CLAIMS

1. A PV panel array comprising;

a plurality of PV panel modules, each module comprising:

a frame arranged to support a photovoltaic panel;

the frame including an assembly of articulated members arranged to fold from an extended position to a retracted position;

each of said modules further including binding fixtures, said binding fixtures arranged to cooperatively engage a binding fixture on an adjacent PV panel module so as to couple said modules together to form the array

said binding fixture including a nestable bracket for the cooperative engagement of the modules, and a lock arranged to securely lock said nested brackets so as to form a rigid connection between the modules;

such that the plurality of engaged PV panel modules operate structurally as the single PV array.

2. The PV panel array according to claim 1, wherein said frame is integrally connected to the photovoltaic panel, such that the frame and panel are arranged to be transportable as a single unit.

3. The PV panel array according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the frame is connected to the panel through one frame part in a translationally fixed manner at a first end of the panel, and;

slidingly engaged by a second frame part, such that in folding from the extended position to the retracted position, with the second frame part arranged to slide relative to the panel.

4. The PV panel array according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the frame is arranged to form a planar shape in the retracted position.

5. The PV panel array according to claim 4 wherein the planar shaped frame is arranged to nest into the panel in the retracted position.

6. The PV panel array according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the frame includes a selectively releasable base.

7. The PV panel array according to claim 6, wherein the selectively releasable base includes one or a combination of: weights mountable to said frame, ground engaging members, engagement devices for engaging a surface or selectively fillable weight containers arranged to receive sand, soil or liquid on site.

8. The PV panel array according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the frame includes one of: a scissor frame, a parallelogram pivot frame, a plurality of discrete legs pivotally connected to the frame or a telescopic frame.

9. The PV panel array according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the frame includes an actuator to move the frame between the extended position and the retracted position.

10. The PV panel array according to claim 9, wherein the actuator includes a bi-axial pivoting actuator, such that when the frame is placed the PV panel is arranged to be rotated and/or pivoted.

11. The PV panel array according to claim 10, further including a control system, said control system arranged to control a solar tracker used to operate the bi-axial actuator.

12. The PV panel array according to any one of claims 3 to 5, further including a brace connected to the frame, said brace arranged to move from a retracted position to a locked position on the frame moving from the retracted position to the expanded position, said brace in the extended position forming a triangulation with the frame.

13. A method of installing a PV panel array, said array comprising a plurality of PV panel modules, each module comprising:

a PV panel mounted to a frame, and , the method comprising the steps of:

placing the frames of each module on a suitable surface;

extending an arrangement of legs of each frame so as to raise each frame from a retracted position to an extended position;

fitting a selectively releasable base to each frame so as to fix said frame to said surface;

each of said modules further including binding fixtures having nestable bracket;

cooperatively engaging the binding fixtures on adjacent PV panel modules and so coupling said modules together to form the array, and;

locking said nested brackets.