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Article

Smart Shipboard Power System Operation and Management

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Abstract: During recent years, optimal electrification of isolated offshore systems has become increasingly important and received extensive attention from the maritime industry. Especially with the introduction of electric propulsion, which has led to a total electrification of shipboard power systems known as all-electric ships (AESs), the need for more cost-effective and emission-aware solutions is augmented. Such onboard systems are prone to sudden load variations due to the changing weather conditions as well as mission profile, thus they require effective power management systems (PMSs) to operate optimally under different working conditions. In this paper, coordinated optimal power management at the supply/demand side of a given AES is studied with regard to different objectives and related technical/environmental constraints. The optimal power management problem is formulated as a mixed-integer nonlinear programming (MINLP) model and is solved using a metaheuristic algorithm. To show the effectiveness and applicability of the proposed PMS, several test scenarios are implemented and related simulation results are analyzed and compared to those from conventional methods.

Keywords: all-electric ship; coordinated energy management; constrained optimization; metaheuristic algorithm

1. Introduction

During the last couple of years, the increasing nature of energy demand in modern ships together with the growing needs for better energy conservation and environmental protection have driven the initiative to pursue all-electric ship (AES) configurations [1–5]. Within the maritime industry, AES is expected to modify the existing ways of power production, distribution and consumption for the onboard energy subsystems and to create a paradigm shift in the processes of monitoring, control and conserving energy through utilizing electrical power for propulsion and service loads [6]. Moreover, AES is envisaged to become an appealing technology with great potential for both fuel and emission reductions in comparison with conventional ship power systems [7]. In an AES, the electric motor-driven systems substitute the main diesel propulsion while the required electrical power is provided by different sources such as steam or diesel engines, gas turbines (GTs), fuel cells (FCs), energy storage systems (ESS) and possibly renewable-based prime movers such as photovoltaic systems (PVs), allowing a high efficiency throughout the whole range of operation with respect to vessel speed.

One of the main challenges with AES is to design and incorporate a power management system (PMS) for optimal scheduling of the on-board power plants and electric loads. Well-planned operation of a shipboard electrical system at the supply side (in terms of optimal engine loading), together with efficient scheduling of loads, in particular the electric propulsion demand, can affect the overall system

efficiency and ensure economic/environmental benefits. More importantly, PMS can coordinate controllable power sources and loads in a way to meet the system's dynamic requirements for short-run intervals.

With regard to a shipboard PMS design and control, extensive research works have been initiated recently and many researchers around the world have elaborated on the issues involved [8–20]. For example, in [8] the economic operation of a vessel equipped with PVs and ESSs is studied for different power supply architectures, and analytic formulas are reported for calculating the system marginal cost, taking into account the energy and power balances for a given time period. The same optimal power generation scheduling for a shipboard power system with and without energy storage options is presented in [9] and the system behavior is investigated under each working scenario, accordingly. In [10,11], a model predictive control (MPC)-based PMS for an onboard power system that includes multiple power sources and loads, such as the ship propulsion system and high power pulsed-type electrical load, is proposed and formulated as a real-time optimization problem where minimum cost of operation is considered as the objective. Similar real-time optimal dispatch of an AES enabled by integrated power systems is proposed in [11] and formulated as a simplified two-level optimization problem for improved computational efficiency. Moreover, to get better insight into the performance of the proposed approach, tradeoffs between the computational efficiency and optimization accuracy are also analyzed by the authors. Considering the same subject area, a simulation platform is developed in [12] for system-level studies of hybrid electric ships. The paper is focused on modeling and simulation of different onboard components (such as synchronous generator-rectifier system, inverter, DC/DC converters, diesel engines, propeller, and ship hydrodynamics), while optimal management and power sharing control mechanism for the whole system is described for a number of operating scenarios. An integrated security-constrained power management strategy is also presented in [13] for an AES during the normal/alert operating state. In this paper, the optimal power management problem is formulated as a multi-objective problem and is solved by using a population-based optimization algorithm during the study period. Although the proposed method could effectively operate the system close to its optimal condition, the computational efficiency of the algorithm in terms of run-time is not satisfactory. Other power management strategies for shipboard systems are also outlined in related literature using mathematical programming [14–19], agent-based approaches [20–22], and hierarchical control methodologies [23].

This paper proposes a practical framework for optimal power management in an AES with regard to different objectives and related technical/environmental constraints. The optimal management problem is formulated as a mixed-integer nonlinear programming (MINLP) model and is solved using a metaheuristic algorithm based on Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO). To show the applicability and superior performance of the proposed PMS, several test scenarios based on a RO-PAX ferry with integrated full electric propulsion and realistic constraints are presented, and related simulation results are analyzed and compared to those from conventional models.

The main contributions of this paper can be summarized as follows:

- Shipboard PMS is designed not only to ensure economic operation of the vessel under any working condition, but also to meet the pollutants emission constraints according to the available standards. It is noted that energy efficiency indices adopted by IMO do not include NO_x and SO_x and are focused on CO_2 emissions.
- Power scheduling within the AES is considered simultaneously at the supply and demand sides and their system-level interaction is modeled accordingly, i.e., the propulsion load at the demand side is appropriately adjusted so that the optimal points of operation of the electric generators at the supply side are approached.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the ship power system economic and environment-friendly operation modeling, the formulation of shipboard power management with environmental constraints and the solution of the power management problem by using PSO.

