

Energy Production Evaluation from a Linear Fresnel Reflectors Arrays with Different Array Orientation

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Abstract

Concentrated solar power applications are one of the most effective types of solar energy application, which will form the future of the new energy applications in the world, especially in Jordan. In this work three reflectors arrangements of Fresnel system were investigated to find the best suitable reflectors arrangements in order to extract more energy from the Fresnel system based on using 3D-Energy simulation in Amman-Jordan.

Keywords: Solar power; Reflectors arrangements; Fresnel system

1. INTRODUCTION

Energy is the important and influential problem for Jordan, where more than 95% of Jordan's national income goes to cover the energy bill of Jordan. From this point, finding solutions for the energy problem is Jordan's first strategic objective. The solution starting from using the available resources efficiently or try to find alternatives to traditional sources. Renewable energy Particularly solar energy is the promising candidate as a solution for the energy problem in Jordan.[1-15]. Here it is essential to encourage investment in the sector of renewable energy in Jordan [4, 12, 16-20].

The investment in renewable energy is economically feasible. Here, it should be mentioned that Jordan is a rich country in natural resources for renewable energy and in particular solar energy available in Jordan with a high solar radiation rate compared to different countries in the world. The use of solar energy to produce electricity may be handled in several ways, including direct methods and indirect methods. One of the most famous direct methods is PV systems and many indirect methods including parabolic trough, solar dish, and Fresnel system. The indirect methods depend on the

steam generation then convert the energy of the steam to mechanical work by rotating a turbine followed by rotating a generator finally the electricity is produced as a result [5-10, 20-35].

Many researchers around the world have been interested in producing electrical energy from solar energy through direct and indirect use [36]. Many problems stand in the way of the use of solar energy to produce electricity, including the stability of electricity production in addition to many natural and environmental conditions, as well as technical problems in various solar systems.[37].

Concentrated solar power systems are one of the most important ways to take advantage of solar energy for the purposes of producing electricity and steam production, but these systems limited by many of the problems and obstacles that prevent the best exploitation of solar energy as it depends on the production of steam and then conduct various transformations of energy from thermal to mechanical Etc. [38-47]. At each of these stages, the losses in energy are very large and affect the overall production of the system [8, 12, 48-53].

The process of the arrangement of the reflectors and ways to confront the sun is one of the most important factors affecting the production from the concentrated solar power systems [7, 54-59]. In this study, the 3D-Energy simulation program was used to study the effect of the array orientation on total energy production at Amman-Jordan.

2. SOLAR CALCULATION BRIEF

The process of designing concentrated solar power systems is a very complex process and to be correct, we must start by calculating the value of solar radiation accurately for the target area. It is also very important to calculate the value of the solar radiation falling at a tilt angle on the different surfaces and then calculate the expected energy quantities from these systems [60-66].

The design of solar systems is dependent on the worst day in solar radiation, which is the 10th of December. The mechanism of the calculation depends on the energy produced daily and then monthly to reach the annual values

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Solar radiation defines the amount of radiation falling on the unit area with a unit of W/m. Figure.1 shows a general view of the simulation program used in this study and it can be seen the existence of three Fresnel systems with different reflectors orientation in order to highlight the effect of reflectors arrangement in the process of energy production.

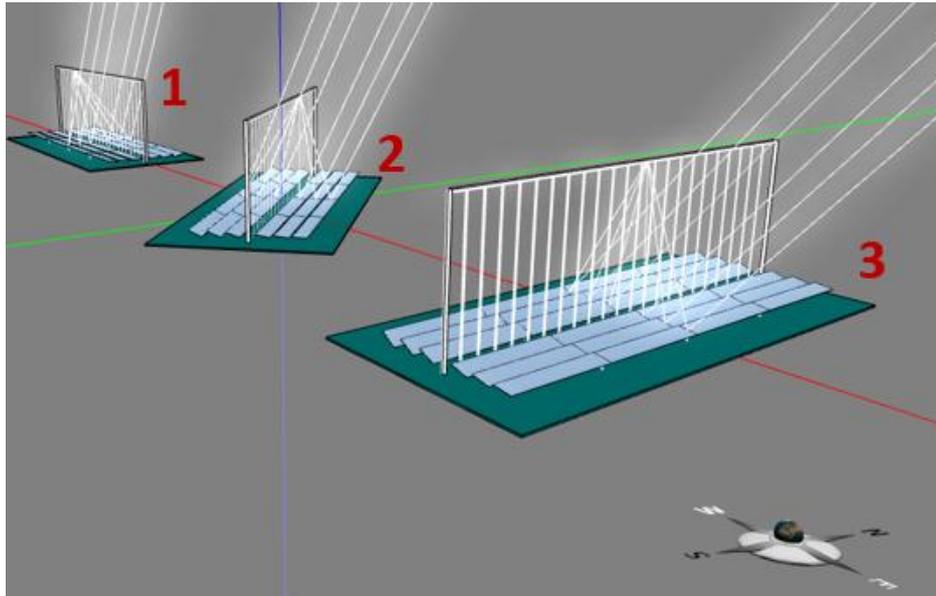


Figure 1. Three Fresnel systems with different reflectors arrangement

Figure. 2 shows the results of the simulation program runs based on the tenth day of each month during the year. It can be noted that the best production of energy was from April till September and the rest of the months of the year is poor in the production and the worst month was December

