
Economic interest of heating and hot water prediction system for residential district

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Abstract—This work presents a data-intensive solution to predict heating and hot water consumption. The ability to predict locally those flexible sources considering meteorological uncertainty can play a key role in the management of microgrid. A microgrid is a building block of future smart grid, it can be defined as a network of low voltage power generating units, storage devices and loads. The main novelties of our approach is to provide an easy implemented and flexible solution which used supervised learning techniques. This paper presents an industrial methodology to predict heating and hot water consumption using time series analyzes and tree ensemble algorithm. Considering the winter season 2012-2013 for the training, the heating and hot water predictions is correctly estimated 90% +/- 1.2 for the winter season 2013-2014. The results are based on the data collected in a building in Chamoson (Switzerland) and simulations. The aim is to provide to the virtual power plant the possibility to pilot an part of energy consumption. The input data for the pilot is the economic parameter. Considering the economic input data for the energy management, a new heating and hot water consumption is provided for one week.

Keywords—Heating consumption prediction; Hot water consumption prediction; Data intelligence analysis; Energy Price; Storage; Microgrid; Predictive energy management; KNIME;

I. Introduction

The insertion of variable production from wind and photovoltaic increases pressure on the network. For example, PV is the fastest-growing energy technology since 2002 with an average increase of 48% [1]. The majority plants are grid-connected systems and a high penetration of PV (like in the case of islands) raises issues for the grid-operators. Subsequently, forecasting the power output of the PV plant is necessary to assure the grid stability. The majority of the new installations are low powers and connected at low level voltage. For different point of views, it's interesting to pilot an part of energy consumption. The hot water and the heating are the two elements which present a high potential of piloting. The problematic is to predict locally the energy flux to anticipate the variations of the consumption and the decentralized production. Neural networks are widely used to this purpose and manage these. [5] [6] Several intelligent districts were created, piloted most of the time by national energy company or

are installed on campus academics. The aim is to detect the humans presence to increase the prediction. The models used the piloting and the predictions often remain the property of the projects partners [2]. We can cite the intrusive model [3] [4].

In this paper, two levels of prediction is realized. An anticipation level provide an prediction for one day every hour. An energy software enable to compute the different simulations for this anticipation level. The reactive level provide only a prediction for the next hour. The global consumption is not analyzed in this paper. A focus is done on the hot water and the heating. These two elements are a high potential of piloting. For this reactive level, the supervised learning techniques with the tree ensemble enable the heating and hot water consumption prediction for the next hour. a one hour prediction is computed for the heating and hot water consumption. Evaluation of the results and relevance of the predictions made on the basis of reference models such as detailed thermal models for heating . These reference models need a priori informations about the different buildings: activity sector, construction year, surface, people number. In this paper, the prediction methodology is a supervised learning techniques with a Tree Ensemble algorithm.

Other objective of the paper and to make a draft were we want to simulate an optimal decision of the production of hot water and electric heating based on a smart economic decision. To ensure the result we use a linear optimization to maximize the profit.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section II the prediction methodology is presented. The Section III describe the data set and the different test . In Section IV we present the results of the tree ensemble algorithm. Finally we conclude and discuss future directions of research in Section V.

II. Methodology

The reactive piloting consists to control the consumption of certain devices. It is a question to affect the energy by respecting the constraints of real time resource.