Moreover, AES power system configuration is briefly described. In Section 3 simulation results from the proposed PMS applied to AES are presented. In Section 4 the results are discussed and final conclusions are drawn in Section 5.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Ship Power System Economic and Environment-Friendly Operation Modeling

A generic diagram of the fully electrified shipboard power system examined in this paper is shown in Figure 1. In this configuration the produced electric power supplies mainly the electric propulsion motors and ship service load. Ship propulsion is provided by large electric motors driven by power electronic converters that enable continuous shaft variable speed operation in a wide speed range, operational flexibility and fuel economy. Also, the need for large shafts for the coupling of propellers and prime movers and the use of mechanical gearboxes is eliminated.

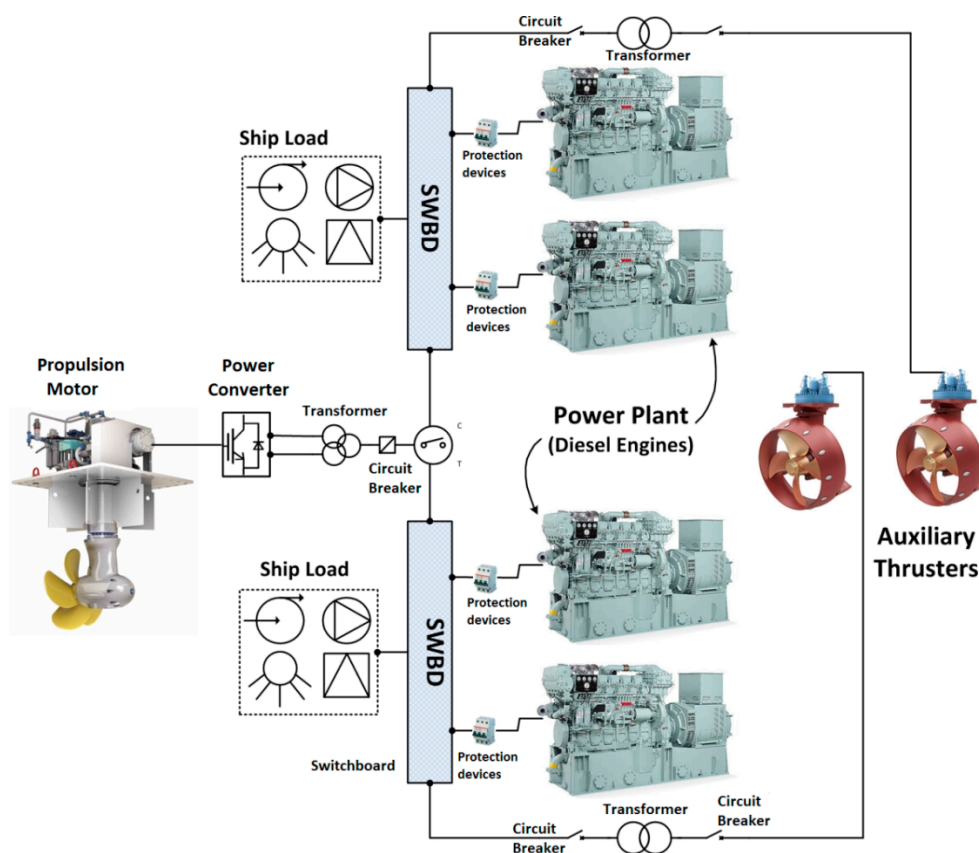


Figure 1. Generic diagram of a fully electrified shipboard power system.

Traditional ships as well as AES must employ a well-designed Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP). In the near future the major targets of SEEMP will be operation cost minimization and gas emission limitation. So far SEEMPs are focused on CO₂. Hence, CO₂ emissions limitation is examined in this paper. However, the formulation of the problem can be easily generalized and other pollutants beyond CO₂ can be included in the future.

The targets of operation cost minimization and GHG emissions limitation might conflict with each other, making the optimal power management in AES a very challenging problem. In this context, if propulsion power is appropriately adjusted in a way to meet AES operation constraints, it could greatly contribute to the improvement of ship power system efficiency. Propulsion load adjustment can also contribute to the limitation of GHG emissions in real time. In the following,

introductory information about ship power system operation cost, propulsion power and energy efficiency estimation is provided.

The fuel consumption (FC) of any onboard thermal unit may accurately be approximated by a second-order polynomial of its produced power P_i as following:

$$FC_i(P_i) = a_{0i} + a_{1i} \cdot P_i + a_{2i} \cdot P_i^2 \quad (1)$$

The total variable cost of the power plant (ToC_e) is calculated by taking into account the fuel cost (FC_i), the maintenance cost per power unit (MC_i) and the start-up/shut-down cost (SC_{ij}) of the i -th generator, producing active power P_{ij} during a time interval ΔT_j , with the assumption that the generator is running:

$$ToC_e = \sum_{j=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^{N_E} (St_{ij} \cdot (FC_i \cdot SFC_i(P_{ij}) + MC_i) \cdot P_{ij} \cdot \Delta T_j + SC_{ij} |St_{ij} - St_{i,j-1}|) \quad (2)$$

where T is the total time period under study, $SFC_i(P_i) = FC_i(P_i)/P_i$ is specific fuel consumption, St_{ij} is equal to 1 if unit i is operating, otherwise 0 and N_E is the total number of electric generators.

