

Solar Cooling

TranSolar Workshop in Slovenia

Dimitrios Chasapis
 R.E. Systems Technology Eng.
 Solar Thermal Dpt. CRES

Solar Cooling or Solar Combi+

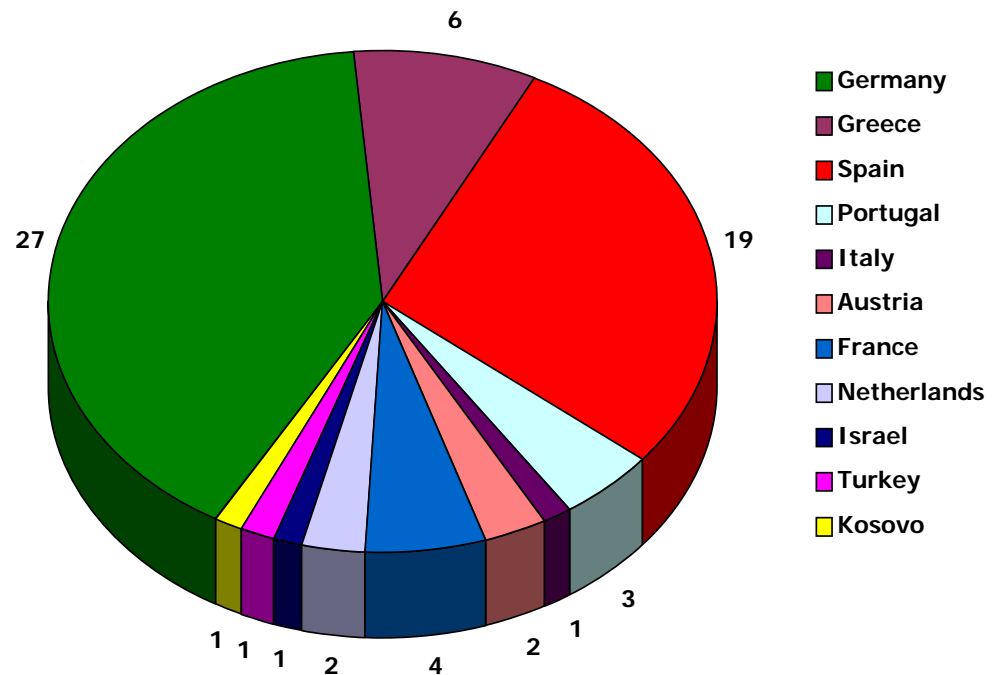
Systems that use solar energy for heating, cooling and DHW preparation