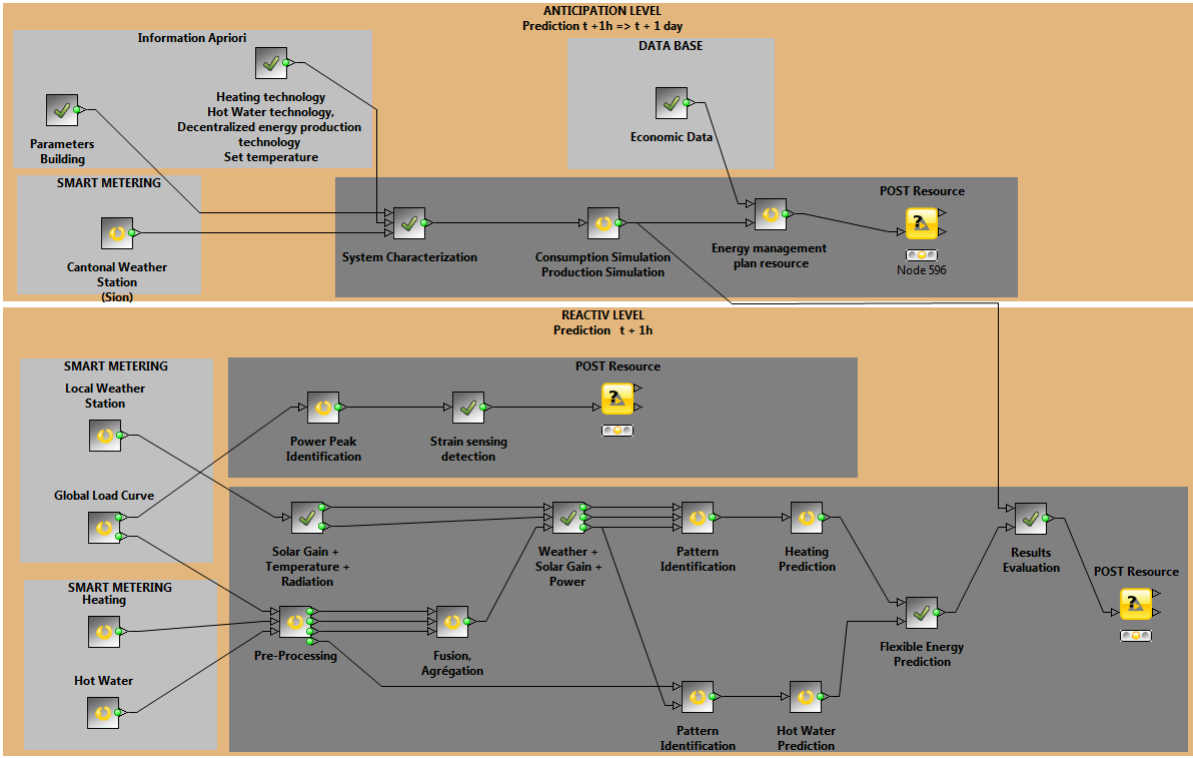


Fig. 1. Steps of the methodology implemented in KNIME

A. Anticipation level

The anticipation level create an energy plan resources for the energy supplier for one day. Different software enable to estimate the different energy flux. In this paper, the heating consumption, the hot water consumption and the decentralized production is simulated for one day every hour. The software is Pleiade Comfie. A comparison can be realized between this reference model and the reality, and between this simulations and our methodology. To build these model for the simulation, we used the maximum of a priori information's in order to have the best simulation model. With the different energy flux predictions, it is possible to manage the energy consumption. The input data for the management is the energy price. The benefit for one building with an decentralized energy production is the difference between the electricity sold quantity QEV and the electricity quantity buy QEB .

$$Benefit(t_i)y_u = (QEV - QEB)(t_i)y_u$$

The electricity available produced is the difference between the electricity photovoltaic plant QEP and the electricity quantity buy QEB .

$$QE(t_i)y_u = (QEP - QEB)(t_i)y_u$$

The total electricity available is the sum between the electricity photovoltaic plant quantity at disposition $QEPD$ and the electricity quantity buy QEB .

$$QE(t_i)y_u = (QEPD + QEB)(t_i)y_u$$

The electricity consumed is the sum of electric heating consumption, the electric hot water consumption and the electrical devices consumption.

$$QE(t_i)y_u = (QH + QHW + QED)(t_i)y_u$$

For the heating, the inside temperature in the home T_h must be inferior at comfort inside temperature T_c :

$$T_h < T_c$$

During every period of sampling k , the heating and the hot water can be activated or deactivated.

$$QH(t_i)y_u = T_h(t_i) - 0.98 * T_h(t_{i-1})$$

For the hot water, the water temperature T_w must be inferior at desired temperature T_d :

$$T_w < T_d$$

$$QHW(t_i)y_u = T_w(t_i) - 0.98 * T_w(t_{i-1})$$

B. Reactiv level

Pre-processing :The power consumption varies 20% for reasons external and the load does not provide an ideal signature [7]. The load admittance, $Y(t)$, can be calculated every second from the measured power $P(t)$ and the voltage : $P_{Norm}(t) = 220^2 Y(t) = (220/V(t))^2 \times P(t)$ [7].