Ship load consists of propulsion and service load. For the purposes of this work, ship load can be approximated by using the ship speed-propulsion power curve. This curve depends on hull resistance at specific conditions and it can be satisfactorily approximated by the following equation [24,25]:

$$P_{Prop} = c_{P1} \cdot V^{c_{P2}} \quad (3)$$

where V is ship velocity, P_{Prop} is the required propulsion power to develop velocity V , coefficient c_{P1} is used for propulsion power and ship velocity matching, and c_{P2} is a constant depending on hull form.

Any deviation of the optimal ship speed from its optimal value during time interval ΔT_j from the scheduled one will result in a respective deviation of the optimal propulsion power $\Delta P_{Prop,j}$ from its scheduled value.

Hence, the respective deviation from the initially scheduled travelled distance at the end of the time interval ΔT_j is given by:

$$\Delta S_j = \sum_{t=1}^j (V_{t,opt} - V_t) \cdot \Delta T_t \quad (4)$$

The optimal adjustment of the propulsion power should be performed jointly with the optimization of the electric power generation. This problem comprises the sub-problems of unit commitment and optimal power dispatch. Well-known methods, like Lagrange method, can be used to solve the optimal power dispatch problem; that is, to define the optimum amounts, P_i , of the electric power generated by the ship electric generators in order to minimize the operation cost in a time interval ΔT . Unit commitment process defines which generators will be in operation and when during the examined time period, while the share of load that each generator serves is calculated by optimal power dispatch.

The method promoted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in order to assess ship operation efficiency is based on the calculation of the Energy Efficiency Operation Indicator (EEOI) [26,27]. EEOI is defined as:

$$EEOI = \frac{mCO_2}{transport\ work} \quad (5)$$

where mCO_2 is the CO_2 mass produced during ship power system operation.

As can be seen in Equation (5), EEOI is the ratio of CO_2 mass emitted and the transport work. It indirectly represents ship operational efficiency, as according to the efficiency definition the required consumed energy to produce the relative transport work should be used. However, CO_2 mass is at

an extent proportional to the consumed fuel (energy). Hence, ship operational efficiency and CO₂ emissions are both represented in EEOI in a balanced way.

In this paper, ship energy efficiency operation indicators EEOI_s and EEOI_p when ship is in the open sea or in port, respectively, are defined as follows:

$$EEOI_{s,j} = \frac{mCO_2}{LF \cdot V_j \cdot \Delta T_j} = \frac{\sum_i c_i \cdot P_{ij} \cdot SFC_i(P_{ij})}{LF \cdot V_j} \quad (6)$$

$$EEOI_{p,j} = \frac{mCO_2}{LF \cdot \Delta T_j} = \frac{\sum_i c_i \cdot P_{ij} \cdot SFC_i(P_{ij})}{LF} \quad (7)$$

where LF is ship loading factor (tns), V_j is ship speed (kn) in the j -th time interval, SFC_i is the specific fuel consumption (gFuel/kWh) of the i -th generator, P_{ij} is the power produced by i -th thermal unit in the j -th time interval ΔT_j and c_i is the conversion factor for gas emissions estimation for the i -th generator (gCO₂/gFuel).

Ship loading factor LF depends on the type of the examined ship, e.g., passenger ship, RO-PAX ferry, etc. In this study, LF is applied to a RO-PAX ferry and it is calculated as [28]:

$$LF = \frac{n'_p \cdot 0.1 + n'_v}{n_p \cdot 0.1 + n_v} FLD \quad (8)$$

where n'_p is the number of passengers, n_p is the maximum number of passengers, n'_v is the number of carried vehicles, n_v is the maximum number of the carried vehicles and FLD is ship full load displacement (tns).

2.2. Formulation of Shipboard Power Management with Environmental Constraints

Heuristic optimization methods have been proven very efficient in providing solutions to the unit commitment problem. In this paper, PSO is used to solve the optimal power generation scheduling problem. The formulation of the complex problem of the optimal power generation scheduling and demand side management is provided next.

The objective function of the examined problem is to minimize the total operation cost of AES as defined in Equation (2). This cost minimization should be done subject to several constraints. In the following the technical constraints of the examined problem are formulated. Subscripts i, j denote i -th generator and j -th time interval, respectively.

- Power balance constraint,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_g} St_{ij} \cdot P_{ij} = \bar{L}_j + \Delta P_{Prop,j}, \quad \forall j \quad (9)$$

where \bar{L}_j is the average ship electric load in time interval ΔT_j ,

- Minimum and maximum generator loading constraints,

$$P_{i,\min} < P_{ij} < P_{i,\max}, \quad \forall i, j \quad (10)$$

- Generator ramp rate constraint,

$$\frac{|P_{ij} - P_{i,j-1}|}{\Delta T_j} \leq Rc_{i,\max}, \quad \forall i, j \quad (11)$$

where $Rc_{i,\max}$ is the maximum rate of change of the power produced by the i -th generator.

- Minimum operation time of a generator (minimum up-time),

$$t_{\rightarrow \text{OFF},i} - t_{\rightarrow \text{ON},i} \geq T_{\text{ON_min},i}, \quad \forall i \quad (12)$$

- Minimum out of operation time of a generator,

$$t_{\rightarrow \text{ON},i} - t_{\rightarrow \text{OFF},i} \geq T_{\text{OFF_min},i}, \quad \forall i \quad (13)$$

where $t_{\rightarrow \text{OFF},i}$, $t_{\rightarrow \text{ON},i}$ are the time points that i -th generator stops or starts operating, respectively. $T_{\text{ON_min},i}$, $T_{\text{OFF_min},i}$ are the minimum allowable operation or non-operation times of the i -th generator, respectively.

