COMPARISON OF CLTD AND TETD COOLING LOAD CALCULATION METHODS FOR DIFFERENT BUILDING ENVELOPES

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Abstract

The estimation of the cooling load through the building envelope is an essential task in the selection of proper HVAC system components that influences the building’s performance. For this task, ASHRAE has presented several methods to calculate the building cooling load due to heat gain, such as the total equivalent temperature difference method (TETD), the cooling load temperature difference method (CLTD), and the radiant time series method (RTS). The present study aims to explore the accuracies of those calculation methods in terms of energy efficiency. In this regard, an analytical solution method utilizing Complex Finite Fourier Transform Technique (CFFT) was developed for the calculation of cooling load due to heat gain to compare the temperature differences obtained from the TETD and CLTD methods. Then, a computer program was prepared in MATLAB to perform the calculations based on an analytical methodology. Besides, the estimated CLTD and TETD values by the CFFT were compared with those values presented in the Handbook of the ASHRAE. The calculation results revealed there is a good agreement between the analytical and presented results in the ASHRAE Manual for the selected building envelopes. However, several differences were found between the estimated TETD and CLTD cooling load values and those presented in the Handbook of ASHRAE.

Keywords: Building envelope, cooling load, heat gain, cooling load calculation methods

FARKLI BİNA YAPI ELEMANLARI İÇİN CLTD VE TETD SOĞUTMA YÜKÜ HESAPLAMA YÖNTEMLERİNİN KARŞILAŞTIRILMASI

Özet

Bina yapi elemanlarından kaynaklı soğutma yükünün doğru bir şekilde hesaplanması, binanın performansını etkileyen uygun HVAC sistem bileşenlerinin seçiminde önemli bir görevdir. Bu görev için ASHRAE, bina ısı kazancından kaynaklı soğutma yükünü hesaplamak için, soğutma yükü sıcaklık farka yöntemi (CLTD), toplam eşdeğer sıcaklık farka yöntemi (TETD) ve radyant zaman serisi yöntemi (RTS) gibi çeşitli yöntemler sunmuştur. Bu çalışma, bina ısı kazancından kaynaklı soğutma yükünü hesaplayan analitik bir çözüm yöntemi geliştirmiştir. Matematiksel çözüme dayalı bir hesaplama yöntemi geliştirilmiş olup, sayısal hesaplamalar için ise Matlab'da bir bilgisayar programı hazırlanmıştır. Bunun yanında, CFFT tarafından hesaplanan CLTD ve TETD değerleri ASHRAE El kitabı tarafından sunulan değerlerle karşılaştırılmıştır. Seçilen bina yapi elemanları için hesaplanan sonuçlar ile ASHRAE tarafından verilen değerler arasında önemli bir uygunluk olduğu görülmüştür. Ayrıca hem hesaplanan hem de ASHRAE El kitabı tarafından sunulan TETD ve CLTD soğutma yükü değerleri arasında çeşitli farklıklar tespit edilmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Bina yapi elemanları, soğutma yükü, ısı kazancı, soğutma yükü hesaplama yöntemleri

İçte

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1. Introduction

The building sector is responsible for the great amount of total energy consumption in the World. Most of this energy is used for the provision of heating and cooling applications. The main objective of a cooling or heating system is to maintain the conditions that are required for indoor products and processes and to provide thermal comfort conditions to the occupants of the building. The heat rate that must be removed from a room to maintain a constant temperature at the comfort level is defined as
cooling load [1]. The heat gain through the building envelope, which includes roofs and walls in most buildings, constitutes a significant portion of the overall cooling load of space due to its large area [2]. If an accurate cooling load calculation is performed, then the cooling load due to heat gain can decrease, and a suitable HVAC system can be selected. An accurate calculation of the cooling load is quite complicated and time consuming due to the thermal storage effects of a building thermal mass and continuously changing outdoor climatic conditions. In order to eliminate such problems, many methods are developed to calculate the cooling considering the thermal mass of a building, the hourly changing of outdoor conditions, the heat loss coefficient of the building, as well as solar radiation incident [3].