To reduce the effects of noise and transients on the measured data, we apply a median filter of size 10 to the time

series of measured values. We have empirically determined the optimal size of the filter via a set of tests, by attempting to balance the elimination of spurious load level variations and the performance of the event detection algorithm, in terms of average number of undetected events.

After this step, the input data are three median values every second for the voltage, three for the amperage, three for the active and reactive power, three for the power factor and the accumulated active energy and a time reference for the global load curve. The edge identification method is computed which consists on detecting variations of active and reactive power with regards to a predefined threshold [8] [9]. The different work on this subject and our analysis working enable to know the different characteristics to describe a device [13], [12] [16].

In output, a list of active and reactive powers events by phases is created. This events are computed every 30 second to detect the consumption electricity peak. If the system has a renewable decentralized energy, it's possible to apply the same methodology to identify the power peak production.

C. Prediction Model

Input data: In our case, the aim is to estimate the heating consumption values every hour at time $t(i)$. The input data are the heating and the global consumption at the time $t(i-n)$. In these values, we have the difference between the thermal heat loss and the energy gains at the time $t(i-n)$. The time enable to consider the humans presence in the building with the hour, the day of year, the month and the difference between the week-end and the week Day. Its important to note here that a model is created for the week-end and an another model is created for the weekday. A Boolean variable is added to identify the children holidays and an other for the public holidays. The weather data are added with the real outside temperature $t(i-n)$ and the predicted outside temperature $t(i)$. The weather station is based in Sion. The input data for the hot water model are the same that the heating model prediction without the weather parameter.

Mathematics prediction model : The Tree Ensemble Learner builds an ensemble of decision trees, as a variant of the random forest. Each of the decision tree models is trained on a different subset of rows and/or on a different subset of columns, randomly selected at each iteration. The output model is then an ensemble of differently trained decision tree models. The Tree Ensemble Predictor applies all decision trees to each data row and uses the simple majority vote for prediction. The Tree Ensemble Learner requires many settings, reflecting its complexity. Indeed, it has three setting tabs in the configuration window: one to select the attributes (that is the data columns), one to select the decision trees training parameters (entropy measure...), and one to select the ensemble settings.

D. Performance prediction evaluation

ROC Curve : In order to create a ROC curve for a model, the input table is first sorted by the class probabilities for the positive class i.e. rows for which the model is certain that it belongs to the positive class are