Use of chillers that utilize hot water as primary energy

- Closed circuit for cold water production
- Open Circuit for air conditioning

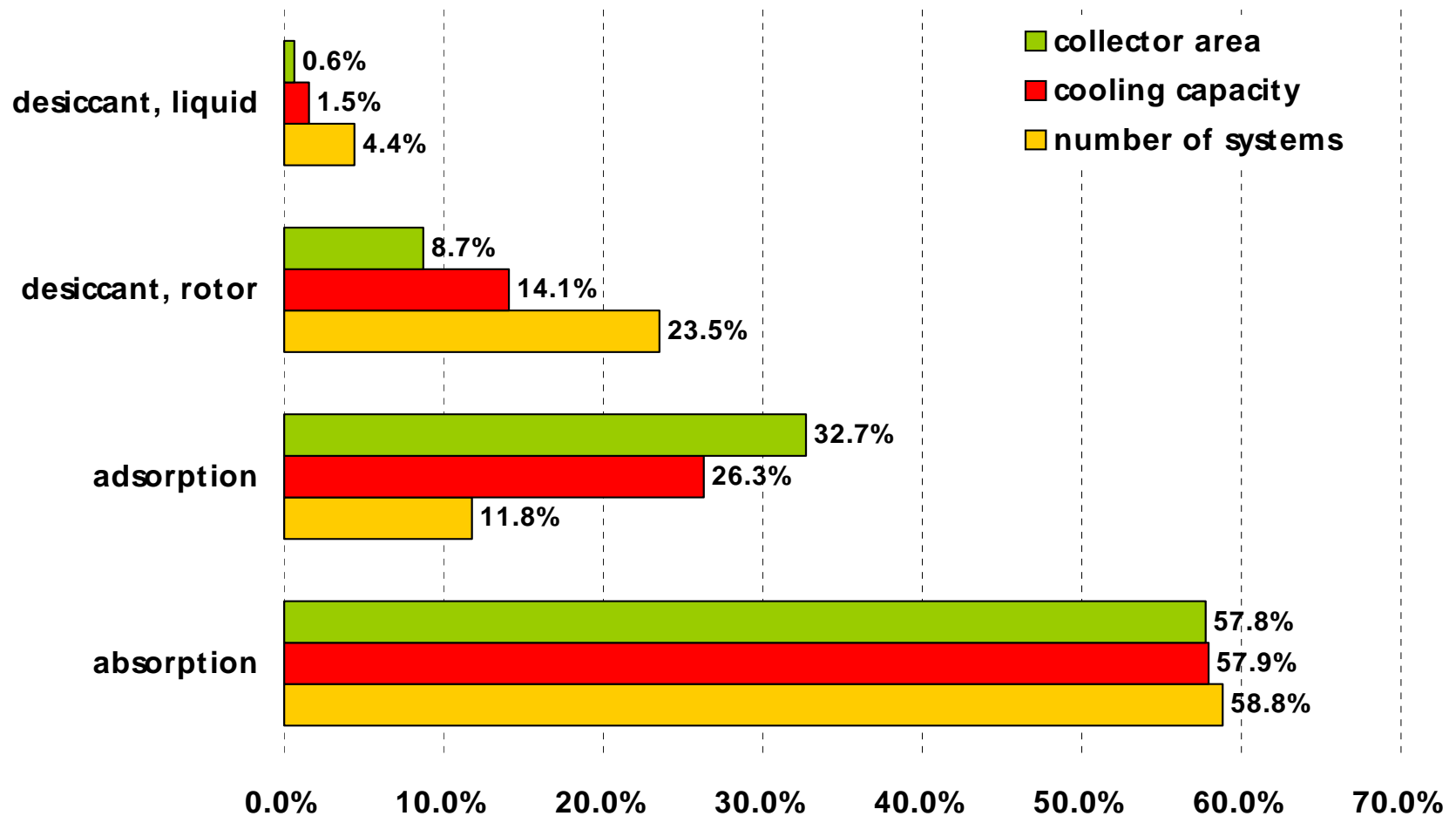
Solar Cooling Systems in Europe (2004)

- 67 Systems
- 6 MW total installed capacity
- 16700 m² collectors area







Source: IEA Task 25

Solar Cooling Systems in Europe (2004)

