



Energy in Buildings and  
Communities Programme

**IEA EBC Annex 58**  
**Reliable building energy performance**  
**characterisation based on full scale dynamic**  
**measurements**

**Guidelines for data analysis from dynamic experimental  
campaigns. Statistical Methods**

Energy performance assessment of buildings and building components.

### Models considered

**Focus on the following key methods / models**

**In general a more advanced model gives more information**

- Steady state / linear regression models
- Transfer function models (ARX)
- Grey-box models
  - Linear (RC network model)
  - Nonlinear

### Steps in the analysis

**Each method is described using the following headings**

- Experimental design (incl. Sampling time, PRBS, Sensors, ...)
- Pre-processing (incl. Filtering, Averaging, PCA, ....)
- Model selection
- Post-processing (Model validation)
  - ◆ Test of model parameter
  - ◆ Test using autocorrelation and accumulated periodogram
  - ◆ Test using cross correlation functions
- Methods for deriving the physical parameters from the model
- Examples in R

### Model characteristics

#### Steady State (linear regression) models - some characteristics

- **UA (HLC) and gA - values**
- No information about dynamics
- No information about the internal physical parameter
- Not able to cope with time-varying phenomena
- Not able to deal with nonlinear phenomena

### Model characteristics

#### Transfer function (ARX) models - some characteristics

- **UA and gA - values**
- **Estimation of dynamics (time constants)**
- No information about the internal physical parameter
- Not able to cope with time-varying phenomenon
- Not able to deal with nonlinear phenomena (except from nonlinear transformation of input variables)

### Model characteristics

#### Linear grey-box (RC-network) models - some characteristics

- **UA and gA - values**
- **Estimation of dynamical characteristics (time constants)**
- **Information about the internal physical parameter (R and C)**
- Not able to cope with time-varying phenomenon
- Not able to deal with nonlinear phenomena (except from nonlinear transformation of input variables)

### Model characteristics

#### Nonlinear grey-box models - some characteristics

- **UA and gA - values**
- **Estimation of dynamical characteristics**
- **Information about the internal physical parameter (R and C)**
- **Description of time-varying phenomem (eg. moisture)**
- **Description of nonlinear phenomena (eg. Air leakage)**

**ST3**

*Analysis Guidelines  
Statistical Aspects*

**MORE PROGRES IS  
EXPECTED FROM  
FEEDBACK/TESTING**



### Interpretation of Residuals

- **Residuals with a frequency of 24 hours** are very frequent in insufficient models
- Non negligible correlation between model residuals and solar radiation, could inspire more **detailed description of the solar radiation** in to improve the model.
- **Sometimes better modelling solar radiation is not a solution:** Many variables can have relevant correlation with solar radiation, so **any other effect** depending on them and not properly modelled **can show residuals in the same frequency**. Examples:
  - ∅ **Air leakage** that can depend on wind speed and/or outdoor air temperature, both depending on solar radiation
  - ∅ **Longwave effects** stressed by high surface temperatures due to solar radiation
  - ∅ U depending on **thermal conductivities** depending on temperature of materials that depends on solar radiation
  - ∅ **Wrong resampling** disregarding the sampling theorem