ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION PATTERN DISAGGREGATION BASED ON USER UTILIZATION FACTOR

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A thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Master of Engineering (Electrical)

Faculty of Electrical Engineering
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DECEMBER 2016
To my mother,
my family,
my supervisors,
& my fellow friends,
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah. Thanks to the Almighty Allah S.W.T, for His blessings and guidance for giving me inspiration and strengths to complete this project.

Firstly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my main supervisor Dr. Md Pauzi Abdullah for the continuous support of my Master study and related research, for his patience, motivation, and immense knowledge. His guidance helped me in all the time of research and writing of this thesis. I could not have imagined having a better advisors and mentors for my Master study.

I would like to thank the director of Centre of Electrical Energy Systems department, Professor Dr. Mohammad Yusri Hassan for his encouragement and convenient facilities he offers along the research period.

A bunch of appreciations to my fellow lab mates and friends, Shahida, Dayang and Asyikin for the stimulating discussions, for the sleepless nights we were working together before deadlines, and for all the fun we have had in the last three years. My sincere obligation also goes to administrative staffs at Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Research Management Centre (RMC), UTM, and others who have provided assistance at various occasions. Their assessments and tips are useful indeed. Unfortunately, it is not possible to list all of them.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank my family: my lovely mother, Labiah Ariffin, whom always by my side, my brothers and sisters for supporting me spiritually throughout writing this thesis and my life in general. I thank them their confidence and believing in me in times when I could not even believe in myself.
ABSTRACT

Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring (NIALM) technique has been studied intensively by many researchers to estimate the electricity consumption of each appliance in a monitored building. However, the method requires a detailed, second-by-second power consumption data which is commonly not available without the use of high specification energy meter. The common energy meter used in buildings can only capture low frequency data such as kWh for every thirty minutes. This thesis proposes a bottom-up approach for disaggregating kWh consumption of a building. The relationship between the load profile of a building and electricity usage pattern of the occupants were studied and analysed. From the findings, a method based on utilization factor that relates user usage pattern and kWh electricity consumption was proposed to perform load disaggregation. The method was applied on the practical kWh profile data of electricity consumption of Block P19a, Fakulti Kejuruteraan Elektrik, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia. The disaggregated kWh consumption results for air-conditioning and lighting system were validated with the actual kWh consumption recorded at the respective branch circuits of the building. Results from the analysis showed that the proposed method can be used to disaggregate energy consumption of a commercial building into air-conditioning and lighting systems. The proposed method could be extended to disaggregate the energy consumption for different areas of the building.
ABSTRAK

Teknik Pemantauan Perkakas Beban Tidak Bergantung (PPBTB) telah dikaji secara intensif oleh ramai penyelidik untuk menganggarkan penggunaan elektrik setiap perkakas di dalam sesebuah bangunan yang dipantau. Walau bagaimanapun, kaedah ini memerlukan secara terperinci, data penggunaan kuasa setiap saat yang biasanya tidak boleh didapati tanpa menggunakan meter tenaga berspesifikasi tinggi. Meter tenaga yang kebiasaannya digunakan di dalam bangunan hanya boleh merekod data frekuensi rendah contohnya kWh bagi setiap tiga puluh minit. Tesis ini mencadangkan teknik bawah-ke-atas untuk mengasingkan data penggunaan kWh bagi sesebuah bangunan. Hubungan antara profil beban bangunan dan corak penggunaan elektrik oleh penghuni telah dikaji dan dianalisis. Dari hasil kajian, kaedah berdasarkan faktor penggunaan yang menghubungkan corak penggunaan pengguna dan penggunaan elektrik kWh telah dicadangkan untuk melaksanakan pengasingan beban. Kaedah ini diaplikasikan secara praktikal dengan menggunakan profil data kWh di Blok P19a, Fakulti Kejuruteraan Elektrik, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia. Keputusan pengasingan bagi penggunaan kWh untuk sistem penghawa dingin dan pencahayaan telah disahkan dengan penggunaan kWh sebenar yang dicatatkan daripada litar cawangan bangunan masing-masing. Keputusan daripada analisis menunjukkan bahawa kaedah yang dicadangkan boleh digunakan untuk mengasingkan penggunaan tenaga bangunan komersial kepada sistem penghawa dingin dan lampu. Kaedah yang dicadangkan juga boleh digunakan lebih meluas untuk mengasingkan penggunaan tenaga berdasarkan setiap ruang bangunan yang berbeza.
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DECLARATION</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION</td>
<td>iii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</td>
<td>iv</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRAK</td>
<td>vi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>vii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF TABLES</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF FIGURES</td>
<td>xii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</td>
<td>xv</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF SYMBOLS</td>
<td>xvii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF APPENDICES</td>
<td>xviii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background 1
1.2 Problem Statement 3
1.3 Objectives of the Research 4
1.4 Scope of the Research 4
1.5 Significance of the research 5
1.6 Thesis outline 6