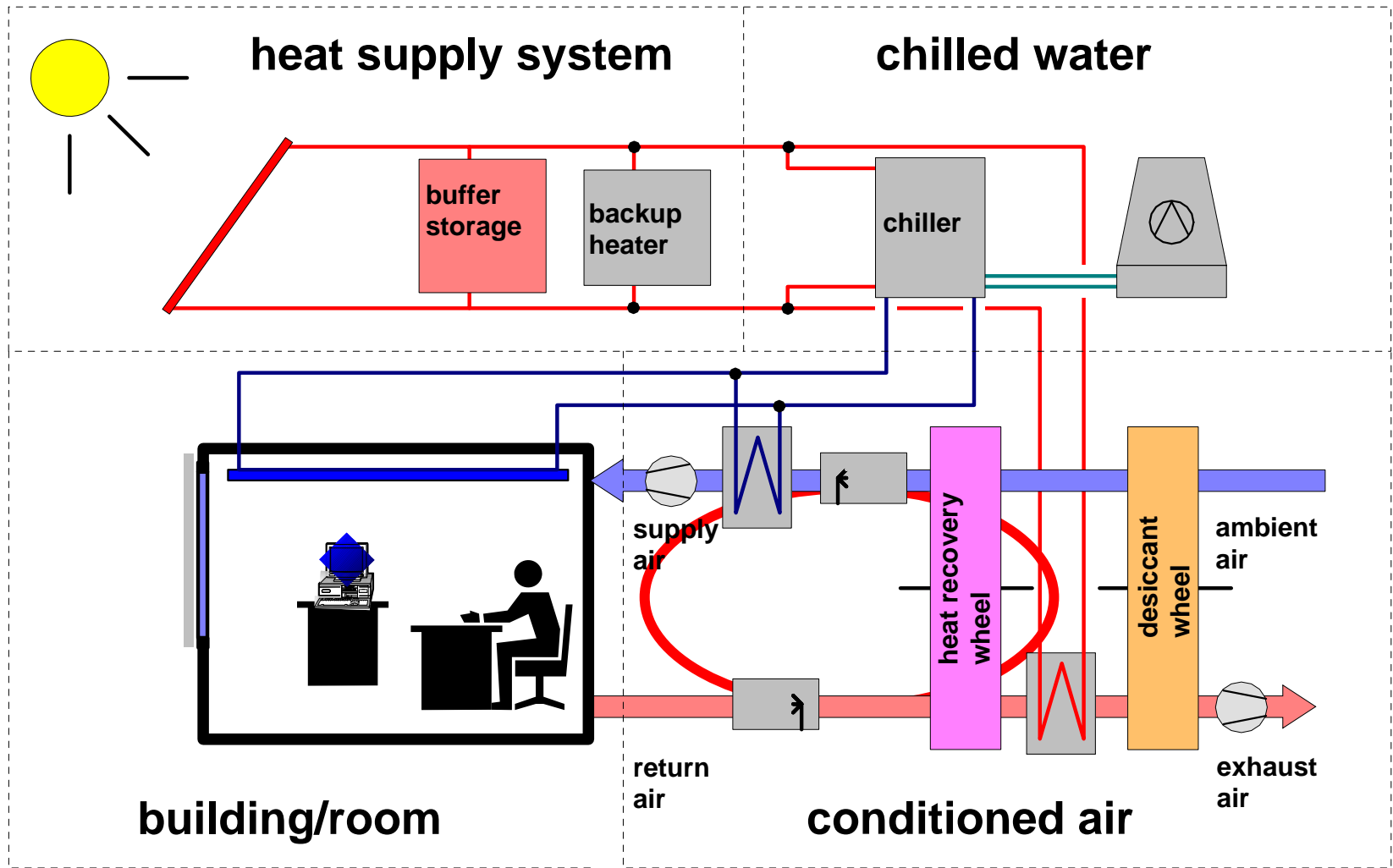


Source: IEA Task 25

Solar Chiller Technologies

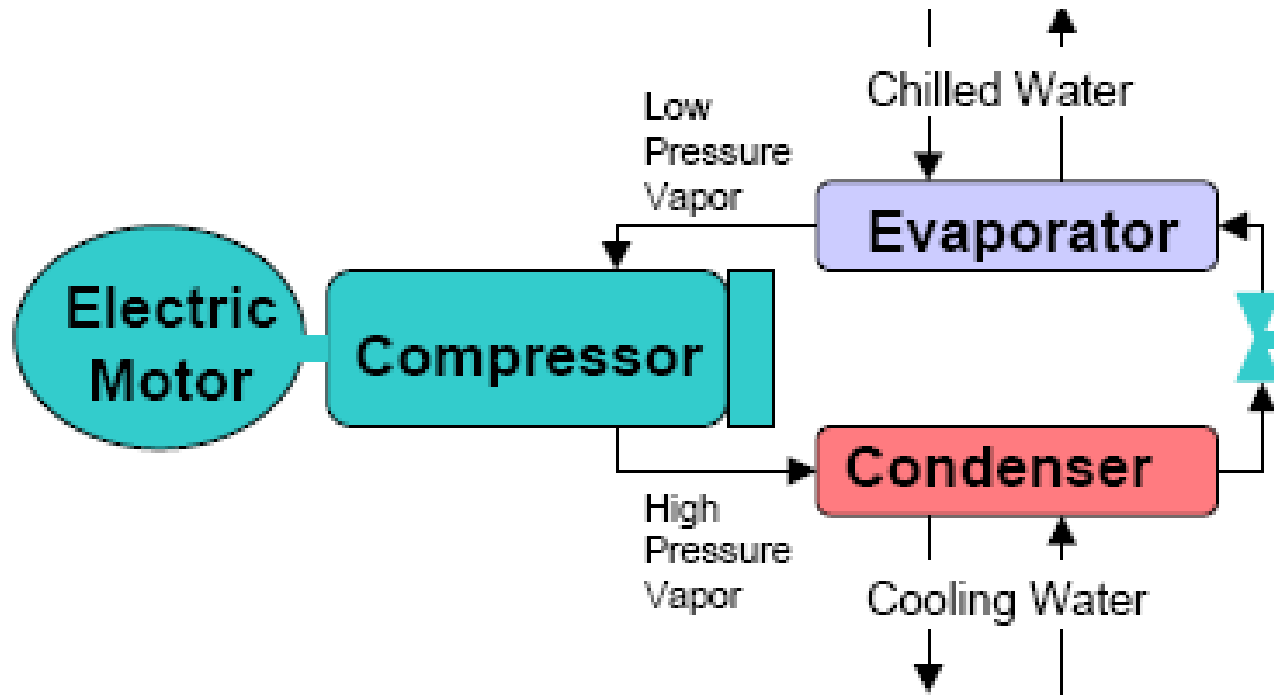
| Method | Closed cycle | | Open cycle | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Refrigerant cycle | Closed refrigerant cycle | | Refrigerant (water) is in contact with the atmosphere | |
| Principle | Chilled water | | Dehumidification of air and evaporative cooling | |
| Phase of sorbent | solid | liquid | solid | liquid |
| |  |  |  |  |
| Typical material pairs | water - silica gel | water - lithium bromide ammonia - water | water - silica gel, water - lithium chloride | water - calcium chloride, water - lithium chloride |
| Market available technology | Adsorption chiller | Absorption chiller | Desiccant cooling | Close to market introduction |
| Typical cooling capacity (kW cold) | 50 – 430 kW | 15 kW – 5 MW | 20 kW – 350 kW (per module) | |
| Typical COP | 0.5 – 0.7 | 0.6 – 0.75 (single effect) | 0.5 – >1 | > 1 |
| Driving temperature | 60 – 90 °C | 80 – 110 °C | 45 – 95 °C | 45 – 70 °C |
| Solar collectors | Vacuum tubes, flat plate collectors | Vacuum tubes | Flat plate collectors, solar air collectors | Flat plate collectors, solar air collectors |

