LBE5010 Renewable Energies and Energy Planning

Thermosolar Power Plants

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Conversion of thermal energy to mechanical energy (work)



Conceptual design of a Thermosolar power plant ...

Celestial Mechanics...

THERMOSOLAR POWER PLANT

Main subsystems:

- 1) Collectors / concentrators of solar energy (primary)
 - \checkmark Fixed panels
 - ✓ Heliostats
- 2) Thermal energy storage to assure dispatchability
- 3) Thermodynamic conversion cycle (secondary)



THERMOSOLAR POWER PLANT



Thermosolar Power Plants:

PRINCIPAL ASPECTS OF A THERMOSOLAR POWER PLANT

Collector / concentrator geometry

- 1) Solar tower + heliostats
- 2) Liner collators (Fresnel)
- 3) Parabolic trough
- 4) Parabolic disk + Stirling



Andalusia, Spain



Seville, Spain.



Murcia, Spain.





PRINCIPAL ASPECTS OF A THERMOSOLAR POWER PLANT

Collector / concentrator geometry

The collector receives energy from the concentrators and transfers it to the thermodynamic cycle working fluid





Total solar energy flux (W/m²) multiplied by the concentration factor due to the effect of collectors, lenses, etc.

















Conceptual design of a Thermosolar power plant ...

Sizing the collectors / arbitrated performance





 $T_3 = T_s$ $T_3 = T(h_3, P_3)$

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Celestial mechanics: calculating the motions of celestial objects.

Tracking the sun...















"A missionary of the Middle Ages tells that he had found the point where the sky and the Earth touch..." Camille Flammarion's 1888 L'atmosphère: météorologie populaire










Incident solar energy main influencing factors...

• Distance from the sun (earth's orbit eccentricity)

day of the year

- Sun's position on the eclitic (solstice / equinox)
- incidence angle

hour of the day

- atmospheric absorption
- Random (clouds, aerosols, poluttion, etc.) capacity factor

Observer's and sun's equatorial coordinates

Sun's horizontal coordinates / observer = (0,0)

Solar versor (direction of the line joining the sun and the observer)

Calculus of the solar versor in function of the observer's position (latitude and longitude) and the date; hour of the day (hour angle) + day of the year (declination)

Calculus of the solar maximum incident irradiation on a point of earth's surface in function of the date...

OBSERVER'S **EQUATORIAL** COORDINATES











SUN'S **HORIZONTAL** COORDINATES



SUN'S **HORIZONTAL** COORDINATES



SUN'S **HORIZONTAL** COORDINATES

The elevation and azimuth depend on the observer's position (latitude and longitude) and vary in time due to earth rotation



SUN'S HORIZONTAL COORDINATES

 $VS = \cosh \cos A \hat{i} + \cosh \sin A \hat{j} + \sinh \hat{k}$



SUN'S HORIZONTAL COORDINATES



SUN'S <u>HORIZONTAL</u> COORDINATES



SUN'S **HORIZONTAL** COORDINATES



SUN'S <u>HORIZONTAL</u> COORDINATES The hour angle and the declination are independent of the observer's position and can be easily determined in function of the day of the year and the hour of the day PNC Х δ = declination celestial equator Μ φ = hour angle observer's P horizon \bigcirc

SUN'S <u>HORIZONTAL</u> COORDINATES

 $VS = \cos\delta \cos\omega \hat{i}' + \cos\delta \sin\omega \hat{j}' + \sin\delta \hat{k}'$





EQUATORIAL COORDINATES

- Observer: longitude (λ) and latitude (ϕ)
- Sun: hour angle (φ) and declination (δ)

HORIZONTAL COORDINATES

- Observer: (0,0)
- Sun: Azimuth (A) and elevation (h)

Calculus of the solar declination (δ):

$$\delta \approx -23,45^{\circ} \cdot \cos\left[2\pi \cdot \frac{(n-172)}{365}\right]$$



 $\delta \equiv 0$ @ equinoxes

 $\delta = \pm 23,45^{\circ}$ @ solstices

 $\delta = (-23,45^{\circ}...+23,45)$

convention: $\delta > 0$ when the north pole approaches the sun

Mês	$D \rightarrow n$
janeiro	D
fevereiro	31+D
março	59+D
abril	90+D
maio	120+D
junho	151+D
julho	181+D
agosto	212+D
setembro	243+D
outubro	273+D
novembro	304+D
dezembro	334+D

Julian day $(1^{\circ} \text{ de Jan}, n = 1)$

Definition of the day of the year and of the hour of the day

 $n = 1,2 \cdots 365$ $\phi = -90^{\circ}, -89^{\circ}, \cdots + 90^{\circ}$

Calculus of the solar elevation (h):

 $sin(h) = sin(\phi)sin(\delta) + cos(\phi)cos(\delta)cos(\phi)$

Calculus of the solar azimuth (A):

$$\cos(A) = \frac{\sin(\phi)\sin(h) - \sin(\delta)}{\cos(\phi)\cos(h)}$$

Definition of the solar vector (VS):

 $VS = \cos(h) \cos(A) \hat{i} + \cos(h) \sin(A) \hat{j} + \sin(h) \hat{k}$

Sun's elevation at noon in Singapura $(1^{\circ}17'N = 1,2833^{\circ})$



Sun's elevation at noon in Singapura $(1^{\circ}17'N = 1,2833^{\circ})$



Sun's elevation at noon in São Carlos (22°01"S = - 22,017°)



Sun's elevation at noon in São Carlos (22°01"S = - 22,017°)



How to calculate the maximum intensity of the solar irradiation at the surface in function of the hour of the day and taking into account the latitude and day of the year?



