

Methodology for Estimating Olsson 2nd Floor Energy Consumption

There are three primary aspects of energy consumption of the VAV (variable air volume) HVAC system used in Olsson Hall.

- Heating/Cooling
- Fan Operation
- Pump Operation

Remaining Questions and Points of Uncertainty

Heating/Cooling

- figure out how to use a Mollier diagram/calculator
- confirm that %_OutdoorAir is percentage of outdoor air in mixed air, not percent outdoor air duct is open
- confirm that temperature differential is the difference between the temperature of supply air and mixed air for initial heating/cooling
- confirm that energy consumption calculations are done for each AHU for initial cooling/heating, then again per VAV box to get reheating energy consumption
 - temperature differential for each VAV box is AHU supply temp - VAV box supply temp
- find humidity weather data
- is SEER relevant at all? Doesn't seem link it but worth checking

Fans

- unsure what the pressure terms in the equations mean. Is this general atmospheric data (e.g. weather data) or internal data (interior building pressure)
- how should I factor heat produced by the fan into the heating/cooling equations?

Energy Estimation Procedures

Heating/Cooling

There are three main energy consuming portions of the heating/cooling process

1. Initial Heating/Cooling
 - Occurs at the AHU level when mixed air is heated/cooled to supply air temperature
2. Reheating
 - Occurs at the VAV box level to ensure each room is maintained at the correct temperature
3. Humidity Removal
 - Occurs at the AHU level to create suitable supply air

The below equations can be applied to estimate energy consumption from these processes

Equations

Source: https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/cooling-heating-equations-d_747.html

Equation 1, Sensible Heat

$$h_s = c_p \cdot \dot{m} \cdot \Delta T$$

where:

h = sensible heat (kW)\

c = specific heat of air (1.006 kJ/kg C)\

ρ = density of air (1.202 kg/m³)\

q = air volume flow (m³/s)\

dt = temperature difference (C)

Equation 2, Air Temperatures and %OutdoorAir

$$\%_OutdoorAir = (t_mixed - t_return)/(t_outdoor - t_return)$$

Equation 3, Latent Heat

$$h_l = \rho * h_we * q * dw_kg$$

where:

h_l = latent heat (kW)\

ρ = density of air (1.202 kg/m³)\

q = air volume flow (m³/s)\

h_we = latent heat evaporation water (2454 kJ/kg - in air at atmospheric pressure and 20oC)\

dw_kg = humidity ratio difference (kg water/kg dry air)

Equation 4, Latent and Sensible Heat

$$h_t = \rho * q * dh$$

where:

h_t = total heat (kW)\

q = air volume flow (m³/s)\

ρ = density of air (1.202 kg/m³)\

dh = enthalpy difference (kJ/kg)

Where dh can be estimated using the Mollier diagram\

Fan Operaion

Source: https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/fans-efficiency-power-consumption-d_197.html

Power Used by Fan

$$P = dp * q / \mu$$

where:

μ = fan efficiency (values between 0 - 1)\

dp = total pressure (Pa) \

q = air volume delivered by the fan (m³/s)\

P = power used by the fan (W, Nm/s)

- We can assume 60-70% efficiency and tweak using the energy consumption data we have/get over time.
- Air flow in CFM is available per AHU
- **Obtain local weather/air pressure data to estimate dp ?**

Heating Caused by Fan Inefficiency

$$dt = dp / 1000$$

where:

dt = temperature increase (K)\

dp = increased pressure head (Pa) **not entirely sure what this means yet**

Pump Operation

We have been advised that energy consumption here is negligible compared to other contributors and thus will not investigate this are for now.