

Optimization of constructive systems through the application of a genetic algorithm

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Keywords: Genetic Algorithm, Constructive System Optimization, Dynamic Simulation, Energy Efficiency

Abstract

Multiple design features, such as form, construction material type and thickness, and glazing type and area, affect the building's energy consumption. In this work, a procedure was developed to reduce the energy consumption of alternative building's geometries by optimizing their constructive system elements. The optimization procedure consists of a genetic algorithm that seeks to improve the opaque elements' materials types and thicknesses and transparent elements' type. The algorithm is then tested in a case study of a single-family house design program for which several floor plans were automatically created using a generative method. The performance of each candidate solution was carried out using dynamic simulation. The results shown that the developed tool was able to improve and find the near-optimum constructive system for each of the alternative building's geometry.

The research presented has been developed under the Energy for Sustainability Initiative of the University of Coimbra (UC). This work has been financed by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER) through COMPETE 2020-Operational Programme for Competitiveness and Internationalization (POCI) in the framework of the research project Ren4EEnIEQ (PTDC/EMS-ENE/3238/2014, POCI-01-0145-FEDER-016760, and LISBOA-01-0145-FEDER-016760).