The Application of Computer Technology in Process Optimization

Yangcheng Zhao,Jiawei Bao,Yisheng Yang,Zhaoling Lin
(Shanghai Maritime University, Shanghai 201306)

Abstract: Setting up automation devices on process equipment to further optimize industrial processes and improve labor efficiency is an important trend in the development of modern industry. Enterprises should pay attention to the application of computer technology in process optimization, use automation devices to manage the production process or equipment, make it work normally, and reduce dependence on manpower. Taking the application of computer technology in the process industry as an example, this paper discusses the application path of computer technology in process optimization combined with my practical experience, in order to provide reference for enterprise innovation and development.

Keywords: computer technology; Process optimization; Application; Process Industry

1. Process Industry Concept

Process industry refers to the industry where the main production process is continuous production. This concept originates from the production process of the manufacturing industry, which includes a series of continuous steps and operations, not only involving material processing and energy conversion, but also production and processing in chemical reactions and manufacturing processes. In the process industry, raw materials undergo a series of processing, transformation, and manufacturing, ultimately becoming finished products. This process is usually divided into different stages, each with its own process and equipment. For the manufacturing industry, the proposal of the concept of process industry is of great significance. In the manufacturing industry, process industry enterprises need to fully consider factors such as material quality and cost, production process efficiency and operability, product quality and performance, and pay attention to environmental protection and energy efficiency to ensure that the production process does not cause excessive pollution and waste to the environment. In addition to manufacturing, the concept of process industry is also applied to other fields. For example, in the energy field, process industry enterprises can be responsible for transforming fossil fuels into energy, or transforming Renewable resource into electric energy and heat energy; In the field of chemistry, process industry enterprises can manufacture products such as chemicals and pharmaceuticals.

Since the 1950s and 1960s, computer technology has been applied to the process industry, providing important support for its development. After the 21st century, computer technology has been further developed, and the industrial production process has been continuous. The development of large-scale industrial production equipment has been accelerated. Computers have gradually become an indispensable Means of production for process industries. In future development, computers will be organically integrated with the process industry, helping us better promote the development of manufacturing and other fields.

2. Application of computer technology in process industrial automation

In the context of the continuous complexity and large-scale production processes in the process industry, the optimization effect of computers on processes is even more significant. More and more enterprises are using automatic control systems to command production operations, promote industrial process optimization, and further improve product quality, production safety, and labor efficiency. Specifically, process industry automation has the following characteristics. Firstly, intelligence is the core of process industry automation. From equipment monitoring, data collection, to analysis and decision-making, intelligent technology runs through the entire industrial process. Through intelligent technology, real-time monitoring of equipment can be achieved, timely detection of equipment faults and problems can be achieved, thereby effectively avoiding the occurrence of production accidents. Meanwhile, by analyzing massive amounts of data, valuable information can be extracted to help enterprises better understand the production process, optimize production processes, and improve production efficiency. Secondly, efficiency is the goal of process industry automation. In today's increasingly fierce market competition, improving production efficiency is a challenge that every enterprise must face. Process industry automation can significantly improve production efficiency by introducing advanced control systems and optimization algorithms. For example, by adopting intelligent control algorithms, automated control of industrial production processes can be achieved, reducing human interference and thereby improving production efficiency. Finally, security is the cornerstone of process industry automation. In industrial production processes, safety is the primary consideration. By introducing automation technology, manual operations can be reduced and the probability of safety accidents can be reduced. For example, by adopting intelligent sensors and safety warning systems, real-time monitoring of the production process can be achieved, potential safety hazards in industrial processes can be identified and resolved in a timely manner, ensuring the safety of production activities.

It can be seen that the most prominent feature of process industry automation is to control the production process through computer control systems, optimize industrial processes, and make them more intelligent. In the process industry, the processes that need to be controlled are more complex, require more monitoring parameters, and data changes are faster, requiring higher computer data processing and storage capacity. Currently, the process control of advanced large and medium-sized process industries in China mainly adopts distributed control system DCS and bus control system FCS.

2.1 Distributed Control System DCS

In process industry automation systems, distributed control systems (DCS) have become an indispensable technology. DCS integrates technologies such as computer, communication, control, and display to achieve automated control of large-scale industrial processes. It has the characteristics of efficiency, reliability, and intelligence, bringing many conveniences to industrial production, and is an important aspect of applying computer technology to process optimization. DCS works based on real-time data collection and processing. Through input and output modules, DCS can quickly collect sensor data in various process flows, such as temperature, pressure, flow rate, etc., and then process the data through predetermined control algorithms to achieve precise process control. DCS has a wide range of applications in process industry automation systems, covering almost all fields involving complex process flows, such as chemical, pharmaceutical, power, petroleum, etc. Although DCS has significant control effects in some complex processes, its advantages may not be significant in some simple processes. However, with the continuous development of technology, the application scope and depth of DCS in process optimization are gradually changing. Taking a chemical plant as an example, due to the complex process flow, traditional control systems cannot meet production needs. If a DCS system is introduced, from requirement analysis, system design to control strategy, it can be comprehensively transformed, and production efficiency can be improved through process optimization.