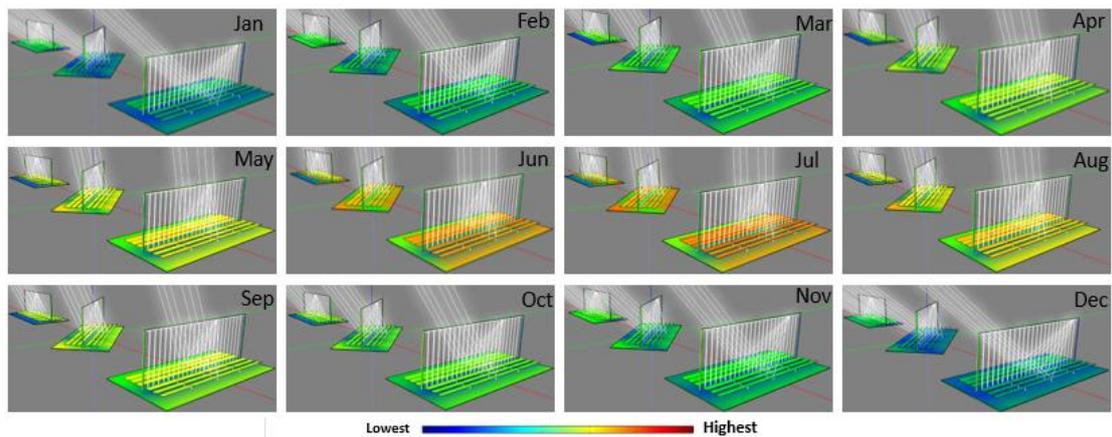


Figure 2. Simulation result of each months of the year

The output power of each system reflectors arrangement was taken separately and then the three systems were compared and the result shows. The first system according to the numbering shown in the first figure produces an energy of 246 kWh while the second system with number 2 produces energy of 228 kWh finally, system number 3 produces energy of 217 kWh.

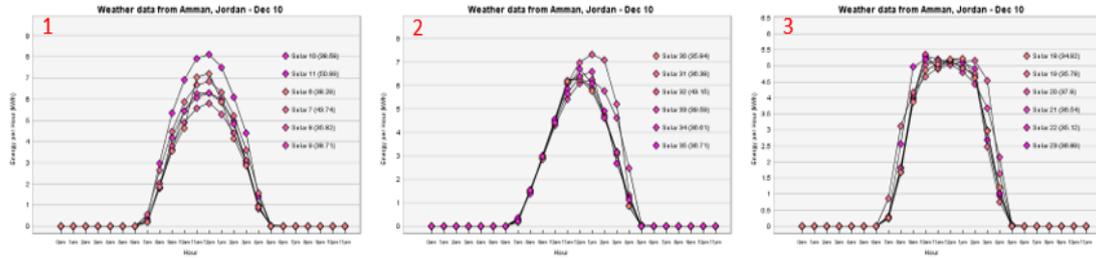


Figure 3. Energy output at 10th of December for the three Fresnel systems with different reflectors arrangement

By evaluating the annual output of energy, it is found that the first system reflectors arrangement produces energy with a value of 175658 kWh/year and the second arrangement system produces energy with the value of 183606 kWh/ year finally, the third arrangement system produces an energy of 189021 kWh/year. From here it is clear that the system with number 3 i.e. the "Third system arrangement" is the best arrangement type for the reflectors to produce energy because it allows the reflectors to face the sun for a better and longer period of time, which helps to increase the production of energy.

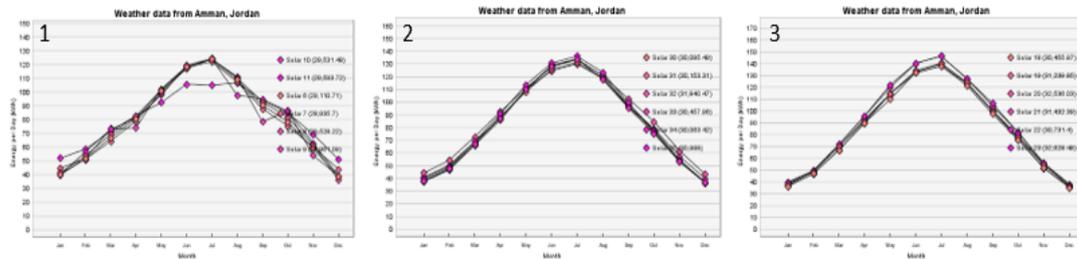


Figure 4. Energy output over the year for the three Fresnel systems with different reflectors arrangement

4. CONCLUSION

The energy production from a three Fresnel systems is studied with Applying different reflectors arrangements: It is found from the result of the simulation that. The max energy output was between April and September. The maximum production was found to be 189021 kWh/year from the third system based on the numbering in Figure.1 while the lowest was for the system with the numbering of 1 with an energy production of 175658 kWh/year

Based on the figure. 2 it is clear that during the spring and summer seasons the energy production will be the maximum and will be the minimum during the winter and autumn. That means the reflectors will face the sun more time during the spring and summer seasons comparing to the winter and autumn.

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