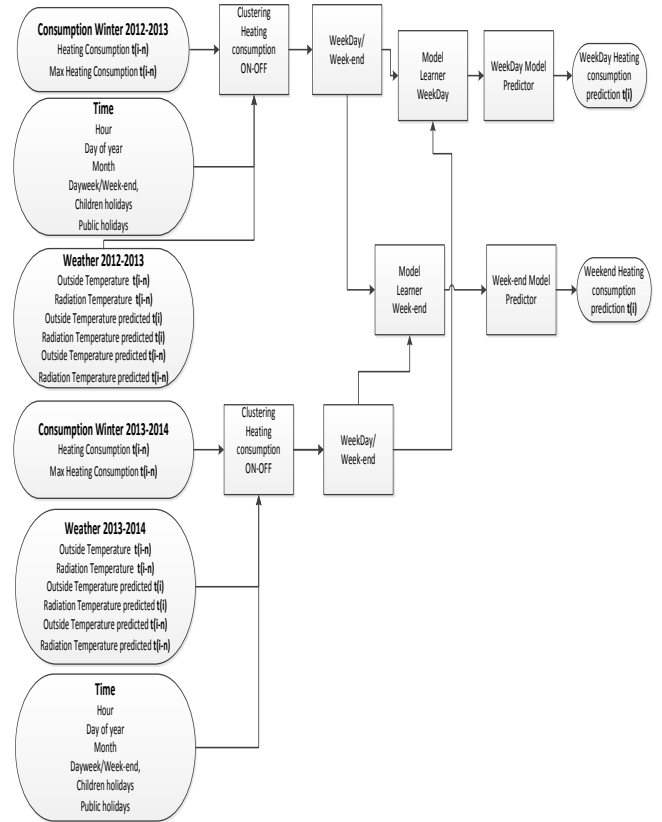


Fig. 2. Heating input datas for the prediction model

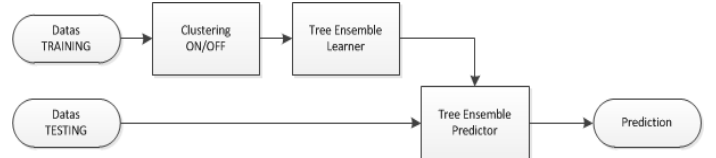


Fig. 3. Prediction Model

sorted to front. Then the sorted rows are checked if the real class value is the actually the positive class. If so, the ROC curve goes up one step, if not it goes one step to the right. Ideally, all positive rows are sorted to front, so you have a line going up to 100% first and then going straight to right. As a rule of thumb, the greater the area under the curve, the better is the model.

III. Experimental setting

In this section, we describe how our information system collects data, how the parameters are used in our analysis software and how the data set for prediction model.

A. Information system presentation

Different connections are tested between database (MongoDB, My SQL, Axibase...) and our data analysis software KNIME [24]. The connection is realized by the

REST HTTP request directly with the data base or through an API. The predictions are sent by the POST HTTP request in JSON format.

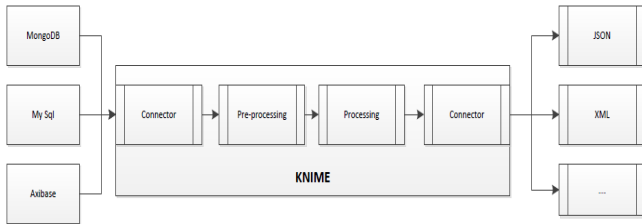


Fig. 4. Information flux through our analysis software

A Schneider electric system collect the active and reactive power by phase from the global electric meter [22]. This smart meter is the PowerLogic Series 800 PM810 of the Schneider Electrical Company [23]. As outputs, we have the amperage, voltage, active and reactive power and energy consumed with in a one second interval per phase. The same smart metering to collect the heating consumption. Plugs or Geroco [25] smart meters collect the hot water consumption with zig bee communication protocol. The data travels through a mod-bus communication.

B. Building Characterization

The test house was built in 2000 and is isolated well. The house has a surface of $250m^2$. The heating system is a heat pump air-water with a 3kW nominal power. Its energy efficiency coefficient is 3.5. The hot water is too provided by a heat pump air-water. The energy efficiency coefficient of this heat pump is 3.7.

C. Dataset

The Schneider electric system collect the amperage, the voltage, the active and reactive power every second per phase. These information are available for the global meter and the heating. For the hot water, only the active power is collected. The data set begin in October 2012. The real heating consumption during the winter season 2012-2013 is the training data set. The real heating consumption during the winter season 2013-2014 is the testing data set. Five years of data are available for the weather station in Sion. The electricity price is based on the EEX spot market in 2014.

IV. Classification results

A. Heating and hot water prediction results

When the variable under study cannot distinguish between the two groups, i.e. where there is no difference between the two distributions, the area will be equal to 0.5 (the ROC curve will coincide with the diagonal). When there is a perfect separation of the values of the two groups, i.e. there no overlapping of the distributions, the area under the ROC curve equals 1 (the ROC curve will reach the upper left corner of the plot). 30 Decision tree are created

for this model. For the heating weekday prediction model, the area under curve is 0.9285. For the heating weekday prediction model, the area under curve is 0.8891. A statistics table on the attributes is created in the different tree learners. Each row represents one training attribute with these statistics: splits (level x) as the number of models, which use the attribute as split on level x (with level 0 as root split). Only the variables present in the level 0 are presented. The heating consumption the previous hour, the solar radiation predicted in the time $t - 7$ hour and the hour are the determined variable for the heating consumption prediction.