In literature, several methods have been developed, such as total equivalent temperature difference method (TETD), transfer function method (TFM), heat balance method (HB), and cooling load difference method (CLTD) to estimate the cooling load of a building due to heat gain. TFM, which is widely used in the HVAC industry [4], uses a series of estimated conduction transfer functions (CTF) coefficients tabulated in the ASHRAE handbook for specific types of ceilings, walls, and floors [5]. The calculation of heat gain by the CLTD method is provided by multiplying the UA value of the building envelope with the CLTD values obtained by using the HB or TFM technique. It is limited by the data for specific constructions used in North America with particular external conditions [2]. Although ASHRAE has recommended correction factors in the calculation of standard CLTD values for the above conditions, the accuracy of the CLTD values is questionable for locations outside 40 °N, in particular for locations below 24 °N [6].

Another method proposed by ASHRAE is the TETD method, considering the transient effects of thermal storage and solar energy, is an alternative technique of the heat balance method that utilizes the average time (TA) of the total equivalent temperature difference (TETD) to calculate cooling load due to heat gain. In the TETD method, the response factor method is used to calculate TETD values as a function of inside air and solar air temperatures for a series of representative walls and ceilings. Alford et al. [7] developed an analytical method for calculating the interior surface temperature of a homogeneous structure under conditioned conditions, and Mackey and Wright [8] similarly derived mathematical formulations for homogeneous walls or roofs, later the expressions were expanded to include composite structures [9]. Alford et al. describe the decrement factor as the ratio of the amplitude of the interior surface heat flux to the amplitude of the exterior sol-air temperature; however, Mackey and Wright [8] defined the decrement factor as the ratio of the amplitude of the inner surface temperature of the building structure to the amplitude of the external sol-air temperature.

Several studies have been carried out to extend the utilization of TETD and CLTD for a wide range of building envelopes in different climatic conditions. Bansal et al. [2] developed a numerical model utilizing a finite difference method to simulate the transient thermal behavior of multi-layered walls and flat roofs. In their study, several notable differences have been found between numerically estimated CLTD and those given in the ASHRAE handbook [5]. In order to estimate the TETD values for multi-layer walls and flat roofs, Yumrutas et al. [10] developed an analytical model based on the solution of the periodic heat transfer model. Besides, TETD values were obtained for each wall and roof in Gaziantep (37.1 °N) by using the measured values of sol-air temperature, time lag, decrement factor, and solar radiation incident. In order to estimate the thermal behavior of multi-layered walls under realistic external conditions, Ruivo et al. [11] numerically developed a periodic heat transfer model. They found that the time lag is significantly affected by the azimuth of the wall. Zainal and Yumrutas [12] used the CFFT technique to find the CLTD values for multi-layered roofs and walls numerically. The solution of the transient problem is a new approach to estimate CLTD values. Moreover, CFFT is applicable for any possible building structure and ever-changing outdoor climatic conditions, and also it does not require the tables.

Although many researchers have attempted to use different methods for calculating the cooling load by CLTD and TETD method, there has not been much research about identifying the degree of similarity and comparison to each other. Furthermore, some contradictory or inconclusive results exist in the literature about using the decrement factor and the time lag during the calculation of TETD values. Furthermore, it is necessary to develop analytical models that can be applied to any possible structure without using tables. Therefore, this research aims to develop an analytical solution method utilizing a complex finite Fourier transform (CFFT) method for the calculation of cooling load due to heat gain through the walls and flat roofs exposed to realistic climatic conditions and to compare the temperature differences obtained from the CLTD and TETD methods. Besides, the generated CLTD and TETD values by CFFT are compared with the CLTD presented in the ASHRAE manual.