- Blackout prevention constraint,

$$\sum_i St_{ij} \cdot P_{i,\max} - \bar{L}_j - \Delta P_{\text{Prop}j} \geq \max \{P_{i,\max}\}, \quad \forall j \quad (14)$$

- GHG emissions constraint,

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_g} c_i \cdot St_{ij} \cdot P_{ij} \cdot SFC_i(P_{ij})}{LF \cdot V_j} \leq \text{EEOI}_{\max, \text{sea}}, \quad \forall j \notin \mathfrak{S} \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_g} c_i \cdot St_{ij} \cdot P_{ij} \cdot SFC_i(P_{ij})}{LF} \leq \text{EEOI}_{\max, \text{port}}, \quad \forall j \in \mathfrak{S} \quad (16)$$

where $\text{EEOI}_{\max, \text{sea}}$ is the upper limit of EEOI while ship is traveling, $\text{EEOI}_{\max, \text{port}}$ is the upper limit of EEOI during ship port calls and \mathfrak{S} is the set containing time intervals corresponding to ship calls at intermediate ports and the final one.

- Minimum–maximum ship speed constraint,

$$V_{\min} < V_j < V_{\max}, \quad \forall j \quad (17)$$

- Initial and final condition for the deviation of the actual travel distance from the scheduled one,

$$\Delta S_0 = 0, \Delta S_T = 0 \quad (18)$$

- Deviation of the actual traveled distance from the scheduled one at the intermediate ports,

$$\Delta S_j = 0 \quad \forall j \in \mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{S} - 1 \quad (19)$$

In accordance to the definition of \mathfrak{S} , $\mathfrak{S} - 1$ is the set containing time intervals just before ship calls at intermediate ports and the final one.

- Minimum and maximum deviation of the actual traveled distance from the scheduled,

$$\Delta S_{\min, j} \leq \Delta S_j \leq \Delta S_{\max, j}, \quad \forall j \quad (20)$$

2.3. Solution with Particle Swarm Optimization

PSO is a stochastic optimization technique in which the trajectories of points (“particles”) moving in the multidimensional space of the problem are properly adjusted. PSO has demonstrated excellent efficiency for a wide range of problems. The positions of the particles are updated over the successive executions (epochs) of the algorithm as following [29]:

$$v_l^{(k+1)} = w \cdot v_l^{(k)} + \alpha_1 \cdot RND_1 \cdot (\Delta X_l^{P_{\text{best}}} - \Delta X_l^{(k)}) + \alpha_2 \cdot RND_2 \cdot (\Delta X^{G_{\text{best}}} - \Delta X_l^{(k)}) \quad (21)$$

$$\Delta X_l^{(k+1)} = \Delta X_l^{(k)} + v_l^{(k)} \quad (22)$$

where $v_l^{(k)}$ is velocity vector of l -th particle at k -th iteration, w is inertia weight factor, α_1 and α_2 are acceleration constants, $RND_{1,2}$ are random numbers between 0 and 1, $\Delta_l^{P_{\text{best}}}$ is the best previous

propulsion power deviation vector corresponding to l -th particle and $\Delta^{G_{best}}$ is the best previous propulsion power deviation vector among all the particles. An evaluation function is used to quantify the “suitability” of particle position vector [30].

In the examined problem, each particle contains information about the operation state of ship electric generators and the deviation of the traveled distance from the non-optimized traveled distance as shown in Figure 2.

t_1	ΔOS_1	t_2	ΔOS_2	...	t_n	ΔOS_n	ΔS_1	ΔS_2	ΔS_3	...	ΔS_T
-------	---------------	-------	---------------	-----	-------	---------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	-----	--------------

Figure 2. Particle structure.

Where ΔOS_i and ΔS_i are numbers representing the change of the operation state of ship electric generators and the deviation of the traveled distance from the non-optimized traveled distance at the i -th time interval, respectively. t_i represents the time that a change occurs in the operation state of the generators. As an illustration, let us consider that the initial operation state of the generators is represented by the number 5, which corresponds to the binary number 101. That means that generators 1 and 3 should be operated. Let us also consider that at time t_1 a change $\Delta SO_1 = -2$ occurs. The new operation state is now 3, which corresponds to the binary number 011. This means that at the new state generator 3 should be shut down (OFF) while the rest are ON. In this way, any operation state can be represented in a very efficient way by using a relatively small particle not depending on the size of the examined system.

ΔS_i is defined as follows,

$$\Delta S_i = S_{i,opt} - S_i \quad (23)$$

where $S_{i,opt}$ and S_i are defined in (24).

$$S_{i,opt} = \sum_{t=1}^i V_{t,opt}, \quad S_i = \sum_{t=1}^i V_t \quad (24)$$

V_i and $V_{i,opt}$ are an initially planned non-optimized ship speed and the optimized ship speed at the t -th time interval, respectively.

The simplified solution process of the examined problem with the PSO method is given in the following pseudocode.

```
(1). Initialization of particles' positions
(2). Evaluation of each particle
(3). Penalty application
Epoch = 0;
```

```
While {termination criteria}
    Estimation of new positions;
    Epoch = Epoch + 1;
    Evaluation of each particle;
    Penalty application;
    Save Global best;
    Save personal bests;
```

```
End
```

```
Evaluation of the best particle
```


3. Results

Case Study

The developed optimization method is applied to a RO-PAX ferry comprising two large electric propulsion motors supplied by a set of five electrical generators. The single-line diagram of the integrated full electric propulsion system is shown in Figure 1. The technical parameters of the ship and the onboard power system are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Ship power system data and ship parameters.

