

# Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring of HVAC Components using Signal Unmixing

Alireza Rahimpour, Hairong Qi, David Fugatey

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, USA  
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, USA

Email: arahimpo@utk.edu, fugatedl@ornl.gov

December 12, 2015

# Table of content

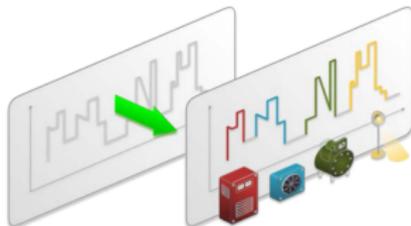
- 1 Introduction
  - Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring (NIML)
  - HVAC load monitoring
- 2 Methodology
  - Disaggregation using Constrained NMF
  - Sum-to-K constraint
- 3 Experiments and results
  - Dataset
  - Results
- 4 Conclusion and future works

# Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring (NILM)

## NILM

NILM is the task of separating aggregate energy signal into the energy signal of the individual components.

- Energy conservation.
- Fault detection.
- lower costs of sensors and low intrusion installation.



# HVAC load monitoring

Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning units (HVAC) are a major electrical energy consumer in the buildings.

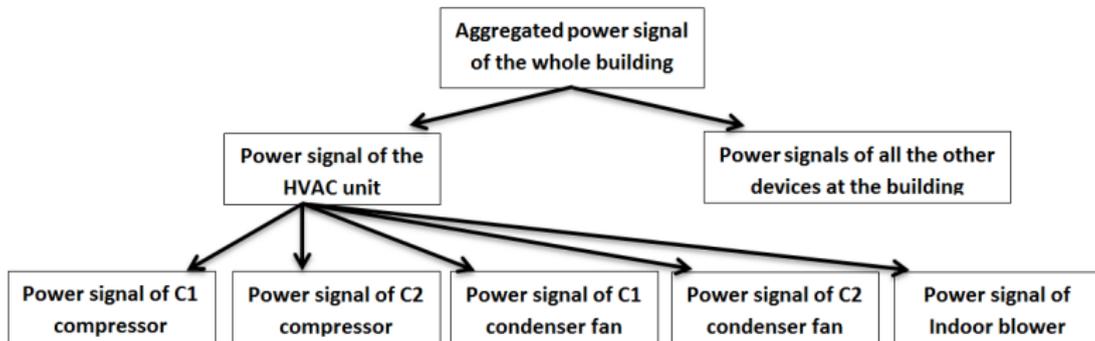
- Currently account for 57% of the energy used in U.S. commercial and residential buildings.
- HVAC systems commonly operate in a degraded or faulted condition:

Continuous monitoring is therefore crucial to identify the faults at the early stage and making decisions for repair.



# Hierarchy disaggregation

- The first step is disaggregation of power signal of the whole building to the power signals of all the circuits and devices existing in the building.
- The second step is decomposition of the obtained HVAC power signal from the last step and estimating the power consumption profile of its components.



# Disaggregation using Constrained NMF

$$\bar{X} = DA$$

$$\hat{A}_{1:k} = \operatorname{argmin}_{A_{1:k}} \left\| \bar{X} - [D_1, \dots, D_k] \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ \vdots \\ A_k \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2 \quad (1)$$

- $\bar{X} \in R^{m \times d}$  is the aggregated signal.
- $D_i \in R^{m \times n}$  is the energy consumption of the  $i$ th device.
- Each column of  $D_i$  and  $\bar{X}$  includes one day of power signal.
- The goal is to build a model which can be used to decompose the aggregated signal to each individual device's signal.

## Signal Estimation:

After calculating the activation coefficient for each device, the estimated signal for the  $i$ th device would be:

$$\hat{X}_i = D_i \hat{A}_i \quad (2)$$

$$\bar{X} \in R^{m \times d}, \hat{X}_i \in R^{m \times d}, D_i \in R^{m \times n} \text{ and } \hat{A}_i \in R^{n \times d}$$

## Sum-to-K constraint

We propose, the sum-to-k constraint for activation coefficients  $A$ . It means for each  $\hat{A}_i \in R^{n \times d}$  we should have  $\sum_{j=1}^n A_i(j) = 1$ .

$$\hat{A}_{1:k} = \underset{A_{1:k} \geq 0}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\| \bar{X} - [D_1 \dots D_k] \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ \vdots \\ A_k \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2 + \beta \|U - SA\|_2^2 \quad (3)$$

- $U \in R^{k \times d}$  is a matrix with all its entries equal to one.
- $S$  is the matrix including 1 and 0 elements that we would define in some way that it forces the summation of activation coefficients for each device in matrix  $A$  to be equal to one ( $S$  has  $n$  1's in each row).

## An example:

Assume, we have  $k = 4$  devices and  $n = 3$  days of training data for each device and  $d = 1$  day of testing for aggregated signal. Consequently, the model matrix  $D$  would be of size  $m \times 12$ . By defining  $S \in R^{k \times k \times n}$  as the following matrix, we impose sum to K constraint for activation matrix  $A$ .

