Communication and Modeling for Green Buildings



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Large Office Green Building



- Energy Environment and Chemical Engineering Dept
- Gold certificate for Leadership in Environment and Energy Design (LEED) by US Green Building Council

Brauer Hall Features

- □ High Albedo Roof: Reduce solar radiation heating
- Rainwater collected in cistern
- 8 Solar panels with power of 9.8kw
- □ A vertical axis wind turbine
- □ Solar water heater
- Centralized Meters
- Real-time energy data display by online webpage



Goal: Analyze the energy consumption data

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- Temperature and humidity trace for 1 week between 4/8/2010 and 4/15/2010.
- Both fluctuate during days and nights but not see any direct correlation between them

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 Conclusion: Electric consumption has low correlation with outside temperature or humidity

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Regression Model Assumption Validation

- □ The model assumes exponential distribution of errors
- Quantile-quantile Plots show that the assumption is mostly valid



Analysis Phase II

- Central heating and cooling systems
- The building's heating and cooling system is shared with five or six other building
- The same air is circulated to different buildings and is locally cooled or heated as needed
 - \Rightarrow Study heating energy and cooling energy separately







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Energy Proportional Buildings

- □ Similar to Energy Proportional Computing
- □ Old Computing and communication:
 - Same power for idle or busy state idle = execute null instructions or send zeros on wire to keep the clocks synchronized
 - □ Energy consumption was independent of load
- New CPUs and network devices are designed to be energy proportional ⇒ Energy ∝ Load
- We coined the term "Energy Proportional Building" for buildings that consume less energy when unoccupied or when the outside weather is good

Energy Proportional Buildings

Energy proportionality can be obtained by occupancy sensors, and sensor controlled energy consumption

□ Much cheaper than Solar Panels, wind turbines, ...

Easily done for residential buildings and small office buildings.

□ Can be done for old or new buildings

- WUSTL is planning to spend millions on renovating old buildings for energy efficiency
- We believe more Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CDE)/Dollar can be achieved by making them energy proportional

Summary

- 1. Green buildings = Energy efficient by design \neq Energy efficient in operation
- Centralized heating and cooling systems = Cost Efficient ≠ Energy efficient
- 3. Energy Proportional Buildings are those whose energy consumption reduces depending on occupancy and weather
- 4. Energy proportionality is more cost effective than green renovations
- 5. It is important to compare the energy savings and cost of renovations and energy proportional operation

Energy Proportional Buildings are more CDE/\$ efficient

Publications

- Jianli Pan, Raj Jain, Pratim Biswas, Weining Wang, Sateesh Addepalli, "Toward an Energy-Proportional Building Prospect: Evaluation and Analysis of the Energy Consumption in a Green Building Testbed," To be submitted to IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid.
- Jianli Pan, Raj Jain, Pratim Biswas, Weining Wang, Sateesh Addepalli, "A Framework for Smart Location-Based Automated Energy Controls in a Green Building Testbed," Submitted to 2012 IEEE EnergyTech Workshop of IEEE Power and Energy Society, Cleveland, OH, June 2012.



Desperately seeking Social Science and Economics collaborators

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