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction 7
2.2 Energy Management 8
2.3 Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring 12
  2.3.1 Low-Frequency Hardware Installation 13
    2.3.1.1 Real power and reactive power changes 13
    2.3.1.2 Real power and reactive power with additional “macroscopic” signatures changes 16
    2.3.1.3 Changes of real power only 20
  2.3.2 Higher Frequency Sampling Hardware 26
  2.3.3 Comparison of different Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring Method 32
2.4 Bottom up approach 36
  2.4.1 Statistical random model 38
  2.4.2 Probabilistic empirical models 40
  2.4.3 Time of use based models 41
2.5 Chapter Summary 44

3 METHODOLOGY 45
  3.1 Introduction 45
  3.2 Implementation Plan 45
  3.3 Data Collection 47
    3.3.1 Load Profile Data 47
    3.3.2 Walk-through audit 50
    3.3.3 Building specification 52
  3.4 Proposed Load Disaggregation method 53
  3.5 Summary of Chapter 61

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS 62
  4.1 Introduction 62
  4.2 Collected load profile data for analysis 63
  4.3 Load disaggregation results 66
4.3.1 Utilization factor

4.4 Estimation of Lighting and Air-Conditioning Energy Consumption

4.4.1 Validation of Load Disaggregation results

4.5 Electricity consumption profile of individual area

4.6 Summary of Chapter

5 CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

5.2 Recommendations for future work

REFERENCES

Appendices A-C
## LIST OF TABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE NO.</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Regional and sectoral electricity consumption in Malaysia, 2014</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Fragment of a life style matrix</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Classification of occupancy pattern for a three-person household</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Power input of lighting system according to specified area</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Power input of air-conditioning system according to specified area</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Electricity usage ratings</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>Example of utilization factor representation</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Utilization factor limits</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Example of estimated energy consume by lighting system of overall laboratory in P19a building</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Usage ratings defined by occupants of P19a for lighting system</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>Usage ratings defined by occupants of P19a for air conditioning system</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.3 Utilization factor result for lighting system 68
4.4 Utilization factor result for air-conditioning system 68
4.5 Result of load disaggregation on 18 February 2015 69
4.6 Comparison of actual and proposed data on 18 February 2015 73
4.7 Table of percentage error for the proposed method on 18 February 2015 77
4.8 Table of error for remaining days 80
4.9 Energy consumption of individual area of lighting system on 18 February 2015 (kWh) 82
4.10 Energy consumption of individual area of air-conditioning system on 18 February 2015 (kWh) 84
# LIST OF FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIGURE NO.</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring Division</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Types of behavior-based energy efficiency strategies and approaches</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Efficiency programs with different types of feedback systems</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Intrusive Load Monitoring process using smart meter by measuring each appliance power consumption</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Non-intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring disaggregate data to individual appliance power consumption given aggregate data consumption</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Power versus time shows step changes for total load due to individual appliance events</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>Signature Space and appliance cluster (Reactive versus Real Power)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Application of the method used in Hidden Markov Model</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) LCD State Transition diagram</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Hidden Markov Model (HMM) graphical representation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(c) Appliance HMMs are organized in a particular structure to form a Factorial HMM and define a combined load model.