Practice has shown that distributed control systems (DCS) have played an important role in process industry automation systems. With their efficient, reliable, and intelligent characteristics, they optimize the control effect of industrial processes, improve production efficiency and product quality. However, with the development of emerging technologies such as Industry 4.0 and the Internet of Things, DCS systems are also facing new challenges and opportunities. In order to adapt to new production modes and technological requirements, the DCS system needs to continuously upgrade and innovate technology to achieve higher levels of intelligence and automation, providing support for process optimization. Firstly, the DCS system needs to enhance its data processing, analysis, and prediction capabilities. In the era of Big data and cloud computing, the process flow in the process industry is more complex. DCS system needs to have the ability to process massive data, and realize the prediction and control of the process flow through machine learning and deep learning and other technologies. In this way, the DCS system can not only achieve real-time monitoring and control, but also predict future trends, make decisions in advance, and improve production efficiency and product quality. Secondly, the DCS system needs to strengthen its integration and interconnection with other systems. Under the framework of Industry 4.0 and the Internet of Things, DCS systems need to be connected and integrated with other systems and devices of the enterprise to achieve information sharing and data exchange. In this way, enterprises can achieve comprehensive control over the entire production process, improve production synergy and efficiency. Finally, the DCS system needs to pay attention to its safety and reliability. In complex industrial environments, DCS systems need to face various physical and chemical challenges, such as high temperature, high pressure, corrosion, etc. Therefore, DCS systems need to have strong safety and reliability to ensure stable operation in harsh environments and avoid production accidents and economic losses caused by system failures.

2.2 Bus based control system FCS

FCS is suitable for various continuous or intermittent production processes and is widely used in process optimization in fields such as chemical, pharmaceutical, food, metallurgical, and coal. In the production process of these industries, it is usually necessary to achieve precise control of materials, energy, and equipment to ensure production efficiency and product quality. Compared to traditional control systems, FCS has the following characteristics and advantages:

2.2.1. High reliability: FCS adopts a distributed control structure, with each node having independent computing and communication capabilities, making the system more reliable.

2.2.2. High performance: Fcs has powerful data processing and transmission capabilities, which can meet the real-time control requirements in complex production processes.

2.2.3. Openness: Fcs adopts open standard protocols such as Modbus, Profinet, etc., making the system more compatible and scalable.

2.2.4. Easy to maintain: The design of Fcs makes system maintenance easier, and fault diagnosis and repair faster.

In the design process of FCS, we need to follow the following principles:

2.2.1. Modular design: Divide the system into multiple functional modules to reduce system complexity and improve maintainability.

2.2.2. Redundant configuration: Provide backup for critical nodes and devices to ensure high system reliability.

2.2.3. Standardized communication protocol: Adopting open standard protocols to ensure system interoperability and compatibility.

2.2.4. Safety and reliability: Strengthen safety design and fault prevention to ensure safety and stability in the production process.

We can design suitable control algorithms based on the needs of the factory's production process, implement them in the controller of Fcs, and debug and verify the system to ensure its stability and accuracy in actual operation, thereby promoting further optimization of the production process. In the future, we can foresee the development trends of FCS in the process industry as follows.

2.2.1.More intelligent control: With the development of artificial intelligence and machine learning technology, Fcs will be able to achieve more intelligent control, improve production efficiency and product quality.

2.2.2.Wider industry applications: Fcs will gradually be applied to more

industries, such as emerging fields such as energy and environmental protection, to promote the optimization of processes in these industries.

2.2.3. More efficient safety and energy efficiency: While ensuring safety, Fcs will pay more attention to energy efficiency and environmental performance, promoting sustainable development of industrial production.

2.2.4. Cloud based and remote management: Through cloud computing and IoT technology, achieve cloud based and remote monitoring

management of the Fcs system, improve system maintenance and production efficiency.

3. Application of Computer Technology in Fault Detection and Diagnosis

With the development of computer technology, we now have more efficient and accurate methods to detect and solve equipment failures. The following is the application of computer technology in the workflow of fault detection and diagnosis in the process industry.

3.1. Data collection and processing.

First of all, computer technology can be used to collect the data generated by the operation of the equipment, including temperature, pressure, flow and other key parameters, which can assist us to analyze the operation status of the equipment.

3.2. Real time monitoring and early warning

The computer system can combine the collected data to monitor the production process in real time and issue timely warnings when possible faults are discovered. This warning can help engineers prevent and repair equipment failures before they occur, thereby avoiding production interruptions and equipment damage.

3.3. Fault diagnosis and prediction

Computer systems can diagnose and predict equipment faults through methods such as pattern recognition and machine learning. By analyzing the operating mode and historical data of the equipment, the system can predict possible faults and provide predictive maintenance recommendations for engineers.

3.4. Intelligent maintenance and optimization

Modern computer systems can be used for intelligent maintenance and optimization. After receiving the warning signal, the system can recommend the best maintenance strategy, including predicting maintenance time, repairing components, etc; The operating parameters of the equipment can be optimized to improve its efficiency and productivity.

Epilogue:

In summary, the application prospects of computer technology in the field of process industry automation are very broad, providing us with important technical support for process optimization. We should see the advantages of computer technology in process optimization and its promising future prospects, pay attention to technological progress and innovation, and use it to bring more changes to the process and promote further improvement of production efficiency.

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