General Schematic Diagram



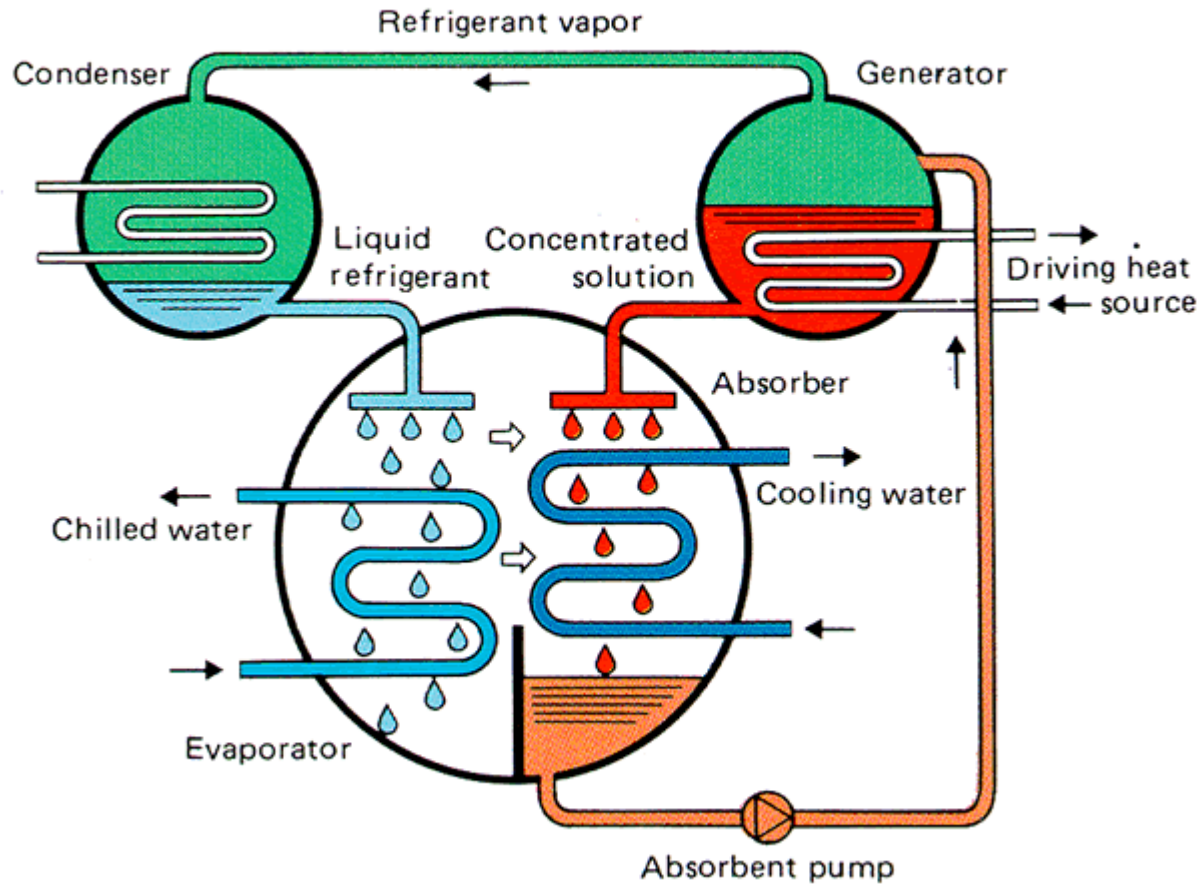
Source: Fraunhofer -ISE

Compression Chiller

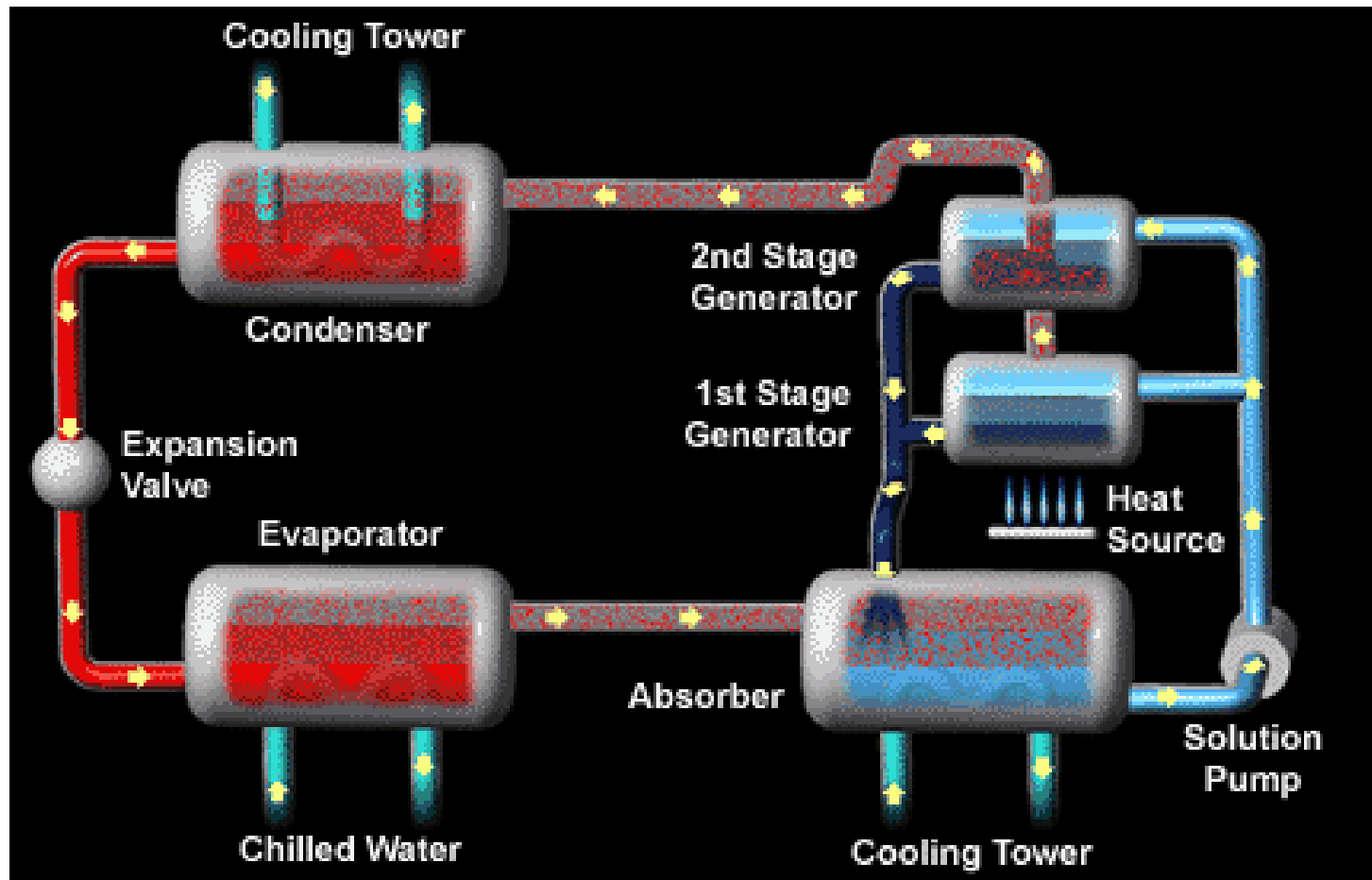


Absorption Chiller

Simplified absorption cycle



Double Stage Absorption Chiller



InterEnergy

Absorption Chiller



- Most chillers of high capacity (> 200 kW)
- 13 chillers of low capacity (< 100 kW)
- The produced cold water can be used for air conditioning in air chillers or for direct space cooling (fan coils, chilled ceilings,...)