2.8 Noise FFT as a features
(i) Power line shows background noise detected.
(ii) After a new device is turned on, new signal that create EMI is present.
(iii) After background subtraction the new signal features are extracted. The features are amplitude (A), mean (μ) and variance (σ) of the Gaussian fit

3.1 Implementation plan flow chart

3.2 Data collection process
(a) Kyoritsu Kew Power Quality Analyzer used to record power and energy consumption
(b) Connection between power analyzer at main power input of air-conditioning system

3.3 Overview of connection
(a) single line diagram of installed meter
(b) diagram of 3-phase 4-wire connection between power analyzer and load

3.4 Hourly energy consumption of P19 building

3.5 Illustration of the proposed method

3.6 Flowchart of proposed load disaggregation method

4.1 Building’s load profile on Wednesday (18/2/15)

4.2 Building’s load profile on Monday (23/2/15)

4.3 Building’s load profile on Tuesday (24/2/15)

4.4 Building’s load profile on Wednesday (25/2/15)

4.5 Building’s load profile on Thursday (26/2/15)

4.6 Building’s load profile on Sunday (1/3/15)

4.7 Building’s load profile on Monday (2/3/15)

4.8 Load profile of disaggregated data on 18 February 2015
4.9 Load profile of disaggregated data for corresponding days
(a) 23 February 2015
(b) 24 February 2015
(c) 25 February 2015
(d) 26 February 2015
(e) 1 March 2015
(f) 2 March 2015

4.10 Comparison of actual data and proposed data load profile
(a) lighting system
(b) air-conditioning system

4.11 Comparison of disaggregated data between actual and proposed data

4.12 Comparison of disaggregated data between actual and proposed data for corresponding days
(a) 23 February 2015
(b) 24 February 2015
(c) 25 February 2015
(d) 26 February 2015
(e) 1 March 2015
(f) 2 March 2015

4.13 Load profile of lighting system for individual area

4.14 Load profile of air-conditioning system for individual area
### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AC</td>
<td>Air-conditioning system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNOT</td>
<td>Automated Electricity Data Annotation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APEC</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CU</td>
<td>Concordia University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHP</td>
<td>Combine Heat Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPU</td>
<td>Central Processor Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHW</td>
<td>Domestic hot-water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSM</td>
<td>Demand Side Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSP</td>
<td>Data Signal Processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMI</td>
<td>Electromagnetic Interference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFT</td>
<td>Fast Fourier Transform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>Lighting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FKE</td>
<td>Fakulti Kejuruteraan Elektrik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHMM</td>
<td>Factorial Hidden Markov Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSM</td>
<td>Finite State Machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HELP</td>
<td>Heuristic End-Use Load Profiler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMM</td>
<td>Hidden Markov Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HVAC</td>
<td>Heating, ventilation and air-conditioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IALM</td>
<td>Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kHz</td>
<td>Kilohertz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kW</td>
<td>Kilowatt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kWh</td>
<td>Kilowatt-hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOHE</td>
<td>Ministry of Higher Education’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIALM</td>
<td>Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-N</td>
<td>Neural-network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Pencawang Elektrik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PF</td>
<td>Power factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBF</td>
<td>Radial Basis Function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECAP</td>
<td>Recognition of electrical Appliances and Profiling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMLP</td>
<td>Simple Method of formulating Load Profile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPS</td>
<td>Switch Mode Power Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVM</td>
<td>Support Vector Machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOU</td>
<td>Time of Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5</td>
<td>Fluorescent Tube Lamp Type T5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T8</td>
<td>Fluorescent Tube Lamp Type T8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEC</td>
<td>Unit Energy Consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTM</td>
<td>Universiti Teknologi Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VH</td>
<td>Very high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VL</td>
<td>Very low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VRV</td>
<td>Variable Refrigerant Volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Watt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/h</td>
<td>Watt per hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF SYMBOLS