Ship Electric System Parameters					
Parameters	GEN 1	GEN 2	GEN 3	GEN 4	GEN 5
Nominal power (MW)	15	15	15	9	9
Minimum up/down time (h)	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Generator startup/shut-down cost * (m.u. **)	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Generator operation cost as function of the produced power (m.u./h)	$390 + 61.5 \cdot P + 5.4 \cdot P^2$	$400 + 63 \cdot P + 5.4 \cdot P^2$	$420 + 65 \cdot P + 5.6 \cdot P^2$	$430 + 12 \cdot P + 13.1 \cdot P^2$	$450 + 10 \cdot P + 13.5 \cdot P^2$
CO ₂ emissions (gCO ₂ /g fuel)	3.20	3.20	3.20	2.50	2.50
Fuel cost (m.u./kg)	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.70	0.70
Technical minimum (MW)	3	3	3	2	2
Technical maximum (MW)	15	15	15	9	9
Ship Parameters					
Type	RO-PAX Ferry	No. of Vehicles (n_v)	700	Full Load Displacement (tns)	70,000
Nominal speed (kn)	24	EEOI _{max1} (gCO ₂ /tn.kn)	27.5		
Maximum number of passengers	2500	EEOI _{max2} (gCO ₂ /tn.h)	165		

* Diesel electric generators with negligible start-up/shut-down cost are used. ** m.u.: monetary unit.

In this study, a 172.75 nm total-length route is examined with the ship stopping at one intermediate port. The number of passengers, vehicles and the corresponding ship loading factors (LF) for the two parts of the examined route are as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Data for Ship Pay-Load.

Part of Examined Route	Number of Passengers, n'_{p1}	Number of Vehicles, n'_{v1}	Ship Loading Factor, LF (tns)
Departure–Intermediate port	1955	600	58,616
Intermediate port–Final Destination	1720	500	49,515

The problem of the optimal ship power generation scheduling and load demand management is solved in two ways: by using the PSO method and dynamic programming (DP) [19,31]. In both cases the same objective and constraints, as described earlier, are taken into account. Moreover, operation scenarios with and without EEOI limitation are also examined for both optimization methods. For the PSO method the maximum number of epochs was considered to be 45, the population of the swarm is 400 particles while the initial positions of the particles are random. From a series of simulations it was observed that after about 30 epochs of training the performance of the algorithm does not present significant change. A typical training curve is shown in Figure 3.

The initial non-optimized ship electric load for this trip can be seen in Figures 4–7, where it is compared with the results of the optimization. The power generated by each electric generator in the case of non-optimized operation is shown in Figure 4. The powers produced by the electric generators for the two examined optimization methods and operation scenarios are shown in stack form in Figures 5–8. Load sharing is obtained in all scenarios by applying the well-known Lagrange method, aiming to minimize the operation cost while satisfying at the same time technical constraints. The sum of the powers produced by generators is also compared with the non-optimized total demand in electric power in the same figures. Moreover, the evolution of ship speed, EEOI and operation cost are shown for all examined cases in Figures 9–14. In Figures 11 and 12, EEOI value when ship is at berth is divided by 10 in order to be comparable with EEOI values in the open sea.

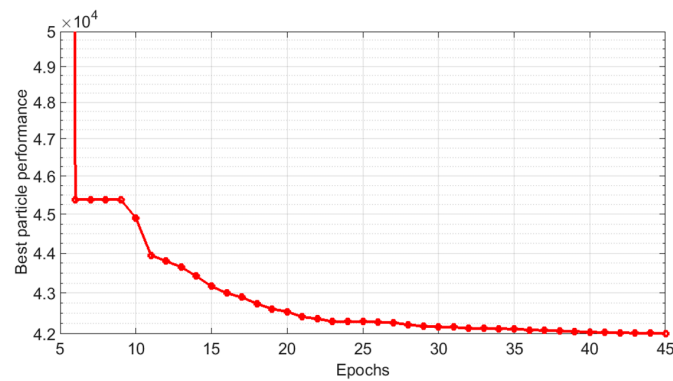


Figure 3. Performance of the best particle vs. Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) epochs.

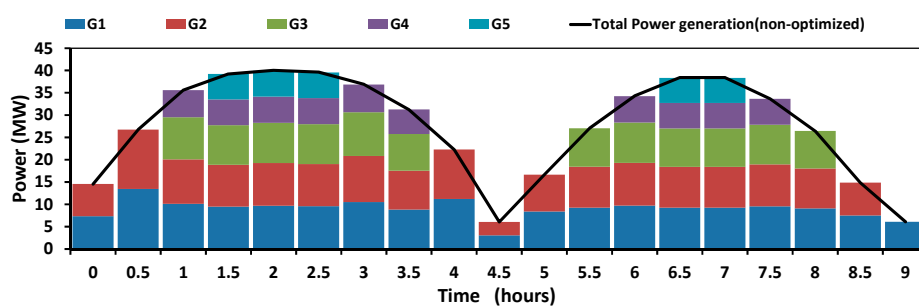


Figure 4. Optimal generator set power production (non-optimized ship power system operation).

