Energy Recovery from Water Distribution Systems

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- Problem definition.
- Pipe flow review, water distribution systems (constraints, problems and solutions).
- Examples from literature.
- Summary of literature and tentative solution method.
- Preliminary analysis of Dover Township WDS.



Problem definition

• Optimum design of an energy recovery system for water distribution networks.



Pipe flow review



Hydraulic grade line (HGL) and energy grade line (EGL) for a piping system.



WDS constraints



- The pressure head throughout the WDS should be within minimum and maximum permissible limits to eliminate potential damages to the pipeline.
- The demand flows should always be satisfied.



Major problem in a WDS

- Excessive pressure heads are the major problems in WDS.
- Excessive pressure may cause:
 - damage to the pipeline,
 - leakage
- Thus, excessive pressures should be minimized while customer demands are ensured to be satisfied at all times.



Solution of excessive pressure problem

Classical solution:

- Pressure reducing valves (PRVs)
- New solutions:
 - Turbines,
 - Pumps as turbines (PATs)

Property	PRV	Turbine	PAT
Energy recovery	No	Yes	Yes
Efficiency	NA	High	Low
Installation cost	Lowest	High	Low



Examples from literature

- Afshar, A., F. Benjemaa, et al. (1990). "OPTIMIZATION OF HYDROPOWER PLANT INTEGRATION IN WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEM." Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management-Asce 116(5): 665-675.
- Ramos, H., D. Covas, et al. (2005). Available energy assessment in water supply systems. <u>XXXI IAHR Congress. Seoul, Korea.</u>
- Giugni, M., N. Fontana, et al. (2009). Energy saving policy in water distribution networks. <u>International Conference on Renewable Energies and Power Quality</u> (ICREPQ'09). Valencia, Spain.
- Liberatore, S. and G. M. Sechi (2009). "Location and Calibration of Valves in Water Distribution Networks Using a Scatter-Search Meta-heuristic Approach." <u>Water Resources Management</u> 23(8): 1479-1495.



Examples from literature (1)

- Afshar, A., F. Benjemaa, et al. (1990). "OPTIMIZATION OF HYDROPOWER PLANT INTEGRATION IN WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEM." Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management-Asce 116(5): 665-675.
 - They optimized the number, locations, capacities and conduit diameters of hydropower plants along a main supply pipe.



They used dynamic programming model for this optimization.



Examples from literature (1)

- Afshar, A., F. Benjemaa, et al. (1990). "OPTIMIZATION OF HYDROPOWER PLANT INTEGRATION IN WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEM." Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management-Asce 116(5): 665-675.
 - The objective is to maximize the net annual benefits associated with the water transmission and hydropower system while satisfying some conditions and constraints.

$$f_{k}(q_{k}, P_{k+1}) = \max_{(HN_{k}, D_{k})} (B_{k}(q_{k}, HN_{k}) + C_{w}q_{k}) - (C(D_{k})L_{k}) - C_{0}(QD_{k}, HD_{k}) F(r, t) - (OM_{k}) + f_{k-1}(q_{k-1}, P_{k})$$
Annual hydropower revenue Price of water conduit k Cost for hydropower delivered Cost for hydropower plant Cost for cost or cost

subject to

 $q_{k} = d_{1} + d_{2} + \ldots + d_{k}$ $H_{\min} \le HN_{k} \le H_{\max}$ $P_{\min} \le P_{k} \le P_{\max}$ $D_{\min} \le D_{k} \le D_{\max}$



Examples from literature (2)

- Ramos, H., D. Covas, et al. (2005). Available energy assessment in water supply systems. <u>XXXI IAHR Congress. Seoul, Korea.</u>
 - They showed experimentally that PRVs and PATs have similar behaviors for steady state flows and some differences under transient conditions.
 - They observed that although in some cases PATs perform better in pressure regulation, in other cases a mixed solution of PATs and PRVs is recommended.
 - They proposed an optimization method to minimize pressure and the number of PRVs in the network.