2. Description of cooling load and calculation procedure

Human beings only sense well and comfortably within a narrow range of thermal conditions. A building is an enclosure that protects against external conditions. It should provide a comfortable environment on the inside. Heat loss or gain is a very significant factor in the operation of a building depending on the building structure, which includes walls, floors, ceilings, and external parts of a building. Commonly these parts are referred to as the building envelope [13]. The heat rate that must be removed from a room to maintain a constant temperature at the comfort level is defined as cooling load, as stated before. The cooling load generally differs from
the heat gain since the radiation from the interior surface of walls or roofs and objects, and also the solar radiation incident coming directly through space, does not directly heat the air within the space. In order to provide an accurate, consistent, and convenient method of estimating those loads and to enable the designer to choose systems that meet the requirements for efficient energy utilization. The phenomenon of cooling load, heat gain as well as descriptions of calculation methods of CLTD/CLF and TETD/TA are illustrated in Figure 1 [14].

In order to calculate cooling loads, cooling load temperature differences (CLTD), solar cooling load factors (SCL), and internal cooling load factors (CLF) are one-step procedures of the simplified version of the TFM, which can be used with certain types of buildings where application data is available, was presented in the 1977 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [15]. On the other hand, total equivalent temperature differential values and a system of time-averaging (TETD/TA) are procedures of the simplified version of the heat balance technique that was first introduced in the 1967 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals to calculate cooling loads [16]. The procedure for calculating cooling load by CLTD/CLF and TETD/TA methods for a building envelope is summarized in Table 1.

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**Table 1. Summary of CLTD/CLF and TETD/TA Load Calculation Procedures [17]**

| Load Source                  | Equation                                  | Reference, Table, Description                                      |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Roofs, walls, conduction through glass | \( q = UA(\text{CLTD}) \)               | \( U = \) heat transfer coefficient for roof or wall from Chapter 24 in Table 4; or glass, Chapter 29, in Table 5  |
|                              |                                           | \( A = \) area of roof, wall, or glass                          |
|                              |                                           | CLTD = cooling load temperature difference for a roof, wall, or glass |
|                              |                                           | \( q = UA(\text{TETD}) \)                                    | \( U = \) heat transfer coefficient for roof or wall, from Chapter 24, in Table 4 |
|                              |                                           | \( A = \) area of roof or wall                               |
|                              |                                           | TETD = total equivalent temperature difference for roof or wall |
|                              |                                           | \( t_i = \) interior design dry-bulb temperature             |
|                              |                                           | \( \lambda = \) decrement factor, from Table 14 or 19          |
|                              |                                           | \( t_{ea} = \) sol-air temperature at time lag 8 hours previous to calculation hour (Table 14 or 19) |
| Partitions, ceilings, floors | \( q = UA(t_o - t_i) \)                   | \( U = \) heat transfer coefficient for roof or wall from Chapter 24, in Table 4 |
|                              |                                           | \( A = \) area of partition, ceiling, or floor                |
|                              |                                           | \( t_o = \) temperature in adjacent space                     |
|                              |                                           | \( t_i = \) inside design temperature in conditioned space   |

3. **Formulation of the transient heat transfer problem**

Heat is transferred from a building structure through the room as a function of the interior wall surface and solar-air temperature. The heat flux passing through the room can be calculated using the inner surface temperature, the combined heat transfer coefficient (radiation + convection) on the surface, and the room temperature. Figure 2 shows a schematic representation of a multi-layered wall or flat roofs.
Comparison of CLTD and TETD cooling load calculation methods for different building envelopes

The transient heat transfer problem given in Eqs. (1) - (6) is transformed into dimensionless formulations, and then CFFT is applied to the heat transfer problem. The dimensionless formulation is solved to obtain the transient solution, as detailed in Yumrutaş et al. [3,10]. A general solution equation giving temperature distribution through a building wall or roof is expressed as:

$$T_n(z_n, t) = \sum_{j=1}^{M} T_{n_j}(z_n) e^{i2\pi j t}$$  \hspace{1cm} (7)

where $z_n$, $t$, and $T_{n}$ are dimensionless parameters. $M$ is the large number and generally taken as 60. Also, $q$ is the heat gain (W/m²) through the indoor space of a building from exterior walls. It can be calculated using the inner wall surface, and $T_r$ room temperature and combined convection heat transfer coefficient at the inner surface, $h_r$:

$$q = h_r[T_r(0, t) - T_e]$$  \hspace{1cm} (8)

where $T_r(0, t)$ is the inner surface temperature of the roof or wall obtained from Eq. (7) at $z_n=0$, and $U$ is the coefficient of overall heat transfer for a wall or roof. Thus, CLTD can be calculated as:

$$\text{CLTD} = \frac{h_r}{U} [T_n(0, t) - T_r]$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)

