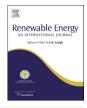


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Optimization of combined cooling, heating and power generation by a solar system



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ABSTRACT

In this paper energy, exergy and economic optimization of a combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) solar generation system equipped with conventional photovoltaic (PV), concentrated photovoltaic/thermal (CPVT), and evacuated tube (ET) collectors is presented. Optimization was performed to achieve the highest values of relative net annual benefit (RNAB) and exergy efficiency as two objectives. Decision or design parameters were the number of CPVT collectors, the number of ET collectors, the number of PV collectors as well as the capacity of batteries and the size of hot water storage tank. Optimum values of design parameters with maximizing objective functions were performed by NSGA-II multi-objective optimization technique. LINMAP method was used to select one optimum point among many others which had constructed the Pareto front curve. The chosen point used only 3 CPVT collectors and specific water storage tank volume without any battery. Sensitivity analysis of effects of changes in fuel and electricity prices as well as equipment investment costs on optimum values of design parameters were also investigated. Finally the equipment selection results for a full CPVT solar energy system connected to the grid and disconnected to the grid (remote area) were also compared and reported.

1. Introduction

Photovoltaic thermal (PVT) systems not only produce solar electric energy but also deliver solar thermal energy as the byproduct. Several research works are devoted to study solar combined production of heating and power (CHP) systems. Kalogirou and Tripanagnostopoulos [1] used TRNSYS software to study and simulate PVTs for domestic electrical and thermal applications. Aste et al. [2] studied PVTs to find the optimum solar fraction (the amount of energy produced by the solar technology divided by the total energy required) for electrical and thermal loads [1,2]. With PVTs being commercial, even expensive highly efficient concentrated cells (CPVTs) became economical as far as a lower number of these cells (in comparison to usual PV systems) are required in a solar system. CPVTs are in two groups of low concentration cells (for which cooling mechanism is not necessary) and high concentration cells (which need an active or a passive cooling mechanism) [3]. Mittelman et al. [4] stated that the operational temperature of usual PV (low concentrated) cells is about 40 °C-60 °C while for high concentrated ones (CPVTs with III-V semiconductor materials) this temperature can be as high as 240 °C. Therefore, with cooling CPVT system, thermal energy at relatively high temperature can be obtained for heating applications. The extracted thermal energy from CPVT systems can be also used in generator of an absorption chillers with temperatures above 100 °C [4,5]. However, more studies are required to explore the capabilities and benefits of CPVT systems especially in comparison with the other types of collectors, these systems are employed for desalination application as well [6].

In addition, solar-powered absorption chillers have become popular due to the fact that cooling capability increases favorably in summer days as the sunlight gets more intense and more energy is available. Koroneos et al. [7] emphasized the effect of using these systems on reducing environmental pollution (due to lower fossil fuel consumption). Similarly, Calise [8] presented energy and economic analysis of solar heating and cooling systems in order to use them at school buildings. Molero-Villar [9] stated that its marketing introduction still represents challenge, due to the higher investment cost, although the features of an absorption chiller promises a good combination with a solar energy system in order to ecofriendly serve the energy loads of a building.

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Nomenclature		eva	Evaporator
	0.5. (.2)	ext	External
Α	Surface area (m ²)	f	Fuel
AC	Annual cost (\$/year)	gen	Generator
ASV	Annualized salvage value	gl	Glass
C	Specific heat (J/(kg.°C))	HP	Heat pump
ССНР	Combined cooling, heat and power	HW	Hot water
Con	Concentration	h	Hot
CPV	Concentrated photovoltaics	heat	Heat need
CPVT	Concentrated photovoltaic thermal	INC	Incident radiation
D	Crowding distance	ini	Initial
ET	Evacuated tube collector	int	Internal
Ex	Exergy (W)	1	Longitudinal
EUAC	Equivalent uniform annual cost	liq	Liquid
f	Value of objective function	load	Load of the building
Hour	Solar hour of the day	los	Losses
h	Heat transfer coefficient (W/(m ² .°K))	m	Mean
i	Interest rate	NOCT	Nominal operating cell temperature
K	Incident angle modifier	nom	nominal power (kW)
k	Thermal conductivity (W/(m.°K))	opt	Optical
L	Life of system (year)	part	partial power (kW)
LHV	Lower heating value (J/kg)	par	Parasitic consumption
M	Maintenance	pl	Plate which is the wall of cooling channel in CPVT
m	Mass (kg)	pv	Photovoltaic
т	Mass rate (kg/s)	rad	Radiation
N	Number	ref	Refrigerant
NAC	Net annual cost	s,strg	Strong solution
Nu	Nusselt number	s,weak	Weak solution
n	Unit vector form the earth to the sun	S	Sold electricity to the grid
P	power (W)	stor	Water storage tank
Pr	Prandtl number	sun	Related to sun
PV	Photovoltaics	t	Transversal
PVT	Photovoltaic Thermal	tank	Hot water storage tank
		tot	Total (thermal and hot water loads)
Q RNAB	Power (W)		
	Relative net annual benefit	trad	Traditional system of providing loads
Re RMSE	Reynolds number	vap WH	Vapor Water heater
	Root mean square error		
Sp _{CO2}	Specific Co ₂ emission (kg/kWh)	w	Water X direction in X-Y-Z coordinate
SV	Salvage value	X	
T	Temperature (all in °C except from Stefan Boltzmann	y	Y direction in X-Y-Z coordinate
TTI 1770	which is in °K)	Z	Z direction in X-Y-Z coordinate
TMY2	Typical meteorological year, version 2		
U	Overall heat transfer coefficient (W/(m².°K))	Greek le	
u_{wind}	Wind speed (m/s)	τ	Time interval (1 h)
V	Volume (m ³)	ζ	Capital recovery factor
V	Volumetric flow rate (m ³ /s)	γ	Surface azimuth angle (degree)
X	LiBr mass fraction in solution	β	Slope (degree)
		ω	Hour angle (degree)
Subscrij	ot	λ	Site latitude (degree)
abs	Absorber	δ	Declination angle (degree)
amb	Ambient	heta	Incident angle (degree)
annu	Annualized	η	Efficiency
b	Bought electricity from the grid	μ	Dynamic viscosity (pa.s)
<i>c</i> 00	Cooling	$arepsilon_{E\!X}$	Exergy efficiency
С	Cold	ε	Emissivity
con	Condenser	$arepsilon_{ ext{HE}}$	Solution heat exchanger effectiveness
conv	Convection	Δt	Time difference (s)
d	Characteristic length (m)	ho	Density (kg/m³)
day	Referring to the number of day	φ	Price factor (\$/kwh)
dir	Direct or beam radiation	Ψ _{CO2}	Pollutant emission factor (\$/kg _{Co2})
ET	Evacuated tube	σ	Stefan Boltzmann constant (J/(s m ² K ⁴))
el	Electrical		
			

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