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Description	



# Study of Temperature Control in Cyber-physical Approach Home Environment

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**Abstract**—Technology advances allow us to design smart home system for the purpose to achieve high demand on occupants' comfort. In this research, we focus on the temperature control to build a thermal comfort controller for the existing hybrid temperature control (HTC) system, which is based on the cyber-physical system (CPS) approach. By using air-conditioner, window and curtain, our proposed controller can acquire the desired temperature under the high energy efficiency. Through the raw data from experiments, we evaluate and verify our proposed controller in the cyber-physical home system environment by using MATLAB/Simulink tool.

**Keywords**—cyber-physical system, temperature control, hybrid system, actuator, smart house

## I. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the advanced technology allows us to live in a more comfortable and smart environment. At the same time, the demands such as: comfort and control aspects, equipment loads and minimum energy efficiency increase speedily. The improved heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) system and control design strategies can offer numerous opportunities to meet those demands within efficient costs.

In this research, we present cyber-physical system (CPS) aspect room temperature control system along with the supervisory control and conventional Proportional and Integral (PI) controller. We correlate the room temperature with the multiple actuators. In this paper, actuator is defined as an object that can potentially change the environment temperature through the thermal heat at the home. Examples of actuators are air-conditioner, heater, window, curtain, etc. We design the CPS aspect hybrid temperature control (HTC) system which enables to monitor and maintain the desired temperature dynamically with three actuators; air-conditioner, window and curtain. The control of room temperature is a challenging task for the reasons of (i) changing the outside temperature in time that can be used as one of the thermal resources for controlling the room temperature; (ii) the time is very consuming to get the user's preference room temperature; and (iii) the dynamic of changing the environmental conditions. To challenge these points, CPS can be one of the potential approaches. CPS in [1], [2] is defined as a tight integration of computation, communication, and control for active interaction between physical and cyber (computational) elements in which

embedded devices such as sensors and actuators are wireless or wired networked to sense, monitor and control the physical world.

In our HTC system, we use the idea of designing and implementation of cyber-physical control systems over the wireless sensor and actuator network (WSAN) and the feedback control architecture presented in [3]. In our modelled HTC system, the room temperature is continuously sensed by the sensor and this sensed data is averaged and compared with the desired room temperature. Then, the supervisory control decides the appropriate control input signal according to the feedback room temperature and the additional environment data (e.g. outside temperature, the heat entered through the window). Following this, the PI controller computes the preferred setting temperature in case of the air-conditioner is triggered by the supervisory control. In HTC system, only the actuator air-conditioner is designed with PI controller.

This research aims to develop the practical application of CPS approach for temperature control system with multiple actuators in home environment. The contribution of this research is divided into two folds: (i) to present the room temperature control system with three actuators along with the supervisory control which is designed in an energy efficient way, (ii) to highlight the effect of the curtain in room temperature control. To understand how our proposed HTC system controls the room temperature in order to meet the user's preference while saving energy, we have developed a simulation in MATLAB/Simulink and showed with the simulation results.

The rest of this paper is structured as follows. Some state-of-the-art research works that are related to this paper are summarized in Section II. In Section III, we discuss the affect of curtain in room temperature control and describe the mathematical formulation of the heat entered through the window and the curtain. In Section IV, we describe the design and modeling of the hybrid temperature control system and its mathematical representations. Also, the supervisory control and its mode of operations are presented. Simulation scenario, setup, results and analysis are presented in Section V. Some relevant conclusions and our future works are drawn in Section VI.

## II. RELATED WORK

The following section reviews the existing researches on home automation system for controlling the temperature and the service platform of CPS applications in home environment. Many researches and industrial works have been conducted in controlling the temperature of buildings and rooms with HVAC system. Such researches of intelligent control for the HVAC system can be found in [4], [5], [6] and [7]. For example, Witrant et al [4] propose a model-based feedback control strategy for indoor temperature regulation in buildings equipped with underfloor air distribution. However, Homod et al. [5] present a hybrid PID-cascade controller, which is a method for adaptively adjusting the PID gains using cascade feed forward for central air-conditioning system. Wang et al. [6] propose a hybrid CMAC-PID control system for HVAC system, which combines the CMAC (Cerebellar model articulation controller) neural network and general PID control. A model-based design of embedded controllers for integrated building system to regulate the indoor room temperature is presented in [7].

