

Machine learning approaches to predict thermal demands using skin temperatures: Steady-state conditions.

Autores: Dai, Changzhi^{1,2} dczdxt@163.com

Zhang, Hui²

Arens, Edward²

Lian, Zhiwei¹

Fuente: Building & Environment. Mar2017, Vol. 114, p1-10. 10p.

Tipo de documento: Article

Descriptores: *Thermal comfort
Skin temperature
Machine learning
Support vector machines
Gaussian function

Palabras clave proporcionadas por el autor: Intelligent control
Support vector machine
Thermal environment

Resumen: Inefficient controlling strategies in heating and cooling systems have given rise to a large amount of energy waste and to widespread complaints about the thermal environment in buildings. An intelligent control method based on a support vector machine (SVM) classifier is proposed in this paper. Skin temperatures are the only inputs to the model and have shown attractive prediction power in recognizing steady state thermal demands. Data were accumulated from two studies to consider potential use for either individuals or a group of occupants. Using a single skin temperature correctly predicts 80% of thermal demands. Using combined skin temperatures from different body segments can improve the model to over 90% accuracy. Results show that three skin locations contained enough information for classification and more would cause the curse of dimensionality. Models using different skin temperatures were compared. Optimal parameters for each model were provided using grid search technique. Considering the overfitting possibility and the cases without learning processes, SVM classifiers with a linear kernel are preferred over Gaussian kernel ones. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

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Afiliaciones del autor: ¹Department of Architecture, School of Naval Architecture, Ocean & Civil Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
²Center for the Built Environment, UC Berkeley, USA

ISSN: 0360-1323

DOI: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2016.12.005

Número de acceso: 120925717