Variables	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2
Solar Radiation Predicted (t-7)	5	2	1
Heating consumption (t-1)	4	3	10
Hour	2	3	5
Outside temperature (t-2)	2	2	0
Solar Radiation (t-9)	2	1	2
Heating consumption Max (t-1)	2	5	3
Outside temperature predicted (t)	1	2	3
Outside temperature (t-1)	1	1	2
Outside temperature (t-3)	1	1	1
Outside temperature (t-4)	1	2	0
Solar Radiation (t-8)	1	0	1
Solar Radiation (t-10)	1	2	4
Outside temperature predicted (t-1)	1	2	1
Solar Radiation predicted (t-5)	1	2	1
Solar Radiation predicted (t-6)	1	3	3
Solar Radiation predicted (t-8)	1	2	0
Solar Radiation predicted (t-9)	1	1	3
Solar Radiation predicted (t-10)	1	1	1

TABLE I. STATISTICS TABLE ON THE ATTRIBUTES USED IN THE DIFFERENT TREE LEARNERS FOR THE HEATING WEEKDAY PREDICTION MODEL

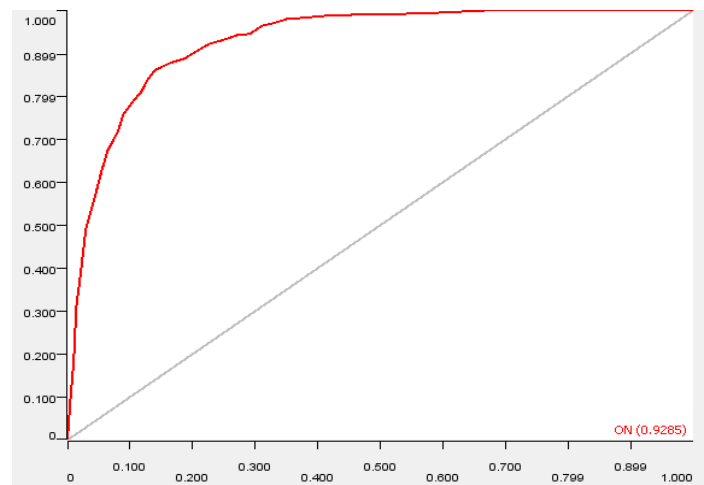


Fig. 5. ROC Curve for the heating weekday prediction model, training

30 Decision tree are created for the hot water prediction model. For the heating weekday prediction model, the area under curve is 0.9191. For the hot water weekend prediction model, the area under curve is 0.8994. The hour and the hot water consumption the previous hour and the maximum of the hot water consumption in the time $t - 6$ hour are the determining variables for the heating consumption prediction.

Variables	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2
Hour	5	5	10
Hot water consumption (t-1)	5	3	15
Hot water consumption max (t-6)	5	1	3
Hot water consumption (t-4)	3	6	3
Hot water consumption (t-6)	3	4	7
Hot water consumption (t-5)	2	5	3
Hot water consumption max (t-1)	2	10	12
Hot water consumption (t-2)	1	2	3
Hot water consumption (t-7)	1	2	4
Hot water consumption max (t-2)	1	0	3
Hot water consumption max (t-3)	1	7	6
Hot water consumption max (t-5)	1	2	3

TABLE II. STATISTICS TABLE ON THE ATTRIBUTES USED IN THE DIFFERENT TREE LEARNERS FOR THE HOT WATER WEEKDAY PREDICTION MODEL

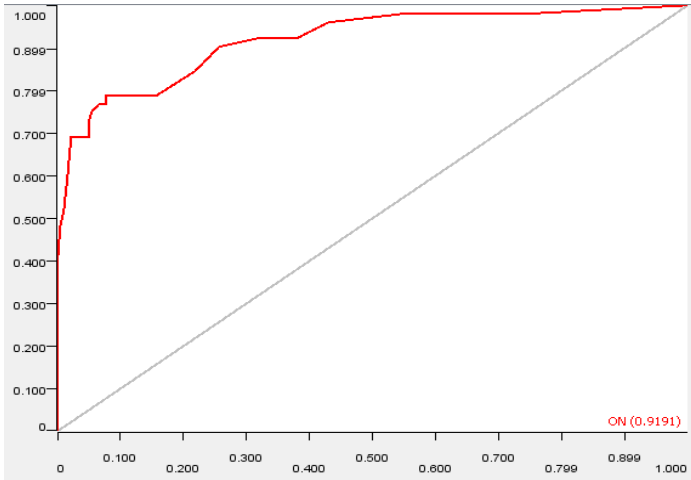


Fig. 6. ROC Curve for the hot water weekday prediction model

B. Economic energy management

To ensure the result we make some simplification of the realty. Ad example in this model the price is perfectly flexible and based on the EEX spot market. This is future scenarios were we have a pool of producer/consumer able to sold and buy with not restrain. The other simplification is connected to the physics of the home.