Other relevant researches of CPS application for home environment system can be found in [8], [9], [10], [11], and [12]. Wang [8] presents a ventilation control strategy for multi-zone variable air volume air-conditioning systems and an adaptive optimization algorithm for optimizing the fresh airflow rate to minimize the energy consumption. Lai et al. [9] propose the OSGi-based service architecture for cyber-physical home control system, which supports service-oriented control methods. Duchon, et al. [10] introduce an extension of existing software architecture tool, called Acme Studio, for the modeling and analysis of cyber-physical system at the architecture level. By defining three entities; the cyber domain, the physical domain and their interconnection, they illustrate the architectural modeling using CPS architecture style with the example of a temperature control system for two zones (rooms). The CPS applications in [13] include medical devices and systems, assisted living, traffic control and safety, advanced automotive systems, energy conservation, and smart structure.

In particular, there is only limited work in the CPS approach for the temperature control with multiple actuators in home environment. In fact, this paper is closely related to our previous work [14]. In [14], we presented CPS approach room temperature control system with two actuators; air-conditioner and window. Apart from the existing research, this paper extends the work presented in [14] by adding one more actuator — the curtain. Moreover, there are few examples that studied the influent of the curtain in room temperature controlling. In this respect, the present study illustrates the influent of the opening/closing the curtain in room temperature control. The advantage of our proposed HTC system over a common home temperature control system is that the system is designed with interoperability among the three actuators along with the compromise between the user's preference and the energy cost.

## III. TEMPERATURE CONTROL WITH CURTAIN

In this section, we explain the important role of the curtain to maintain the room temperature and to reduce the usage of air-conditioner/heater as well. The curtain within the room maintains the temperature closer to the room temperature, while the curtain closet to the window absorbs the heat or cold.

Since the energy efficient curtains retain heat during the winter and reject heat in the summer, resulting in lower cooling and heating loads. During the heat day of summer weather, before the sun shines directly onto the windows, the curtains are closed. By this way, the heat from the sun is blocked before it enters and warms the air will help keep the room comfortable and lessen the need for air-conditioning. During the day of cold weather if the window is receiving sunlight, the energy efficient curtain is opened. So, allowing the use of natural sunlight during cold weather will lessen the need to run the heater. Also, the curtains are closed as soon as the sun has set to keep all the heat from escaping through the window. Because of the facts as explained above, the curtain is considered as one of the actuators in our HTC system.

In the following, we explain the formulation of two types of heat entered through the glass window.

Type 1: The heat gain when the sun shines through the window can be expressed as explained in [15]

$$Q_{ss} = q_{rad} \cdot A_g \cdot g_t \quad (1)$$

where  $q_{rad}$  is solar radiation,  $A_g$  is surface area of glass window;  $g_t$  is total solar energy transmittance for system combined with curtain and window. When the curtain is opened,  $g_t = g_g$  which is total solar energy transmittance for glass.

When the curtain is closed,  $g_t$  can be calculated by the equation as in [16]

$$g_t = g_g \cdot (1 - g_g \cdot \rho - \alpha \cdot \frac{u}{u+G}) \quad (2)$$

where  $G$  is thermal conductance of the air between glass and curtain,  $\rho$  is solar reflectance of the side of the curtain facing the incident radiation, and the value of  $\alpha$  is calculated as

$$\alpha = 1 - \tau - \rho \quad (3)$$

where  $\tau$  is solar transmittance of the curtain,  $u$  is thermal transmittance of glass.