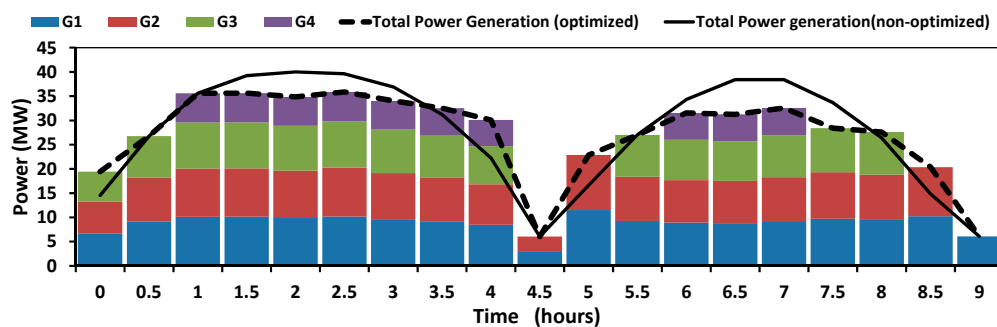


Figure 5. Optimal generator set power production, non-optimized ship electric load (dynamic programming-Energy Efficiency Operation Indicator (DP-EEOI) unlimited).

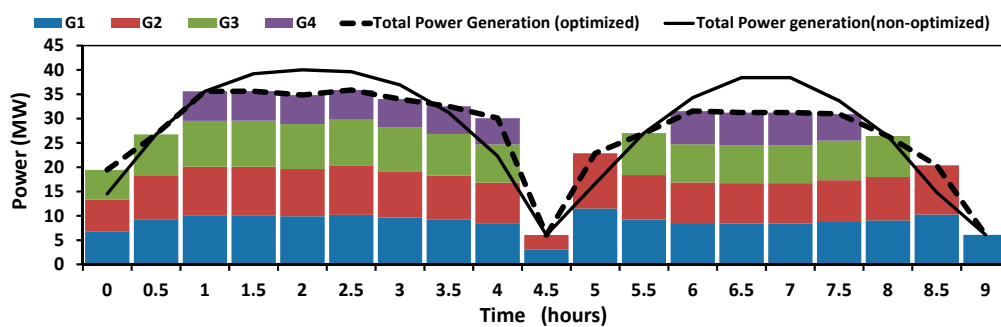


Figure 6. Optimal generator set power production, non-optimized ship electric load (DP-EEOI limited).

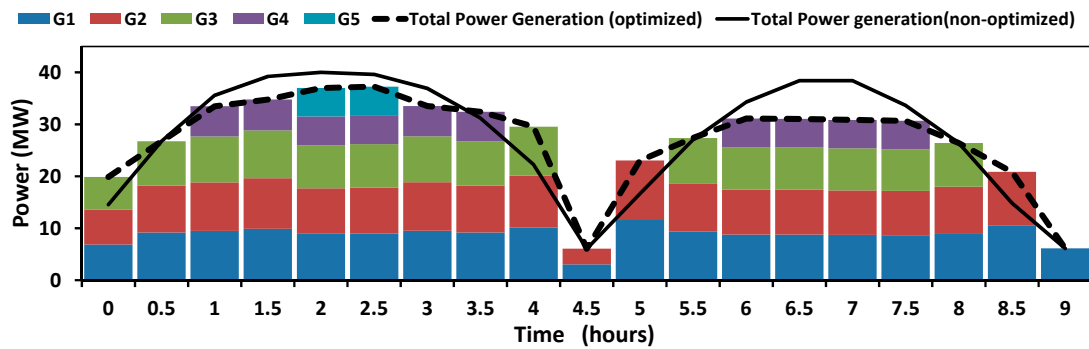


Figure 7. Optimal generator set power production, non-optimized ship electric load (PSO-EEOI unlimited).

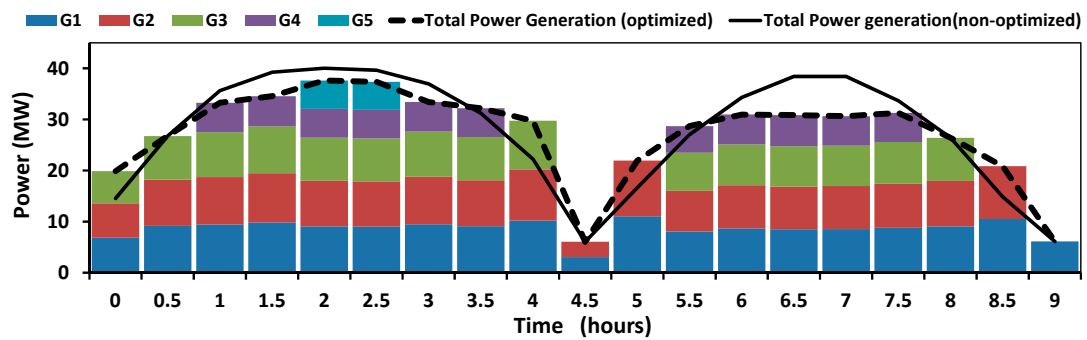


Figure 8. Optimal generator set power production, non-optimized ship electric load (PSO-EEOI limited).