Optimize
$$f(p_i, mv)\Big|_{t=1}^T = mv_t / \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{\left(P_{cal,i,t}^V - P_{\min}\right)}{P_{\min}} \right]^2 * mv_t + mv_t \right\}^2 \Big|_{t=1}^T \text{ #of time steps} \\ \text{#of PRVs} \\ \text{calculated for} \\ \text{instant t} \\ \text{s.t. } P_{cal,i,t} > P_{\min} \text{ and } mv_t < N_p \end{cases}$$

Examples from literature (3)

- Giugni, M., N. Fontana, et al. (2009). Energy saving policy in water distribution networks. <u>International Conference on Renewable Energies and Power Quality</u> <u>(ICREPQ'09). Valencia, Spain.</u>
 - A simulation model based on a Genetic Algorithm is used to locate PRVs and optimize water system performance.
 - PRVs are substituted by PATs for renewable energy production.
 - PAT installation resulted in a similar leakage reduction as PRVs.
 - Economic analysis shows significant profits from energy production.



Examples from literature (4)

- Liberatore, S. and G. M. Sechi (2009). "Location and Calibration of Valves in Water Distribution Networks Using a Scatter-Search Meta-heuristic Approach." <u>Water Resources Management</u> 23(8): 1479-1495.
 - Pressure reference method is used to identify the locations of PRVs.
 - Meta-Heuristic Scatter search method is used for optimal calibration of the valves.

min $OF = \gamma_1 OF_1 + \gamma_2 OF_2$

 $OF_2 = \sum_{j=1,nv} f\left(H_j^*, D_j\right)$

 $OF_{1} = \sum_{d=1,K} \sum_{i=1,N} \left| c_{i} \left(H_{i,d} - H_{max} \right)^{2} \right|_{H_{i,d} > H_{max}} \leftarrow Penalty \text{ for excess pressures}$ Summed over demand patterns d and nodes i

> Total Cost function for the PRVs which have calibrated head loss of H^{*} installed on a pipe with diameter D.





Summary of literature (1)

General considerations

- Excess pressures are the main concern among hydraulic engineers.
- Energy recovery has secondary importance.
- The objective functions consider the pressure in the network (except Afshar, et.al (1990)) and installation costs.
- First, locations of PRVs are determined, then replacement with a turbine (or PAT) is considered.



Tentative suggested solution method (1)

- This study would focus on energy recovery from existing WDS.
- However, pressures in the WDS are still important and appear as constraints in the model together with.
- The objective would be to maximize the net economic benefit which should be greater than a threshold to be feasible.
- This optimization model is similar to the model developed by Afshar, A., F. Benjemaa, et al. (1990) in terms of the decision variables and constraints.
- However, the application will be different.
 - They limited the solution space to the supply main pipe. We can search the complete WDS or we can apply Pressure reference method (Liberatore, S. and G. M. Sechi (2009).
 - They used dynamic programming. We can use Genetic Algorithms.



Tentative suggested solution method (2)

Objective Function

 $f(n_T, X, C)$: total income from energy recovery - total cost of the system

(installation, operation and maintenance)

- Decision variables:
- n_T : number of hydropower plants to be installed.
- X: location vector of size $n_T \times 1$ (indicating the pipes where a hydropower plant is to be installed).
- C: capacity vector of size $n_T \times 1$ (indicating the capacity (in Watts) of each hydropower plant).
- Optimization

Maximize $f(n_T, X, C)$

s.t.

 $P_{\min} \le p_i \le P_{\max} \quad \forall i$, where *i* indicates the node ID.

 $q_j \ge d_j \quad \forall j$, where j indicates the demand node ID, q and d are available flow rate and demand.



 $f(n_T, X, C) \ge BenefitThreshold$

Summary of literature (2)

Specific considerations about Dover Township WDS

- According to Ramos, H., D. Covas, et al. (2005), high topographic gradients are favorable to adopt energy recovery using turbines (or PATs).
- Giugni, M., N. Fontana, et al. (2009) sets a minimum pressure head of 25 m since there are 6 storey buildings in the WDS area.
- If the distribution network is organized in urban districts, district method which involves inserting valves (as a consequence turbines for energy recovery) in all district supply pipes can be applied (Alonso et al., 2000).



Dover Township WDS



- Topographic gradients are not very high.
- There are 12 pumps.
- No valves.
- Districts are observable



Dover Township WDS



- In general, pressures are higher than 25 m
- No high buildings are seen in satellite photos.





