Green-Directed Modular Analysis for Product Design

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ABSTRACT

To respond market competition, an enterprise must produce enough differentiation in products to meet the consumer 's demands. Large amount parts and modules are stocked to satisfy different market changes. The frequent variations of inventory will cause the complexity in management due to the associating and separating between modules. Therefore, how to bring the complexity and accuracy of product modularity into control has become one of the important challenges enterprises have to face nowadays. In dealing with modular design, designer almost arranges the plan depending on his/her intuition. In this study, a quantitative assessing approach for modular design is proposed. First, this research attempts to develop a fuzzy linguistic-based method incorporating grouping genetic algorithm (GGA) to produce the initial modules of the product. Many viewpoints such as contact type, combined type, tool, and assessed direction among parts are discussed in this study. Secondly, green-oriented concept is used to access the rationality among modules. The low polluted materials are suggested to improve product modularity. Finally, C++ programming language and some test examples are used to simulate and verify this proposed method.

Keywords: Modularity; Grouping genetic algorithm; fuzzy linguistic number

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