Although TETD is calculated like CLTD with the same basic heat transfer equation, the approximate solution of TETD presented by Mackey and Wright [9] can be estimated by the heat transfer solution [11]:

$$\text{TETD} = T_e - T_r + \frac{h_i}{U} [T_e - T_ea]$$  \hspace{1cm} (10)

where $\lambda$ and $\delta$ are decrement factor (DF) and time lag (TL) with respect to the external sol-air temperature, respectively. $T_e$ and $T_{ea}$ are daily average sol-air temperature and sol-air temperature time lag hours ago, respectively. The $\delta$ and $\lambda$ are significant characteristics of a building envelope to identify their heat storage capabilities. $\delta$ and $\lambda$ are estimated as:

$$\delta = t_{T_1,\text{max}} - t_{T_1,\text{max}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{t_{T_1,\text{max}} - T_{e,\text{min}}}{T_{e,\text{max}} - T_{e,\text{min}}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (11)

where $t_{T_1,\text{max}}$ and $t_{T_1,\text{max}}$ represent the times when interior surface and sol-air and temperatures are at their maximums, respectively. Also, $T_{e,\text{max}}$, $T_{e,\text{min}}$, $T_{e,\text{max}}$, and $T_{e,\text{min}}$ are the minimum and maximum temperatures on both of the inner surface and sol-air temperatures, respectively. When derivatives of Eqs. (6) - (7) are set equal to zero, the highest and the lowest temperatures, and also the time can be obtained.

4. Results and discussion

In this study, an analytical model is developed to calculate TETD and CLTD values of building multi-
layered walls and roofs for any time and place. Various walls and flat roofs have been selected for the comparison of CLTD and TETD values. In order to perform the calculations numerically, a computer program in MATLAB is designed [18]. While performing the calculations, all thermophysical properties of the selected walls or roofs, indoor and outdoor climatic conditions (room and hourly sol-air temperatures), are used as inputs and taken from the Handbook of ASHRAE [17]. The room temperature, outside, and inside surface resistances are accepted to be 25.5°C, 0.059 W/m²°C, and 0.121 W/m²°C, respectively. The outer surfaces of the constructions are assumed to be dark-colored, hence α/ho is taken as 0.052. Furthermore, the hourly sol-air temperatures in Eq. (6) are calculated by utilizing the data for hourly ambient air temperatures and solar radiation incident on the tilted surfaces presented in the 1997 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [17] (Figure 3). For the horizontal surface, solar-air temperatures reach the highest values due to the existence of the highest solar radiation on that surface. Since higher values of ambient air temperature and solar radiation exist in the afternoon, the temperature of the West wall is higher than the East wall.

Figure 3. Daily variations of sol-air temperatures for horizontal and four main directions

4.1 Validation of the present model

In order to show the reliability of the present model, a comparison for the solution method has been made between given in ASHRAE and obtained by CFFT for the selected walls and flat roofs. Table 2 shows the characteristics of the walls or roofs used in the calculations in this study.

Table 2. Characteristics of the selected wall and roofs taken from the Handbook of ASHRAE [17, 19]

| Construction type | Specification of construction | U-value, W/m²°C |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Roof 1            | Steel deck w/85 mm insulation 50 mm gypsum | 0.456 |
| Roof-ex.          | slab on metal roof deck w/50 mm insulation | 0.510 |

Wall-ex. (South wall cons.) 360 mm brick, w/16 mm plaster, 1.360
Wall-ex. (East and North wall cons.) 200 mm h.w. concrete block, w/16 mm plaster, 2.730
Wall 1 Steel siding with 100 mm insulation 0.372
Wall 3 100 mm h.w. concrete block with 25 mm insulation 1.085
Wall 9 150 mm insulation with 50 mm wood 0.241
Spandrel wall 16 mm gypsum wall with mineral fiber insulation 0.450