A - Utilization factor
i - Area
j - Time/hour
μj - mean electricity consumption at hour j
σ - Variance
Pi - Power input
Ej - kWh electricity consumption
Ns - Total number of areas
PF - Power factor
Pstd - Standard deviation for real power
# LIST OF APPENDICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPENDIX</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>List of Author’s Publication</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Schedule of Split-Unit Air-Conditioning System</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Load Profile of P19a block</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.1 Research Background

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Energy Demand and Supply Outlook estimate that electricity demand in Malaysia will significantly rise to 206 TW/h in 2035 from 96.3 TW/h in 2009 [1]. It is said that approximately 30% from the total demand nationwide is contributed by commercial buildings alone [2-4]. Table 1.1 presents regional and sectoral electricity consumption in Malaysia for year 2014. Thus, Malaysia must explore available initiatives to encourage efficient usage of the electricity demand for a better energy management control [5]. University buildings are also one of the high energy consumers and thus, education centres are advised by Ministry of Higher Education’s (MOHE) to apply a better energy practice [6-8].

Table 1.1: Regional and sectoral electricity consumption in Malaysia, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>INDUSTRY GWH</th>
<th>COMMERCIAL GWH</th>
<th>RESIDENTIAL GWH</th>
<th>TRANSPORTATION GWH</th>
<th>AGRICULTURE GWH</th>
<th>TOTAL GWH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PENINSULAR MALAYSIA</td>
<td>46,755</td>
<td>37,108</td>
<td>23,721</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>413.5</td>
<td>108,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARAWAK</td>
<td>10,966</td>
<td>2,290</td>
<td>1,896</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SABAH</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td>2,043</td>
<td>1,647</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>58,951</td>
<td>41,441</td>
<td>27,264</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>128,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are many strategies to reduce electricity consumption such as demand side management (DSM) and energy efficiency (EE) program. DSM focuses on consumer demand adjustment in energy usage to control energy consumption at end-user through education or financial incentives. EE program is a system to manage and restraining the increase in energy demand. A building that provides same services for less energy input or more services for the same energy input is said to be energy efficient [2, 9]. There are several options to reduce energy consumption waste by providing consumer with their energy level consumption such as smart meter installation known as intrusive appliance load monitoring and analysis of current and voltage waveform through non-intrusive appliance load monitoring method.

Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring (IALM) is known as one of the most accurate and reliable systems to recognize load consumption of an individual appliance. A few smart meter will be installed to recognized consumers’ energy consumption in a building where each meter directly interacts with each involve appliances and finally decomposes the total energy consumption. Apparently, this method is not the common preferred option due to the high cost of installation that requires smart meter to be set up on each appliance.

Meanwhile, the study on Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring (NIALM) is widely evolving which focuses on load signature behaviour to perform load disaggregation. This method delivers reliable results which conforms with one of the objectives of feedback system that is to achieve appliance disaggregation. A NIALM is designed to monitor an electrical circuit that contains a number of appliances. NIALM estimates the number and nature of the individual loads, their individual energy consumption, and other relevant statistics such as time-of-day variations by a sophisticated analysis of the current and voltage waveforms of the total load. This method is often used to disaggregate overall consumption into individual energy usage of experimented appliances. Besides, the analysis requires less cost than the IALM technique because access to individual components is unnecessary for installing sensors or making measurements.

The study of NIALM is divided into two categories which are low sampling and high sampling installation. Figure 1.1 shows the NIALM method separated into
several divisions, depending on the frequency of input data [10]. Low sampling installation normally analyses the behaviour of power changes and applies macroscopic features due to fundamental period that is 1/60 s or 1/50 s while higher frequency sampling hardware focuses on the study of harmonic and waveforms.