Type 2: Heat gain through the glass window due to the temperature difference between outside and inside can be expressed as

$$Q_{dth} = A_g \cdot u_t \cdot (T_{out} - T_r) \quad (4)$$

where  $A_g$  is surface area of glass window,  $u_t$  is thermal transmittance for the system that combined with the curtain and the window and  $T_{out}$  is outside temperature. When curtain opens,  $u_t = u_g$  which is thermal transmittance for window. When curtain is closed,  $u_t$  is calculated by following equation

$$u_t = \frac{u_g}{1 + u_g \cdot \Delta R} \quad (5)$$

where  $\Delta R$  is additional thermal resistance which can be calculated by equation (6) as follows

$$\Delta R = 0.55R + 0.11 \quad (6)$$

where  $R$  is thermal resistance for curtain. The details of affect of curtain in room temperature control will be presented in Section V with the simulation results.

#### IV. HYBRID TEMPERATURE CONTROL SYSTEM

In this section, we explain the detail of HTC system. First, we explain the design and modeling of HTC system and its mathematical representations. Following these, the supervisory control and it's mode of operations are described.

##### A. HTC System Architecture

The feedback control of HTC system comprised of supervisory control and PI controller is showed in Fig. 1. In our HTC system, the desired room temperature is maintained and controlled by three actuators; the air-conditioner, the window and the curtain cooperatively regardless of dynamic environment changes. The room temperature is periodically sensed by the sensors and these sensed data are sent to the supervisory control and PI controller.

Then, the supervisory control computes the control input signal according to the feedback room temperature and the additional environment data (e.g. the outside temperature, the heat entered through the window) and then decides which actuator should be active. Following these, in case of the air-conditioner is triggered by the supervisory control; the PI controller computes the required setting temperature of air-conditioner. The pseudo code for supervisory control is shown in Fig. 2.

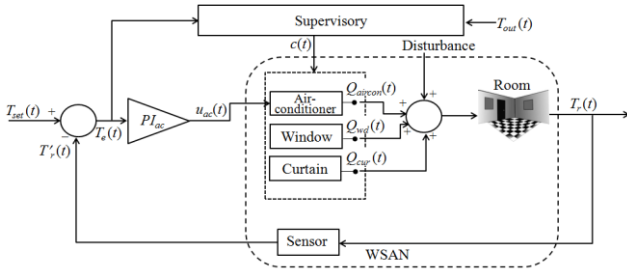


Fig. 1. Block diagram of HTC system.

##### B. Mathematical Representation

The mathematical representation of HTC system as explained in [14] is used in this paper. Here, we consider five types of heat that makes the changes of room temperature; heat gain from the air-conditioner ( $Q_{aircon}$ ), heat gain from opening the window ( $Q_{airflow}$ ), heat gain due to temperature difference between inside and outside through window only ( $Q_{dth}$ ), heat gain due to solar radiation (sun shines) through window only ( $Q_{ss}$ ), and the sensible heat gain and latent heat gain by occupants ( $Q_{occupant}$ ). Heat gain from the curtain open/ close ( $Q_{cur}$ ) is calculated from the addition of  $Q_{dth}$  and  $Q_{ss}$  values.

TABLE I. SYMBOLS AND DEFINITION

Symbols	Definition
$s(t)$	state of the system at moment $t$
$T_r(t)$ ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	room temperature at moment $t$
$T_{sa}$	setting temperature of air-conditioner
$Q(i)$	total heat gain under the state $i$
$c(t)$	switched control signal
$u_{ac}(t)$	control input to air-conditioner
$timer_{sh}(s)$	state holding time
$timer$	counter for duration of state $i$

##### C. Supervisory Control

A supervisory control represents a certain class of hybrid control systems. A supervisor decides which of the actuators should be active at each time instant. The switching signals are determined by the supervisor based on proposed control algorithm in Fig. 2. Here, the continuous inputs to the supervisory are the error temperature computed from the feedback room temperature and the outside temperature, and the control signal is the continuous output.

