

# Assignment 1: Use appliances intelligently at your home

## General Consideration

Assignment 1 concentrates on demand response. The work to undertake involves a bit of mathematical modelling, implementation in your favorite programming language (Python/Java/R/Matlab/etc.), generation and discussion of results, as well as presentation of the work in a short report.

The expected outcome of Assignment 1 includes:

- a report in PDF
- code pasted in the appendix of the report; or as supplementary material

Assignment 1 is to be performed in groups, where a group can consist of 4 students (or 3 students when there are PhD students in the group).

**The evaluation of Assignment 1 will count for 15% of the grade. All students in the same group receive the same grade.**

## Description of the Assignment

Each household has combination of the following appliances. Typical appliances included for the purpose of Illustration. In practice, households may have a variety of other appliances. The daily consumption of each household is divided into a 24-slot time-frame with each slot corresponding to an hour period.

### Appliances with strict consumption scheduling (non-shiftable appliances) in each household

- Lighting: (daily usage for standard bulbs: 1.00-2.00 kWh from 10:00 - 20:00),
- Heating: (daily usage: 6.4-9.6 kWh including floor heating)
- Refrigerator- freezer (daily usage: 1.32-3.96 kWh, depending on the number of refrigerators in the house; Consumption for 1 refrigerator including freezer=1.32 kWh),
- Electric stove (daily usage: 3.9 kWh)
- TV: (daily usage: 0.15-0.6 kWh depending on the TV size @ 5hours of use per day)
- Computer including desktop(s), laptop(s) (Number: 1-3; daily 0.6KWh per day per computer)

### Consumption of shiftable appliances

- Dishwasher: (daily usage: 1.44 kWh)
- Laundry machine: (daily usage: 1.94 kWh)
- Cloth dryer: (daily usage: 2.50 kWh)
- Electric Vehicle (EV): (daily usage: 9.9 kWh)

Typical consumption values refer to [1], [2], with slight variations for different appliances. In a residential area, without any intelligent scheduling, the power demand is usually light-to-

moderate during mornings, higher during evenings and low during nights. Considering this, we need to assign the time slots in hours as required for the non-shiftable appliances, and provide a range of possible time slots for operating the shiftable appliances.

1. We have a simple household that only has three appliances: a washing machine, an EV and a dishwasher. We assume the time-of-Use (ToU) pricing scheme: 1NOK/KWh for peak hour and 0.5NOK/KWh for off-peak hours. Peak hours are in the range of 5:00pm-8:00pm while all other timeslots are off-peak hours. Formulate an optimization problem to obtain minimum energy cost and then design a strategy to achieve minimum energy cost.  
**Note:** We need a strategy, not just the amount of the minimal energy cost. For example, you may need to consider some questions. Is it reasonable to use all three appliances at the same time, e.g., 2:00am which has the low energy price? How should we distribute the power load more reasonably in the timeline?
2. We have a household with all non-shiftable appliances and all shiftable appliances (see the two lists aforementioned). In addition to these, please choose a random combination of appliances such as coffee maker, ceiling fan, hair dryer, toaster, microwave, router, cellphone charger, cloth iron, separate freezer(s), etc., for the household. Please refer to [2] to add typical energy consumption values for the appliances. Please use Real-Time Pricing (RTP) scheme. The RTP model is followed: using a random function to generate the pricing curve in a day and please save the pricing information (the pricing information will be also used in question 4). The pricing curve should consider higher price in the peak-hours and lower price in the off-peak hours. Compute the best strategy to schedule the use of the appliances and write a program in order to minimize energy cost.
3. We consider a small neighborhood that has 30 households. Each household has the same setting as that in question 2. But, we assume that only a fraction of the households owns an EV. Please use Real-Time Pricing (RTP) scheme: using random function to generate the pricing curve in a day. The pricing curve should consider higher price in the peak-hours and lower price in the off-peak hours. Compute the best strategy for scheduling the appliances and write a program in order to minimize energy cost in the neighborhood.
4. In question 2, we may observe that in some timeslots, energy consumption is very high. Such peak load phenomena may damage the smart grid stability. In this task, please address this issue. One possible approach is to introduce a new variable  $L$  representing the peak load. Then, the objective function should consider both energy cost and the peak load. A new constraint should be also added to consider that the total energy consumption of all appliances in the house in any timeslot is not higher than the peak load  $L$ . Please formulate an optimization problem and compute the best strategy to schedule the use of the appliances. Please use the same setting of the appliances, and the price information you saved in question 2.

## Structure and contents of the report to be delivered

The report for the assignment should include:

- Question 1, calculate the minimal energy consumption and explain the main

considerations to the developed strategy.

- Question 2, the formulation of the demand response as a linear programming optimization problem. Please use a figure to show the pricing curve. Please explain on how the problem is solved and probably draw the flowchart to illustrate the main algorithm(s).
- Question 3, the formulation of the demand response as an optimization problem. Please use a figure to show the pricing curve. Please explain how the problem is solved and you may draw the flowchart to illustrate the main algorithms.
- Question 4, the formulation of the demand response as an optimization problem. Please compare the scheduling result of the appliances in question 2 and question 4; and explain the main difference of the energy consumption.
- A short analysis of two different pricing schemes (ToU and RTP) impact on the energy cost
- The code in an Appendix (if not provided separately)

## Delivery of the Assignment

Assignment 1 is to be sent to the following email

**Email:** [sabita@ifi.uio.no](mailto:sabita@ifi.uio.no) , [yanzhang@ifi.uio.no](mailto:yanzhang@ifi.uio.no) and [poushals@ifi.uio.no](mailto:poushals@ifi.uio.no)

**Submission form:** the submission should be in a ZIP file with naming convention "IN5410-Assignment1 - GroupX.zip", where "X" is the group number.

**Email subject:** "[IN5410] Assignment 1 submission by Group X"

**Firm deadline:** 20 March 2024. Please be reminded that this is firm deadline. Groups that send reports after this deadline will receive the grade "F".

**Questions?** please contact Poushali Sengupta. Email: [poushals@ifi.uio.no](mailto:poushals@ifi.uio.no); office: 4448

## References

[1] Office of Energy Efficiency, Natural Resources Canada, Energy Consumption of Household Appliances Shipped in Canada Dec. 2005.

<https://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/Publications/statistics/cama05/pdf/cama05.pdf>

[2] <http://energyusecalculator.com/>