

# Accepted Manuscript

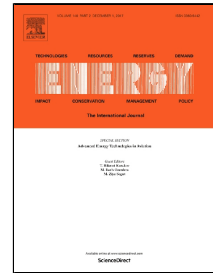
A new algorithm for obtaining the critical tube diameter and intercept factor of parabolic trough solar collectors

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PII: S0360-5442(17)32103-5  
DOI: 10.1016/j.energy.2017.12.065  
Reference: EGY 12014  
To appear in: *Energy*  
Received Date: 14 March 2017  
Revised Date: 05 December 2017  
Accepted Date: 13 December 2017

Please cite this article as: Bin Zou, Yang Yao, Yiqiang Jiang, Hongxing Yang, A new algorithm for obtaining the critical tube diameter and intercept factor of parabolic trough solar collectors, *Energy* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.energy.2017.12.065

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1. Developing algorithm for critical diameter and intercept factor in alignment error.
2. The developed algorithm has small computational complexity and high accuracy.
3. Optical performance of a PTC is discussed in detail based on the proposed method.
4. Vertical direction of the focus-edge connection line causes easiest rays-escaping.
5. The algorithm can be conveniently used for engineering analysis and design.

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