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A method for aggregating external operating conditions in multi-generation system optimization models - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

A method for aggregating external operating conditions in multi-generation system optimization models

This paper presents a novel, simple method for reducing external operating condition datasets to be used in multi-generation system optimization models. The method, called the Characteristic Operating Pattern (CHOP) method, is a visually-based aggregation method that clusters reference data based on parameter values rather than time of occurrence, thereby preserving important information on short-term relations between the relevant operating parameters. This is opposed to commonly used methods where data are averaged over chronological periods (months or years), and extreme conditions are hidden in the averaged values. The CHOP method is tested in a case study where the operation of a fictive Danish combined heat and power plant is optimized over a historical 5-year period. The optimization model is solved using the full external operating condition dataset, a reduced dataset obtained using the CHOP method, a monthly-averaged dataset, a yearly-averaged dataset, and a seasonal peak/off-peak averaged dataset. The economic result obtained using the CHOP-reduced dataset is significantly more accurate than that obtained using any of the other reduced datasets, while the calculation time is similar to those obtained using the monthly averaged and seasonal peak/off-peak averaged datasets. The outcomes of the study suggest that the CHOP method is advantageous compared to chronology-averaging methods in reducing external operating condition datasets to be used in the design optimization models of flexible multi-generation systems.

General information

State: Published
Organisations: Department of Mechanical Engineering, Thermal Energy, Department of Management Engineering, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL)
Authors: Lythcke-Jørgensen, C. E. (Intern), Münster, M. (Intern), Ensinas, A. V. (Ekstern), Haglind, F. (Intern)
Pages: 59-75
Publication date: 2016
Main Research Area: Technical/natural sciences

Publication information

Journal: Applied Energy
Volume: 166
ISSN (Print): 0306-2619
Ratings:
BFI (2017): BFI-level 2
Web of Science (2017): Indexed yes
BFI (2016): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2016): CiteScore 7.78 SJR 3.058 SNIP 2.573
Web of Science (2016): Indexed yes
BFI (2015): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2015): SJR 2.912 SNIP 2.61 CiteScore 6.4
Web of Science (2015): Indexed yes
BFI (2014): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2014): SJR 3.254 SNIP 3.28 CiteScore 6.93
Web of Science (2014): Indexed yes
BFI (2013): BFI-level 1
Scopus rating (2013): SJR 3.164 SNIP 3.377 CiteScore 6.59
ISI indexed (2013): ISI indexed yes
Web of Science (2013): Indexed yes
BFI (2012): BFI-level 1
Scopus rating (2012): SJR 2.854 SNIP 3.108 CiteScore 5.69
ISI indexed (2012): ISI indexed yes
Web of Science (2012): Indexed yes
BFI (2011): BFI-level 1
Scopus rating (2011): SJR 2.473 SNIP 2.84 CiteScore 5.5
ISI indexed (2011): ISI indexed yes
Web of Science (2011): Indexed yes
BFI (2010): BFI-level 1
Scopus rating (2010): SJR 1.516 SNIP 2.25
Web of Science (2010): Indexed yes
BFI (2009): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2009): SJR 1.003 SNIP 1.781
Web of Science (2009): Indexed yes
BFI (2008): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2008): SJR 0.974 SNIP 1.215
Web of Science (2008): Indexed yes
Scopus rating (2007): SJR 1.179 SNIP 1.709
Web of Science (2007): Indexed yes
Scopus rating (2006): SJR 0.979 SNIP 1.293
Scopus rating (2005): SJR 1.043 SNIP 0.996
Web of Science (2005): Indexed yes
Scopus rating (2004): SJR 0.643 SNIP 0.839
Web of Science (2004): Indexed yes
Scopus rating (2003): SJR 0.778 SNIP 0.797
Scopus rating (2002): SJR 0.577 SNIP 0.775
Web of Science (2002): Indexed yes
Scopus rating (2001): SJR 0.376 SNIP 0.578
Scopus rating (2000): SJR 0.352 SNIP 0.515
Scopus rating (1999): SJR 0.182 SNIP 0.45
Original language: English
Data aggregation, Flexibility, Multi-generation, Operation optimization, Polygeneration
DOIs:
10.1016/j.apenergy.2015.12.050
Source: FindIt
Source-ID: 2291592173
Publication: Research - peer-review › Journal article – Annual report year: 2016