	0.03310	-0.01882	0.00311	-0.00199	-0.00006	0.00074	0.00022	-0.00928
RMSE	0.78383	0.78677	0.77312	1.12130	1.14694	1.09609	1.03032	1.02927	0.99493	2.13984	2.13959	2.13369
t-stat	0.28073	0.28156	0.25163	0.08686	0.09576	0.05695	0.01000	0.00642	0.00021	0.00115	0.00034	0.01443
R ²	0.99447	0.99439	0.99457	0.98835	0.98765	0.98845	0.98945	0.98948	0.99017	0.95368	0.95369	0.95395

5. CONCLUSIONS

Solar energy occupies one of the most important places among the various possible alternative energy sources not only in Turkey but also in the other countries in the sunny belt. Solar energy technologies suggest a clean, renewable and domestic energy source, and are essential components of a sustainable energy future. In the design and study of solar energy, information on solar radiation and its components at a given location is very essential. In this regard, solar radiation models are of big importance.

The review and classification of the published works in estimation of solar radiation shows that sunshine duration, relative humidity, air temperature and geographical parameters such as longitude, altitude, and latitude are the most correlated parameters and the solar radiation estimation methods can be classified as linear, nonlinear, artificial intelligence modeling and fuzzy logic modelling techniques. In this study, twelve empirical models were developed to predict the monthly average daily global solar radiation over Eskişehir city of Turkey based on the measured data. The results of statistical analyzing methods indicate that all of the new developed empirical models are more suitable for Eskişehir City. However it is concluded that proposed Model-4 can be used to calculate the global solar radiation with good accuracy based on the statistical error tests. Model-4 is given as follows;

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = 0.0315 + 1.528 \frac{S}{S_o} - 1.835 \left(\frac{S}{S_o}\right)^2 + 1.144 \left(\frac{S}{S_o}\right)^3$$

Turkey lies in a sunny belt between 36° and 42° N latitudes and is geographically well situated with respect to solar energy potential. If the information of solar radiation potential is very limited, the temperature based models are an essential and economical tool for estimating solar radiation. In this regard, the solar radiation potential can be easily estimated from Model-10/-11/-12 for Eskişehir and neighboring cities in the similar region and climate. Model-11 is statistically best temperature based model and given as follows;

$$H = 5.018 + 0.8669T + 0.00076T^2$$

NOMENCLATURE

a, b, c, d	coefficients in empirical relationship(-)
c_a	average of calculated value
c_i	i 'th calculated value
E	relative percentage error (%)
G_a	extraterrestrial radiation $\left(\frac{W}{m^2}\right)$
G_x	solar constant $\left(= 1367 \frac{W}{m^2}\right)$
H	monthly average daily global solar radiation $\left(\frac{MJ}{m^2-day}\right)$
H_o	monthly average daily extraterrestrial solar radiation $\left(\frac{MJ}{m^2-day}\right)$
m_a	average of measured value
m_i	i th measured value

MBE	mean bias error $\left(\frac{M}{m^2-day}\right)$
MPE	mean percentage error (%)
$MAPE$	mean absolute percentage error (%)
n_{day}	number of days of the year starting from first January
R^2	correlation coefficient (per %)
$RMSE$	root mean square error $\left(\frac{M}{m^2-day}\right)$
RSE	relative standard error (%)
S	day length (h)
S_o	daylight (bright sunshine) duration (h)
$SSRE$	sum of squares of relative errors (%)
$t-stat$	t-statistic (-)
Z	altitude (elevation) (m)

Greek letters

δ	solar declination angle ($^{\circ}$)
ϕ	latitude of site ($^{\circ}$)

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