The HTC system is organized in a set of six states:  $S_{aoff,wcl,ccl}$ ,  $S_{aoff,wcl,cop}$ ,  $S_{aoff,wop,ccl}$ ,  $S_{aoff,wop,cop}$ ,  $S_{aon,wcl,ccl}$ ,  $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$  which is defined as numerical number 0-5 respectively. In the following, we explained the operation of each mode.

State 0 ( $S_{aoff,wcl,ccl}$ ): Air-conditioner is off, window is closed and curtain is closed.

State 1 ( $S_{aoff,wcl,cop}$ ): Air-conditioner is off, window is closed and curtain open.

State 2 ( $S_{aoff,wop,ccl}$ ): Air-conditioner is off, window open and curtain is closed.

State 3 ( $S_{aoff,wop,cop}$ ): Air-conditioner is off and window and curtain open.

State 4 ( $S_{aon,wcl,ccl}$ ): Air-conditioner is on and window and curtain are closed.

State 5 ( $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$ ): Air-conditioner is on and window is closed and curtain open.

In the refinements of each state, the following differential equations govern the changes of the room temperature.

When the system is in  $S_{aoff,wcl,ccl}$  and  $S_{aoff,wcl,cop}$  states, the room temperature changes according to following equation

$$\frac{dT_r}{dt} = \frac{1}{\beta} (Q_{dth} + Q_{ss} + Q_{occupant}) \quad (7)$$

When the system is in  $S_{aoff,wop,ccl}$ ,  $S_{aoff,wop,cop}$  states, the room temperature changes according to following equation

$$\frac{dT_r}{dt} = \frac{1}{\beta} (Q_{dth} + Q_{ss} + Q_{occupant} + Q_{airflow}) \quad (8)$$

When the system is in  $S_{aon,wcl,ccl}$  and  $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$  states, the room temperature changes according to following equation

$$\frac{dT_r}{dt} = \frac{1}{\beta} (Q_{dth} + Q_{ss} + Q_{occupant} + Q_{aircon}) \quad (9)$$

We also define that  $\beta = \rho_{air} V_{room} C_p$ ,  $\rho_{air}$  is air density,  $V_{room}$  is room volume, and  $C_p$  is specific heat capacity air.

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**Algorithm** supervisory control

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```
1. for each  $s(t) \in S$  do
2.   if  $s(t) \in \{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3\}$  then
3.      $timer_{sh} = timer_{nac}$ 
4.   else
5.      $timer_{sh} = timer_{ac}$ 
6.   end if
7.   if  $(timer < timer_{sh})$  then
8.      $c(t) \leftarrow s(t)$ 
9.   else
10.    if  $(T_r(t) > T_{ser} + T_{off\_sum})$  then
11.       $i \leftarrow \arg \min_{i \in \{0,1,2,3\}} \{Q(i)\}$ 
12.       $q \leftarrow \min_{i \in \{0,1,2,3\}} \{Q(i)\}$ 
13.      if  $(q \leq Q_{sum})$  then
14.         $c(t) \leftarrow i$ 
15.      else
16.         $i \leftarrow \arg \min_{i \in \{0,1\}} \{Q(i)\}$ 
17.         $c(t) \leftarrow i+4$ 
18.      end if
19.    elseif  $(T_r(t) < T_{ser} - T_{off\_win})$  then
20.       $i \leftarrow \arg \max_{i \in \{0,1,2,3\}} \{Q(i)\}$ 
21.       $q \leftarrow \max_{i \in \{0,1,2,3\}} \{Q(i)\}$ 
22.      if  $(q \geq Q_{win})$  then
23.         $c(t) \leftarrow i$ 
24.      else
25.         $i \leftarrow \arg \min_{i \in \{0,1\}} \{Q(i)\}$ 
26.         $c(t) \leftarrow i+4$ 
27.      end if
28.    end if
29.  end if
30. end for
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Fig. 2. Pseudo code for supervisory control.