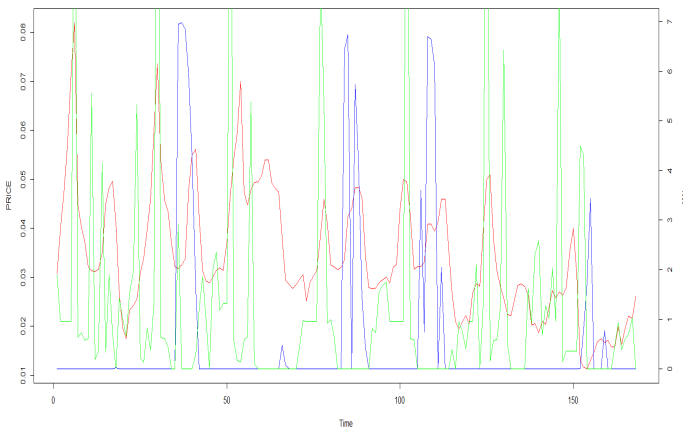


Fig. 7. Electricity price evolution: energy price (Red), energy sold(blue), green energy buy(green)

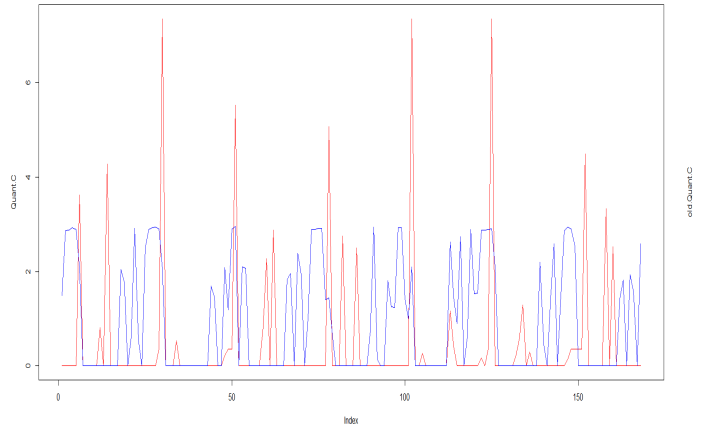


Fig. 8. Electricity price evolution: energy price (Red), energy sold(blue), green energy buy(green)

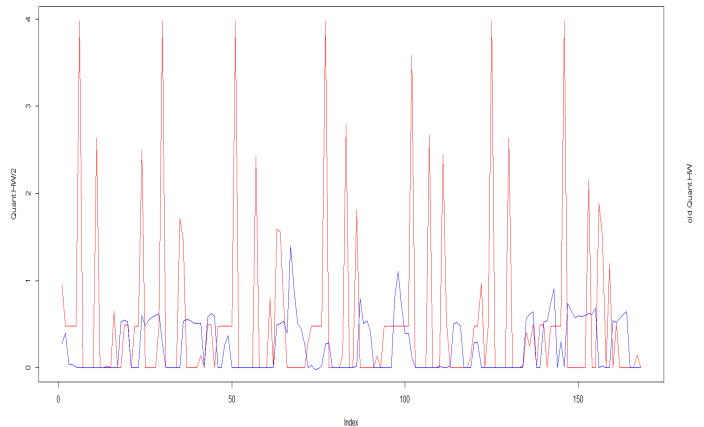


Fig. 9. Electricity price evolution: energy price (Red), energy sold(blue), green energy buy(green)

V. Conclusions

The prediction work in our approach focuses on the heating and the hot water consumption. Using an ON-OFF clustering and tree ensemble algorithm on a dataset from the winter season 2012-2013, the heating and the hot water consumption prediction is estimated correctly around 91% +/- 1.2 for the winter season 2013-2014. For the heating prediction model, the hour, the heating consumption the previous hour, the maximum heating consumption the previous hour and the solar radiation predicted are the determining variables. For the hot water prediction model, the hour, the hot water consumption the previous hour are the determining variables. The results can be improved if the local weather data is given as an input. So the liner problem say to us that, is better boos your production for hot water and heating where the energy price is lower. So is a good sense results. We need to improve our results making more realist assumption of the profile of hot water consumption and electric heating.

VI. acknowledgements

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