- Smallest chiller 4.5 kW
- Usual supply temperatures $75^{\circ}\text{C} - 100^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Usual supply temperatures of double stage systems $> 150^{\circ}\text{C}$ with COP 1.2
- Usual COP 0.68-0.78

Absorption Chiller Examples

Bundespresseamt Berlin/ Germany

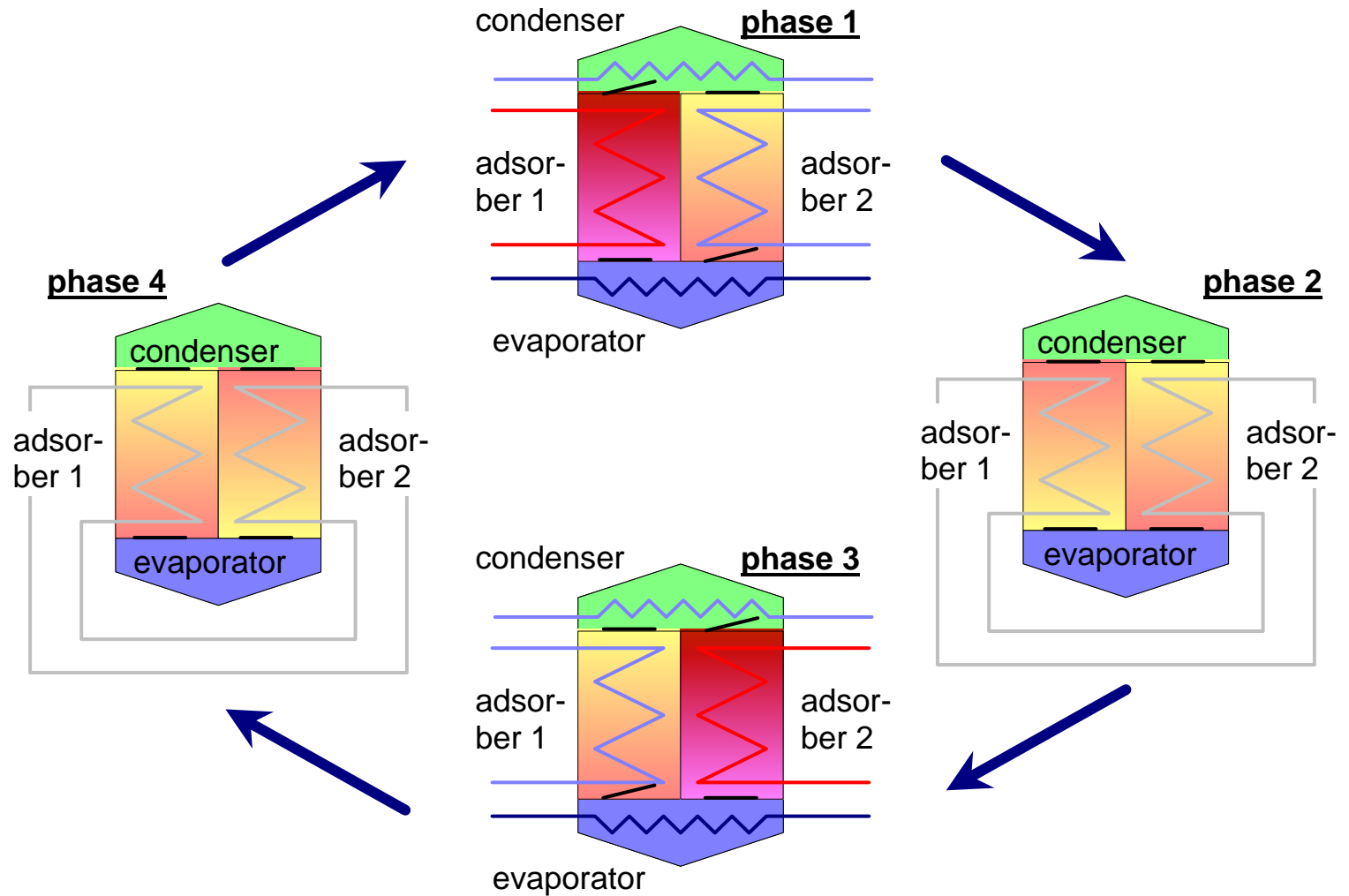
- Application: Office
- Technique: Absorption
- Nominal Power: 70kW
- Collector type: Evacuated tube
- Collector Area: 244 m²
- Status: in operation since 2000