## V. SIMULATION STUDIES

## A. Simulation environment and setup

In this section, we verify and examine how HTC system will behave in physical world by making the simulation conducted in MATLAB/Simulink tool. In the simulation, we use the raw data from the experiments that were conducted at the smart house environment, iHouse, which is located at Nomi city, Ishikawa prefecture, Japan. The measured outside temperature and the entered total heat from the sun through the windows of the bedroom on the second floor of iHouse during the typical summer (August) and autumn (October) seasons are used in our simulation. This work was accomplished by the aid of home simulator presented in [17]. The windows and curtains are mounted with automatic opened/closed motor. In the bedroom, one air-conditioner of Mitsubishi type is also available. The other parameters and values used in the simulation are shown in Table II. Moreover, we also consider the state settling time for regulating the amount of state transition. As a result, we can reduce the frequency of actuators operation.

In our HTC system, only the actuator air-conditioner is designed with PI controller. We consider that the air-conditioner using a conventional PI controller which varies the setting temperature of air-conditioner according to feedback

room temperature. The gains for PI controller are obtained by tuning the values in Simulink toolbox. The sampling period of simulation is 10 second.

TABLE II. SIMULATION PARAMETERS AND SETTINGS

Parameter	Value
$V_{room}$ (L×W×H) : room volume	5.005m×4.095m×2.4m
$\rho_{air}$ : air density	1.2 kg/ m <sup>3</sup>
$T_{ser}$ : desired room temperature	25 °C
$T_{off\_sum}$ : offset temperature for summer	0.2 °C
$T_{off\_win}$ : offset temperature for winter	0.2 °C
$A_{g1}$ for type 1 window	1.815 m <sup>2</sup>
$A_{g2}$ for type 2 window	0.66 m <sup>2</sup>
$A_{op1}$ for type 1: surface area of window opening	1.815 m <sup>2</sup>
$A_{op2}$ for type 2 : surface area of window opening	0.66 m <sup>2</sup>
$u_{g1}$ for type 1	3.4 W/ m <sup>2</sup> °C
$u_{g2}$ for type 2	1.7 W/ m <sup>2</sup> °C
$g_{g1}$ for type 1	0.79
$g_{g2}$ for type 2	0.41
$\tau$	0.2
$G$	18 W/ m <sup>2</sup> °C
$\rho$	0.5
$R$	0.09 m <sup>2</sup> °C/ W
$C_p$ : specific heat capacity air	1012 J/ kg °C
$K_p$ ,proportional gain for state 4( $S_{aon,wcl,cci}$ ) summer	11.5259
$K_i$ ,integral gain for state 4( $S_{aon,wcl,cci}$ ) summer	0.07830
$K_p$ ,proportional gain for state5( $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$ )summer	7.6920
$K_i$ ,integral gain for state5( $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$ ) summer	0.05594
$K_p$ ,proportional gain for state 4( $S_{aon,wcl,cci}$ ) winter	11.5259
$K_i$ ,integral gain for state 4( $S_{aon,wcl,cci}$ ) winter	0.07830
$K_p$ ,proportional gain for state 5( $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$ ) winter	7.6920
$K_i$ ,integral gain for state 5( $S_{aon,wcl,cop}$ ) winter	0.0559
$Q_{sum}$ : threshold value for room heat gain in typical summer	50 W
$Q_{win}$ : threshold value for room heat gain in typical winter	60 W
$timer_{ac}$ :state holding time when air-conditioner is used (summer)	100s
$timer_{nac}$ :state holding time when air-conditioner is not used (summer)	80s
$timer_{ac}$ (winter)	50s
$timer_{nac}$ (winter)	40s

## B. Simulation Results

To evaluate our new HTC system, we conduct the simulations with two parts. In the first part, we focus on the study of the affect of curtain in room temperature and investigate how the usage of curtain can maintain the room temperature and reduce the usage of air-conditioner. This simulation is done for only autumn season. In the second part, we add the curtain as an actuator in the HTC system, and study how the room temperature is controlled. The simulations are conducted for both autumn and summer seasons.