Optical path between the collector and the sun's entry point at the atmosphere's frontier: latitude, declination and hour of the day

Declination: $\delta = 0$ Latitude: $\phi = 0$

 $L_0 \approx 9 \text{ km}$ $L_0 \approx 9 \text{ km}$ $I_{\text{sc}} = 1367 \frac{W}{m^2}$

$$I_{sup} \cong I_{SC} \cdot 0,7^{AM^{0,678}}$$

Empirical model

Accounts the atmospheric absorption in an azimuthal optical path... (approximately 10% of diffuse irradiation, etc.)

Air mass coefficient:

$$AM = \frac{\text{optical path}}{\text{minimum optical path}} = \frac{L_0}{L_0}$$

Different models: plane, spherical, etc.

$$I_{sup} \cong 0,7 \cdot I_{SO}$$

Maximum solar irradiation at 12h00 on the surface



Different models: plane, spherical, etc.



on the surface





$$L_{\omega} = \sqrt{(R\cos\omega)^2 + 2RL_0 + (L_0)^2} - R\cos\omega$$

 $AM = \frac{L_{\omega}}{L_0}$

$$AM(\omega) \cong \sqrt{\left(\frac{R}{L_0}\cos\omega\right)^2 + 2\frac{R}{L_0} + 1 - \frac{R}{L_0}\cos\omega}$$



$$I_{sup} \cong I_{SC} \cdot 0,7^{AM^{0,678}}$$



"Airmass Formulae Plots" by Jeff Conrad







 $VS = \cos(h) \cos(A) \hat{i} + \cos(h) \sin(A) \hat{j} + \sin(h) \hat{k}$ $sin(h) = sin(\phi)sin(\delta) + cos(\phi)cos(\delta)cos(\phi)$ $VS = \cos(h) \cos(A) \hat{i} + \cos(h) \sin(A) \hat{j} + \sin(h) \hat{k}$

 $sin(h) = sin(\phi)sin(\delta) + cos(\phi)cos(\delta)cos(\phi)$


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 $VS = \cos(h) \cos(A) \hat{i} + \cos(h) \sin(A) \hat{j} + \sin(h) \hat{k}$

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Definitions and working formulae...

 $I_{sup} \cong I_{SC} \cdot 0,7^{AM^{0,678}}$

AM(90° - h, R)
$$\cong \sqrt{\left(\frac{R}{L_0}\cos(90° - h)\right)^2 + 2\frac{R}{L_0} + 1} - \frac{R}{L_0}\cos(90° - h)$$

 $sin(h) = sin(\phi)sin(\delta) + cos(\phi)cos(\delta)cos(\phi)$

$$\varphi = 0 \rightarrow \qquad \sin(h) = \sin(\phi)\sin(\delta) + \cos(\phi)\cos(\delta)$$
$$\sin(h) = \cos(\phi - \delta)$$
$$\cos(90^{\circ} - h) = \cos(\phi - \delta)$$
$$h = 90^{\circ} - (\phi - \delta)$$

$$\varphi = 0 \rightarrow AM(\varphi - \delta, R) \cong \sqrt{\left(\frac{R}{L_0}\cos(\varphi - \delta)\right)^2 + 2\frac{R}{L_0} + 1 - \frac{R}{L_0}\cos(\varphi - \delta)}$$

Definitions and working formulae...

Solar irradiation at noon (I_{sup}/I_{SC})



Definitions and working formulae... Daily average solar irradiation (\hat{I}_{sup}/I_{SC})



Alemanha:36 GW (instalada)Brazil:25 MW (instalada)

Other orbital cycles and their influence on the climate...

THE EARTH IS NOT MOVING AROUND THE SUN !





Milankovitch theory describes the collective effects of changes in the Earth's movements upon its climate, named after Serbian geophysicist and astronomer Milutin Milanković, who in the 1920s had theorized that variations in eccentricity, axial tilt, and precession of the Earth's orbit determined climatic patterns on Earth through orbital forcing. (http://www.solarsystemscope.com)



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Orbital eccentricity...



Period: 413 thousand years (±0.012)

Orbital eccentricity...



Period: 413 thousand years (±0.012)

Earth's rotation axis obliquity



Period: 41 thousand years (22.1°-24.5°)

Earth's rotation axis precession



Period: 26 thousand years (360°)



A quantidade de energia solar que incide sobre a atmosfera varia, assim como a quantidade que efetivamente chega na superfície terrestre...

Insolation at 65 N, Summer Solstice (green is obliquity contribution) $W m^{-2} 500$ -800 - 700 - 600 - 500 - 400 - 300 - 200 - 100A ky AD



According to Physicist Clive Best we may already be past the optimum temperature of the Holocene Interglacial and be sliding back towards the next ice age. Clive has fitted the harmonics of combined Earth orbit cycles to a high resolution temperature record derived from carbonate microfossils from 57 ocean drilling sites. A combination of the 100,000 year eccentricity cycle and 41,000 year obliquity cycle provides an excellent fit to the ocean microfossil temperature record. Since Earth's orbital cycles are known with precision, this can be used to forecast what comes next.

Back to the power plant's design.....

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF A THERMOSOLAR POWER PLANT...



CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF A THERMOSOLAR POWER PLANT...



FIXED × **HELIOSTATIC** (2D) **SOLAR COLLECTORS**...



FIXED × HELIOSTATIC (2D) SOLAR COLLECTORS...











$\sim 2 \times$ + sistema de armazenagem



PS20 em Sanlucar la Mayor, Spain 20MW nominal / 1255 heliostatos ×120 m² 5,5MW produção média anual

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