Various studies on NIALM could offer historical usage information to consumers which provide more detail in energy use comparisons and their energy usage per appliance data. Therefore, consumers who are well informed of their current energy usage will be more motivated to change their behaviours toward energy consumption to reduce electricity bill.

Figure 1.1  Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring Division [10]

1.2 Problem Statement

Most NIALM method requires high frequency sampling data for load signature tracing before load disaggregation can be made. It also requires a recorder with extensive memory space to store such detail and huge data, which can only be done by
specialized high specification energy meter. In practice, most commercial buildings are only equipped with a standard energy meter, which is only capable in capturing hourly kWh data. Applying NIALM method for such data to disaggregate load is impossible. A load disaggregation method for limited data i.e. low frequency sampling kWh data is needed. The method must able to estimate the usage pattern of major electrical equipment in the building that reflects the electricity usage behaviour of the occupants.

1.3 Objective of the research

The objectives of this research are:

i. To study the relationship between recorded energy consumption (kWh) pattern of a building and the occupant’s energy usage behaviour

ii. To propose a load disaggregation method that reflects occupant’s energy usage behaviour through bottom-up based utilization factor

iii. To validate the proposed method against actual data

1.4 Scope of the research

This thesis proposes Non-Intrusive Appliance Load Monitoring to disaggregate overall load profile into specific appliance energy usage. Due to the requirement of high specification device and extensive amount of data storage, this study makes use of bottom-up concept to evaluate the relationship between load profile pattern and occupant utilization behaviour. For this purpose, block P19a, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) is used as a test system for this research. The test system is an academic building which consists of
administration offices, lecturer rooms, class rooms and laboratories. The developed method is tested against practical data of the test system to validate the results. The experimental analysis focuses on estimating the energy usage pattern of two main equipment that influence the high energy consumption of P19a building, which is lighting and air-conditioning system. Other electrical equipment are neglected due to their very low power rating and their presence in total energy consumption is too small compared to lighting and air-conditioning system.

1.5 Significance of the research

Standard energy meter commonly does not provide individual energy data of the equipment installed in a building. Thus, the prospect of estimating energy consumption of various appliance is definitely appealing. Load disaggregation explored in NIALM requires high frequency data and high specification devices. Therefore, a simplified way of load disaggregation method is introduced in this study by correlating the relationship between load profile pattern and occupant utilization behaviour. The proposed method only requires historical data per hour which is accessible through a standard energy meter and simple calculations are involved so that it can be practically applied by the general consumers. The relevance of this study is to offer historical usage information to consumers with more detail energy use comparisons, their energy usage pattern as well as historical data of regular energy consumption. The disaggregated load information provided by the proposed method can inform consumer of their individual appliance energy usage and identifying which appliances are consuming and contribute the most power from their total electricity bills as well as providing guidance for energy-saving behaviours.
1.6 Thesis outline

This thesis is separated into five chapters. Chapter 1 describes the project overview. This chapter consist of background of the research, problem statement, objectives, scope of research and the significance of the research. Chapter 2 presents the literature review that discusses the concept of non-intrusive appliance load monitoring where the idea to disaggregate electrical appliance data consumption is developed. Chapter 2 also reviews the method that was implemented in previous researches that are related to this study. Later in this chapter, the basic idea of bottom-up concept is briefly reviewed. Chapter 3 present the proposed method to be applied in this analysis. It explains the steps taken throughout the proposed method in this study to meet the research objectives. Chapter 4 presents the results and analyses obtain through the proposed method. The result is presented in simple tables, figures and charts as well as detailed clarification of the findings. In this chapter, the extended application of the proposed method is also presented. Chapter 5 is the concluding section of this thesis. The recommendations for future work are also presented in this chapter.
factor and power input of that building needs to be calculated and observed to fit the user behaviour and characteristic of the building.
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