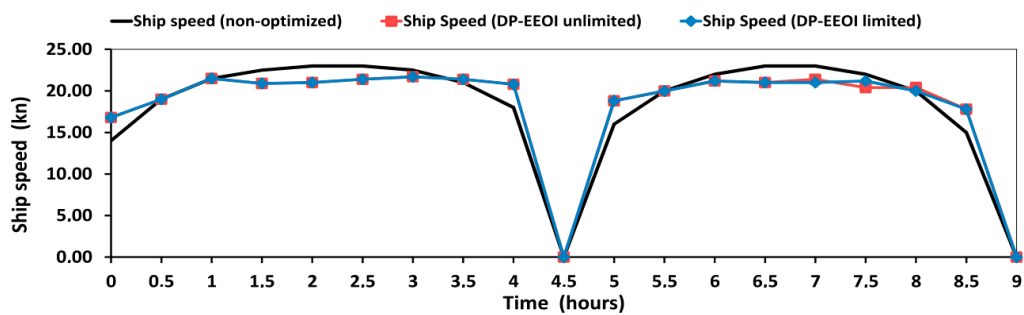


Figure 9. Ship speed (kn): DP with/without EEOI limitation.

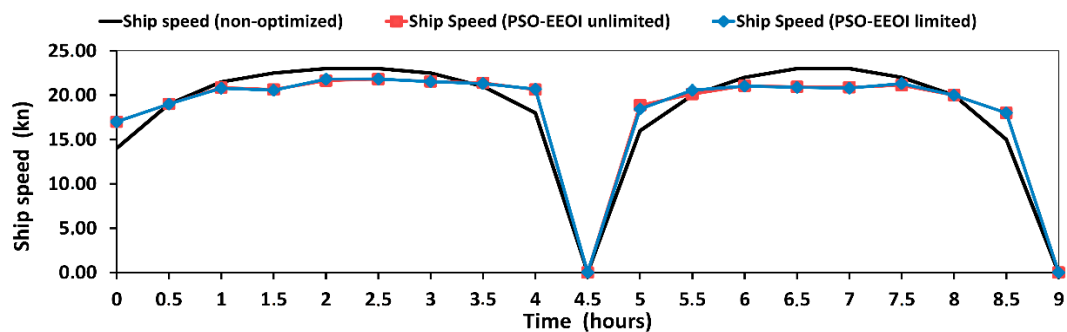


Figure 10. Ship speed (kn): PSO with/without EEOI limitation.

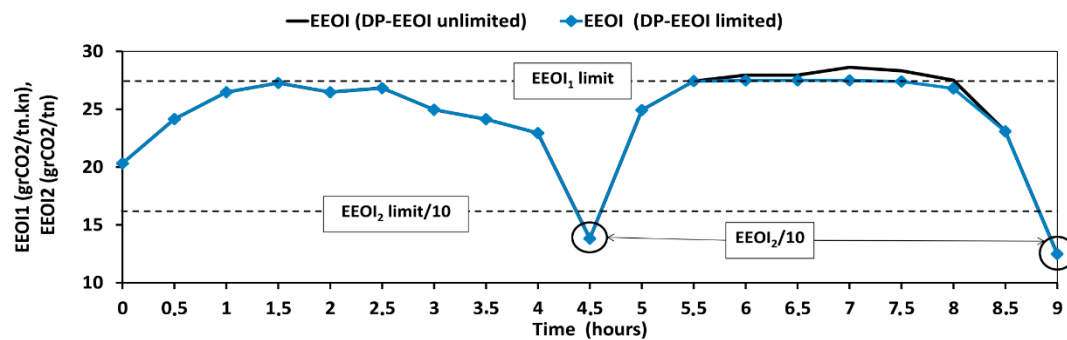


Figure 11. Ship energy efficiency operation index: DP with/without limitation.

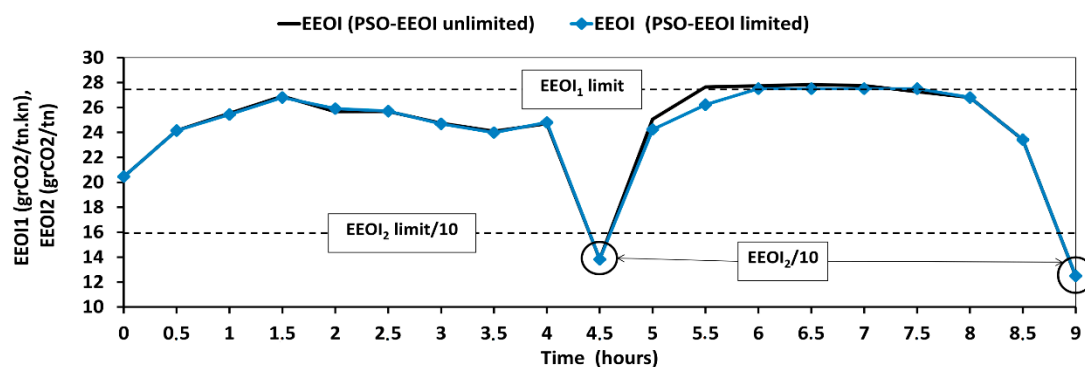


Figure 12. Ship energy efficiency operation index: PSO with/without limitation.