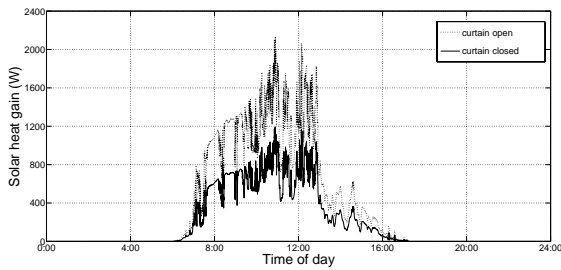


Fig. 3. Heat gain from solar radiation

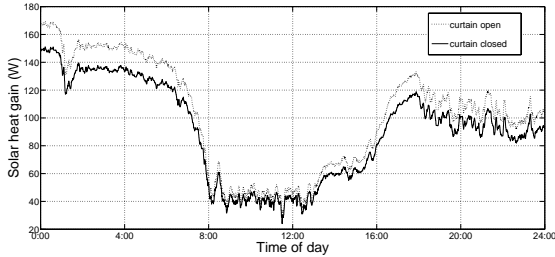


Fig. 4. Heat gain from heat conduction (temperature difference).

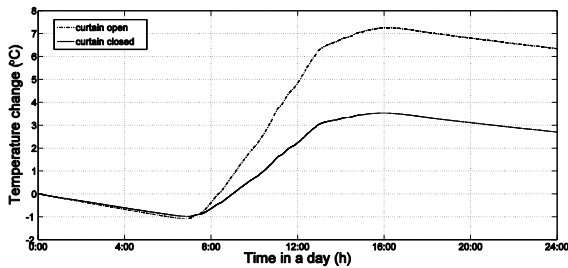
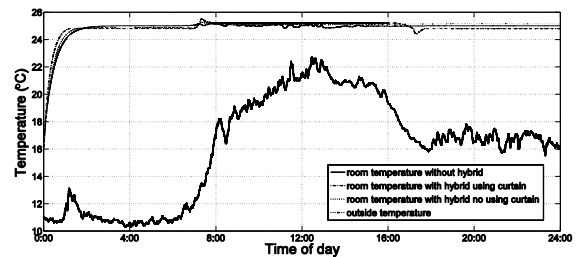


Fig. 5. Cumulative room temperature change for one day.

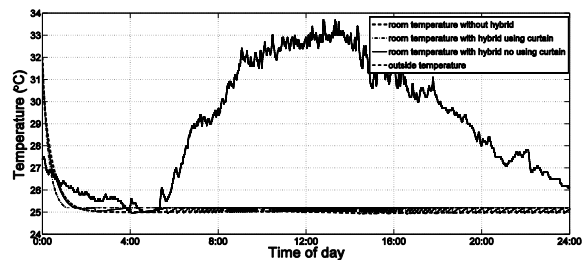
1) *Effect of curtain on heat gain:* Fig. 3 to 5 show the simulation results of the affect of curtain on the room temperature changes. Fig. 3 shows the amount of heat gain from the solar radiation through the windows under conditions of curtain open and curtain closed. We observe that the amount of heat entering the room under curtain open state is much higher than close state. We can see the maximum value is around at noon time. By closing curtain the amount of solar radiation is reduced about 937W. Fig. 4 shows the simulation results of heat gain from temperature difference between inside and outside. We observe that the difference of heat gain between curtain open and closed conditions is relatively large when the inside and outside temperature difference is high. But when the temperature difference is small, the heat gain under two conditions is not obvious. The change of the cumulative room temperature is shown in Fig. 5. We can see that the curtain can affect the room temperature obviously at day time (between 8:00 am to 15:00pm) where the change of cumulative room temperature with curtain open is higher than curtain close state. At night time, the curtain does not affect room temperature because the solar radiation is very low. From these simulation results, we understand that the curtain

maintains the room temperature by blocking the heat from the sun in the heating day.

