

Battery and solar sizing

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Calculate the daily power consumption

How many times per hour does the application switches on?	120	per hour
How long does it stays switched on on each event	5	s
Total time of the device being switch on	600	s
What is the supply voltage?	3.3	V
What is the current used?	250	mA
What is the power consumption of the device?	0.825	W

Hourly power consumption

Formula = Time (s) / 3600 x Power (W) = Wh	0.1375	Wh
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Daily power consumption

Formula = Wh x 24 = Daily power consumption	3.3	Wh
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Days of redundancy

How many days does it need to cover without charging?	5	Days
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Formula = Daily power consumption x days of redundancy	16.5	Wh
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Convert power consumption to battery capacity

What's the common voltage for the battery?	3.7	V
Formula = Power consumption (Wh) / Battery voltage (V)	4.46	Ah
Safety margin	20	%
Formula = Battery capacity (Ah) x safety margin (%)	5.35	Ah

Calculate the size of solar panel

Average amount of sunshine for the darkest month per day	5	h
Formula = Daily power consumption (Wh) / sunshine h/day	0.7	W
Safety margin	20	%
Formula = PV panel size (W) x safety margin (%)	0.8	W

Conclusion

For the application we will need the following:

A battery with a capacity of	5.35	Ah
and a solar panel of size	0.8	W

Average number of days with sun or cloud

City	Sunny	Cloudy
Adelaide	4	16
Ballarat	3	16
Bendigo	6	12
Bundaberg	13	6
Cairns	9	10
Canberra	8	12
Coffs Harbour	11	9
Darwin	18	3
Hobart	4	14
Launceston	5	15
Mackay	12	7
Maitland	8	10
Melbourne	3	18
Newcastle	6	12
Perth	8	10
Rockhampton	13	7
Sydney	9	10
Toowoomba	10	9
Townsville	12	8

(LiPo or lithium ion = 3.7V, LiFePo4 = 4.1V)

Average hours of bright sunshine in June

City	Day	Month
Adelaide	5	135
Cairns	7	210
Canberra	5	159
Coffs Harbour	7	201
Darwin	10	303
Mackay	7	219
Melbourne	4	123
Perth	6	180
Sydney	6	171
Townsville	8	231

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