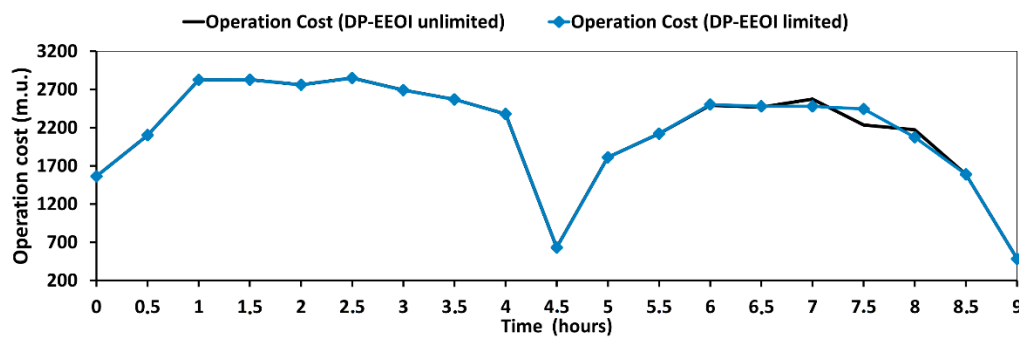


Figure 13. Ship power system operation cost (m.u.): DP with/without EEOI limitation.

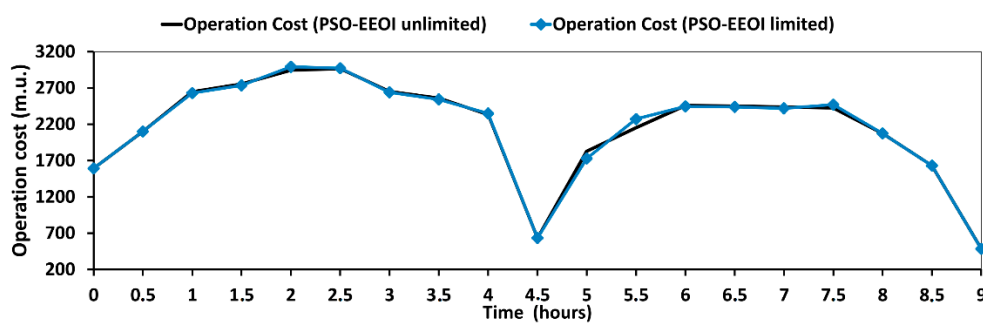


Figure 14. Ship power system operation cost (m.u.): PSO with/without EEOI limitation.

4. Discussion

From the results shown in Figures 5–8 it is concluded that both algorithms adjust properly propulsion power, and smaller deviations of total electric load occur. Generators 1 and 2 are operated continuously, while generators 3 and 4 are operated during high load periods. In time intervals with very high load, PSO puts generator 5 also into operation. This is expected to happen as generators 1 and 2 have lower operation costs than generators 3 and 4 and generator 5 is the most expensive one. However, generator 5 is useful when EEOI approximates its upper limit as generator 5 has low GHG emissions. Also, it is apparent that by using the optimization techniques less energy is required to run the system compared to a case where no optimization is applied. In other words, optimal management of generation units as well as controllable loads could save energy and decrease the operating cost of the shipboard system.

In both optimization methods, ship speed is decreased when ship is in open sea, while it is significantly increased when ship is approaching or leaving from a port in order to satisfy travelled distance constraints and to allow generators to operate more efficiently. In this way, ship speed profile becomes more flat; the same case applies also to the total electric load profile. It should be also mentioned that the ship speed deviations from the initially scheduled values are within the allowed range and the upper speed limit is not violated along the mission profile. The conditions of the traveled distance at the intermediate ports and the destination are also well satisfied.

From the obtained results it is also observed that EEOI is satisfactorily limited below its upper limit during all travel in both optimization methods, i.e., less than 27.5 gCO₂/kn.tn for traveling in the open sea and 160 gCO₂/tn.h at berth.

In the case of non-optimized operation, the total running cost of the ship power system is 42,507 m.u., while this is decreased to 41,123 m.u. in the case of using PSO without EEOI limits, and 41,150 m.u. if EEOI is limited. Respectively, the operation cost is 41,142 m.u. if dynamic programming is used and EEOI is unlimited and it slightly increases to 41,182 m.u. if EEOI is limited. Hence, it is concluded that a 3.26% reduction in operation cost is achieved with respect to non-optimized operation if PSO is applied; while in all cases PSO outperforms dynamic programming in terms of operation cost reduction. As it was expected operation cost slightly increases if EEOI is limited. It should be noted that the better performance of PSO is a result of the fact that ΔS is a discrete quantity in a dynamic programming method, thus limiting its ability to locate the global minimum with zero error.

Computation time required by PSO was almost 2200 s by using a computer with a CPU at 2.5 GHz, 4GB RAM and it was almost 15% longer than that of the dynamic programming method. However, it is easily concluded that if less epochs were used this would be much less without significantly affecting the operation cost. Moreover, the computation time can be significantly decreased if more powerful computational facilities are used.

5. Conclusions

In this paper, coordinated optimal power management at the supply/demand side of a given AES is studied with regard to different objectives and related technical/environmental constraints. The optimal power management problem is formulated as mixed-integer nonlinear programming (MINLP) model and is solved by using PSO method. The major advantage of the proposed optimization algorithm is that the size (number of dimensions) of the used particles does not depend on the size and the complexity of the examined ship power system.

To show the effectiveness and applicability of the proposed PMS, several test scenarios are implemented and related simulation results are analyzed and compared to those from conventional methods like dynamic programming. In all examined cases the operation cost obtained by using the proposed method was smaller than the one of dynamic programming.

Computation time required by PSO was almost 15% longer than that of the dynamic programming method. However, it is easily concluded that if less epochs were used this would be much less without

significantly affecting the operation cost. The computation time is not a substantial problem for real applications as it can be significantly decreased if more powerful computational facilities are used.

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