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 111 & 000 & 000 & 000 \\ 000 & 111 & 000 & 000 \\ 000 & 000 & 111 & 000 \\ 000 & 000 & 000 & 111 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \\ A_4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_i \in R^{3 \times 1} \quad (4)$$

This sum-to-K constraint highly increases the accuracy of the disaggregation method.

## Solving the optimization problem

For solving the optimization problem we use matrix augmentation which leads to solving the following optimization problem:

$$\hat{A} = \underset{A \geq 0}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \bar{X} \\ \beta U \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} D \\ \beta S \end{bmatrix} A \right\|_2^2 \quad (5)$$

Solving via Fast Non-Negative Least Square (FNNLS)

## Dataset: ORNL

- The data was collected on the Oak Ridge National Lab (ORNL) Flexible Research Platform (FRP1).



There are 16 different devices, circuits and plugs in the building: HVAC unit, 480/208 Transformer, lighting circuits: 1, 3, 5, 7, Plug circuits: 1, 3, 5, 7, cord reel circuit, lighting control box, exhaust fan, piping heat trace, exterior lighting (lighting and emergency) and building control circuit.

## Results: Building power decomposition

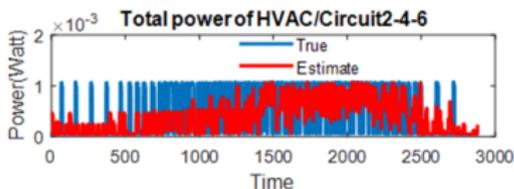
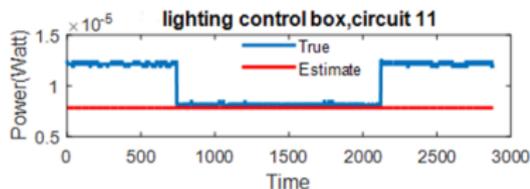
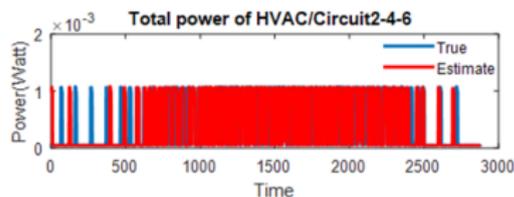
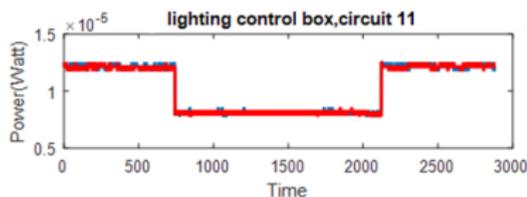
**Table:** Disaggregation Error for training and testing stages for building power disaggregation.

	Training		Testing	
	GCNMF	DDSC	GCNMF	DDSC
DISAG-ERROR	$7.5181e - 16$	0.091543	0.019453	0.10463

Disaggregation Error:

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{2} \left\| X_i - \hat{X}_i \right\|_2^2 \quad (6)$$

# Results: Building Energy decomposition



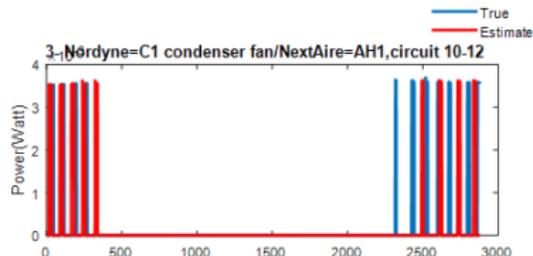
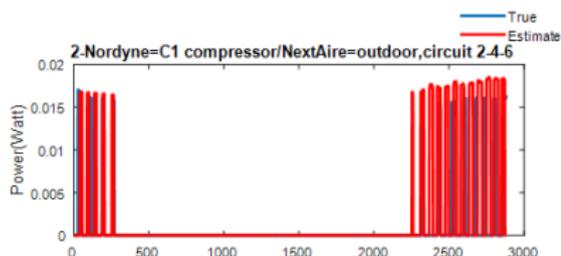
**Figure:** Building power disaggregation. Two top figures: Estimated power consumption profile of the HVAC and lighting control box via GCNMF method during one day. The two bottom figures: Estimated power signals using DDSC method.

# Results: HVAC Energy decomposition

**Table:** RMSE for estimation of power consumption profile of different components of HVAC.

<b>HVAC Components</b>	<b>Training-RMSE</b>	<b>Testing-RMSE</b>
C1 compressor	7.9729e-19	0.0029
C1 condenser fan	0	0.00017
C2 compressor	0	0.00049
C2 condenser fan	0	0
Indoor blower	0	0

# Results: HVAC decomposition: ORNL dataset



**Figure:** Estimated power consumption profile of compressor (left) and condenser fan (right) of HVAC unit for one day using GCNMF.

## Summary:

- Proposed method based on constrained NMF outperforms the state of the art load disaggregation methods.
- Also:
  - Works with low sampling rate data (1 sample per Min).
  - Does not need big training data.
  - Uses real aggregated signal instead of summation of the devices signals.
- Future work:
  - Online and unsupervised load disaggregation
  - Fault detection using NILM



**Thanks for your attention!**  
Questions/Comments?