In order to show the validity of the TETD method, firstly, TL, and DF values should be verified. Hence, TL and DF values obtained by the present method are compared with Mackey and Wright’s method [8, 9]. Mackey and Wright developed an analytical method for calculating the interior surface temperature of a homogeneous structure, and the expressions were later expanded to include composite structures under conditioned conditions [9]. The specified method provides acceptable accuracy results with external excitation. Table 3 shows the comparison of TL and DF values for the selected wall types in Mackey and those obtained from the present study. When the results are compared to each other, it can be observed that the maximum relative error between the results of the present study and Mackey and Wright’s model (0.45% for DF and 3.85% for TL) is very small. The results show that the obtained TL and DF values by the present and Mackey and Wright’s models are in good agreement.

Table 3. Comparison of the models for the calculation of the time lag (TL) and decrement factor (DF) for the selected multilayer walls.

| Wall number | Layer number | Mackey and Wright method TL (hr) DF | Present paper by CFFT method TL (hr) DF |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1           | 2            | 4.52 0.1613 4.46 0.1610             |                                       |
| 26          | 2            | 15.8 0.0147 15.79 0.0148             |                                       |
| 27          | 2            | 24 0.0019 23.88 0.0019               |                                       |
| 28          | 2            | 8.47 0.0658 8.43 0.0663              |                                       |
| 29          | 2            | 12.6 0.0249 12.53 0.0251             |                                       |
| 31          | 3            | 3.28 0.2142 3.25 0.2148              |                                       |
| 32          | 3            | 12.2 0.0219 12.18 0.0219             |                                       |
| 33          | 3            | 4.6 0.1612 4.46 0.1613               |                                       |
| 34          | 3            | 3.6 0.1858 3.49 0.1862               |                                       |

In order to compare the CLTD and TETD values, different compositions of two flat roofs (Roof 1 for CLTD and roof in example for TETD) and two walls (Wall 1 for CLTD and
In the case of the walls, which are Wall 1 for CLTD and wall in example for TETD, are selected to compare CLTD and TETD values given in the ASHRAE manual due to four main directions. The curves for estimated CLTD values follow the curves for those values presented in the 1997 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [17], as shown in Figure 5. This figure depicts that the estimated CLTD values obtained by CFFT and those values given in the ASHRAE manual are very close to each other. However, some differences exist between the estimated and presented values. The average daily differences in CLTD values are obtained as 0.7°C, 1.1°C, 1.2°C for North, South, East, and West facing walls, respectively.

In order to compare TETD values calculated by CFFT and the values presented by the ASHRAE manual, the wall in the example of ASHRAE is selected and directed to East, South, and North directions, as depicted in Figure 6. The curves for estimated TETD values follow the curves for those values presented in the ASHRAE manual except for East direction. Besides, there is a phase difference of about two hours for East direction. The average daily differences in TETD values are obtained as 0.8°C, 1.4°C and 0.2°C for North, East, and South facing walls, respectively. These differences are due to using the transfer function coefficients for calculating temperature values in the ASHRAE model.

4.2 Comparison of estimated cooling load calculation methods

Figure 7 shows comparisons of the estimated values of CLTD and TETD by CFFT with the values of CLTD and TETD obtained from ASHRAE for Wall 1. When the results are compared, the average daily differences between CLTD and TETD values are 0.7°C, 0.2°C, 1.5°C and 1.2°C for North, South East and West facing walls, respectively. The results indicate that the estimated CLTD values by the present model are very close to the estimated TETD results. The differences are due to having different procedures for calculating the cooling load by CLTD and TETD methods presented in the ASHARE manual.
ETD values for the given walls

N (CLTD-Est.)
13
180
S (CLTD-Est.)
9
11
23
N (CLTD-Est.)
E (CLTD-Est.)
23
7
5
45
9
23
0
19
7
19
7
S (CLTD-Est.)
15
21
W (CLTD-Est.)
3
S (CLTD-Est.)
9
-135
E (CLTD-Est.)
3
W (CLTD-Est.)
-90
15
17
21
-45
7 h,
135
E (CLTD-Est.)
19
W (CLTD-Est.)
N (CLTD-Est.)
11
17
7
(h)
15

Examined.

ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals

cooling by TETD and CLTD methods
differences, the
for the East and West directions.
differences and also different tendencies are observed

In this case, a comparison has been made between the estimated CLTD values and the estimated TETD values for Wall 1, as indicated in Figure 7. The average daily differences between CLTD and TETD values are 1.3°C, 0.9°C, 2.3°C and 2.5°C for North, South, East, and West facing walls, respectively. When the calculated values for all the given walls are compared, it is seen that there are small differences for the North and South directions; however, a significant difference and also some phase difference is observed between the 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. for the East direction.

In order to investigate the differences between the methods, the time lags and decrement factors used in the TETD method are calculated for all directions and indicated in Figure 10. It is observed that the azimuth angle has a profound influence on time lag, which is also the most critical parameter in changing TETD values, while the azimuth has a small influence on the decrement factor. It is seen that there is an agreement between the calculated CLTD and TETD values for the given walls facing south and north directions. It is depicted from the Figure 9 that the time lag difference between East (γ=90°) and South directions (γ=0°) was obtained as 1.7 h, the difference was obtained as 1.9 h between West (γ=90°) and South, and finally the value of difference between South and North (γ=180°) directions was obtained as 0.6 h.

Comparison of CLTD and TETD cooling load calculation methods for different building envelopes

In order to find out the differences, the nature of the procedures for calculating cooling by TETD and CLTD methods given in the 1997 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [17] should be examined.

In this case, a comparison has been made between the estimated CLTD values and the estimated TETD values for Wall 3. When the results are compared for Wall 3, the average daily differences between CLTD and TETD values are 1.3°C, 0.9°C, 2.3°C and 2.5°C for North, South, East, and West facing walls, respectively. When the calculated values for all the given walls are compared, it is seen that there are small differences for the North and South directions; however, the significant differences and also different tendencies are observed for the East and West directions. In order to find out the differences, the nature of the procedures for calculating cooling by TETD and CLTD methods given in the 1997 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [17] should be examined.
are compatible with each other, and there are some differences according to wall and roof types.

![Graph showing comparison of heat gain values estimated by TETD and CLTD with RTS values given in ASHRAE 2009 for a given structure](image)

Figure 11. Comparison of heat gain values estimated by TETD and CLTD with RTS values given in ASHRAE 2009 [19] for a given structure.

5. Conclusion

In this study, the TETD and CLTD values for multilayer walls and flat roofs given in ASHRAE are compared with an analytical solution method obtained by the CFFT technique. The significant results are presented as follows:

- The CLTD and TETD results obtained by the present model are in good agreement with those results presented in the ASHRAE manual for the given roofs. Furthermore, the estimated CLTD and TETD values by CFFT for selected wall structures facing different directions are compared. There is a good agreement between the results. Small differences are obtained for the North and South directions; however, the significant differences and also different tendencies are observed for the West and East directions. These differences can be due to the time lag values used in the TETD method.

- From the present analysis, it can be concluded that the TETD method yields less accurate predictions than the CLTD method.

- A comparison has been made between the gain values obtained RTS method in ASHRAE and estimated TETD and CLTD values. The results show that the cooling load calculations methods given in ASHRAE are compatible with each other. It is revealed that the transient solution of the heat transfer problem is beneficial to estimate RTS, CLTD, and TETD values for the given walls and roofs.

- A program based on a periodic solution in MATLAB was developed to calculate CLTD, TETD, and heat gain values without using any standard table for any possible building envelope and external conditions. Furthermore, the CFFT method has many advantages for the given method in ASHRAE. Therefore, if the thermophysical properties of a building envelope and also the climate data for the cities are known, some specific CLTD and TETD values can be tabulated for the most important cities in the world for different building envelopes.

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