2) *HTC Temperature Control for Autumn and Summer:* In this section, we present the simulation results both in autumn and summer seasons. Fig. 6 to 8 show the change of room temperature, the state statues of HTC system and the comparison of power consumption respectively. In Fig. 6, we can see that the variance of controlled room temperature among the three different conditions of supervisory control is small. Meanwhile, the room temperature is maintained within our defined upper and lower temperature levels. We can also see that the room temperature control without hybrid can reach the desired temperature faster than the other two controls. Here, room temperature control without hybrid means that the room temperature is controlled with air-conditioner only under the curtain open condition; room temperautre control with hybrid using curtain means that room temperature is controlled with air-conditoner, window and curtain cooperatively; room temperature control with hybrid no using curatin means that room temperature is controlled with air-codnitoner and window only under the curtain open condition. Fig. 7 shows the change of the state status of actuators. In order to reduce the frequent operation of the actuators, we define the settling time for each state. For the state using air-conditioner, its settling time is longer than without using it. This can prevent from the tiredness of the air-conditioner while maintaining the desired room temperature. Fig. 8 shows the energy consumption of air-conditioner for different scenarios. We can observe that the power consumption of air-conditioner without hybrid is largest among the three scenarios and hybrid control with curtain gives lower power consumption than without curtain.

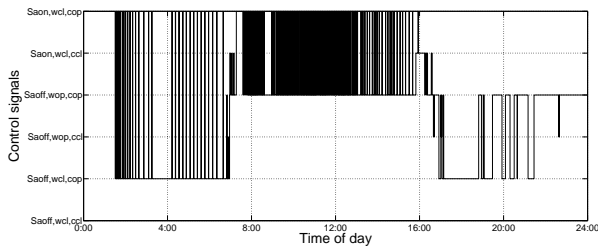


(a) Autumn

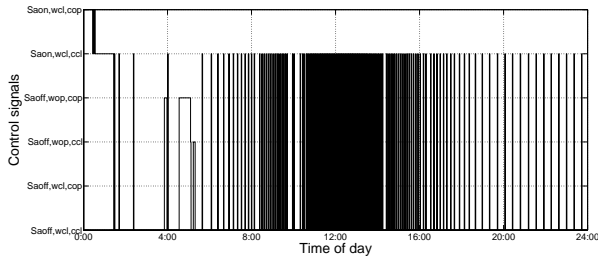


(b) Summer

Fig. 6. Room teperature change with/ without supervisory cotrol.

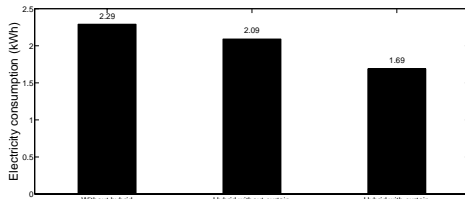


(a) Autumn

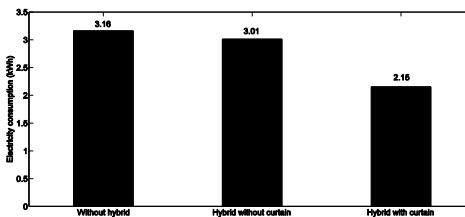


(b) Summer

Fig. 7. State statues of actuators.



(a) Autumn



(b) Summer

Fig. 8. Energy consumption comparison.

## VI. CONCLUDING REMARKS

In this paper, we presented the design and model of HTC system with three actuators; air-conditioner, window, and curtain in which the proposed HTC system model is composed with supervisory control and PI controller. Beside that we have studied the effect of the curtain in room temperature and we also defined the settling time for each state. This can prevent from the high number of ON/OFF frequents for the air-conditioner while the system is maintaining the desired room temperature. As a result, we can reduce the usage of air-conditioner to accomplish better energy consumption. To the best of our knowledge, our proposed HTC system can attempt

to operate in real-time to control the room temperature in home environment.

For the future works, we will study and design thermal comfort controller for winter and spring by considering other two parameters: relative humidity and wind speed. Then evaluate and testify the proposed system by simulations and experiments in iHouse.

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