A Solar Absorption System in southern France for Cooling a wine cellar

- Application: Cooling a wine cellar
- Technique: Absorption
- Cooling Capacity: 52 kW
- Collector type: Evacuated tube
- Collector Area: 130 m²
- Status: in operation since 1991

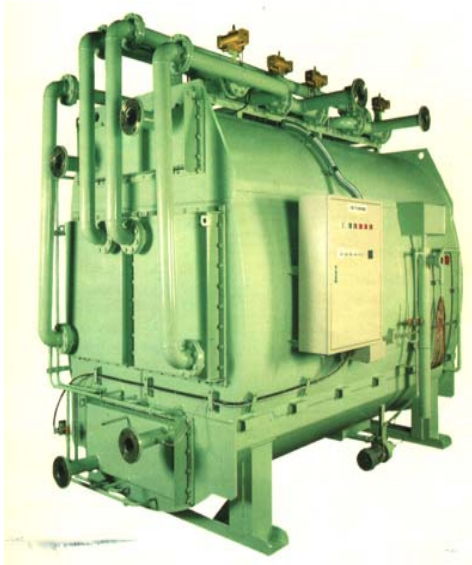


Adsorption Chillers



Source: Fraunhofer -ISE

Adsorption Chillers



- The produced cold water can be used for air conditioning in air chillers or for direct space cooling (fan coils, chilled ceilings,...)
- Usual chiller capacity range 50 kW - 400 kW
- Smallest Capacity 7.5kW
- Usual supply temperature $> 55^{\circ}\text{C}$
- COP 0.65

Adsorption Chiller Examples

Sarantis COSMETICS FACTORY in Aharnes, Greece



- Application: Air-Conditioning of a Factory
- Technique: Adsorption
- Cooling Capacity: 700 kW
- Collector type: Flat plate
- Collector Area: 2700 m²
- Status: in operation since 1999

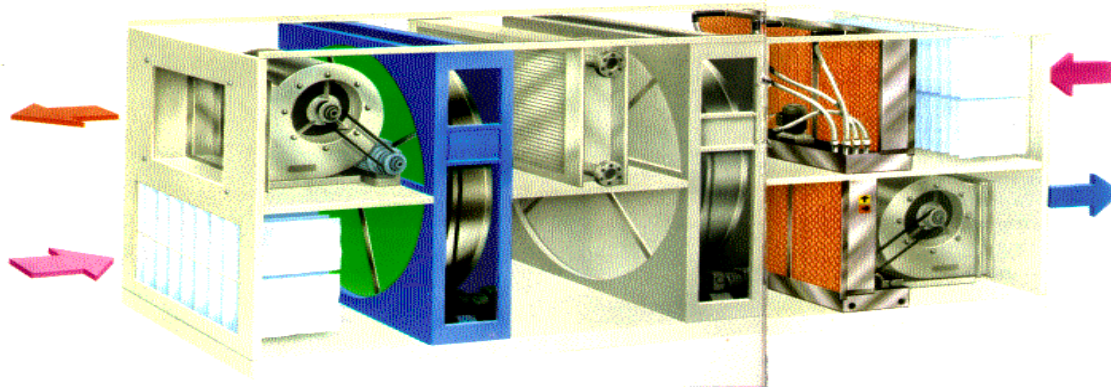


Universitätsklinik Freiburg/ Germany

- Application: Medical Facility
- Technique: Adsorption
- Cooling Capacity: 70 kW
- Collector type: Evacuated tube
- Collector Area: 170 m²
- Status: in operation since 1999



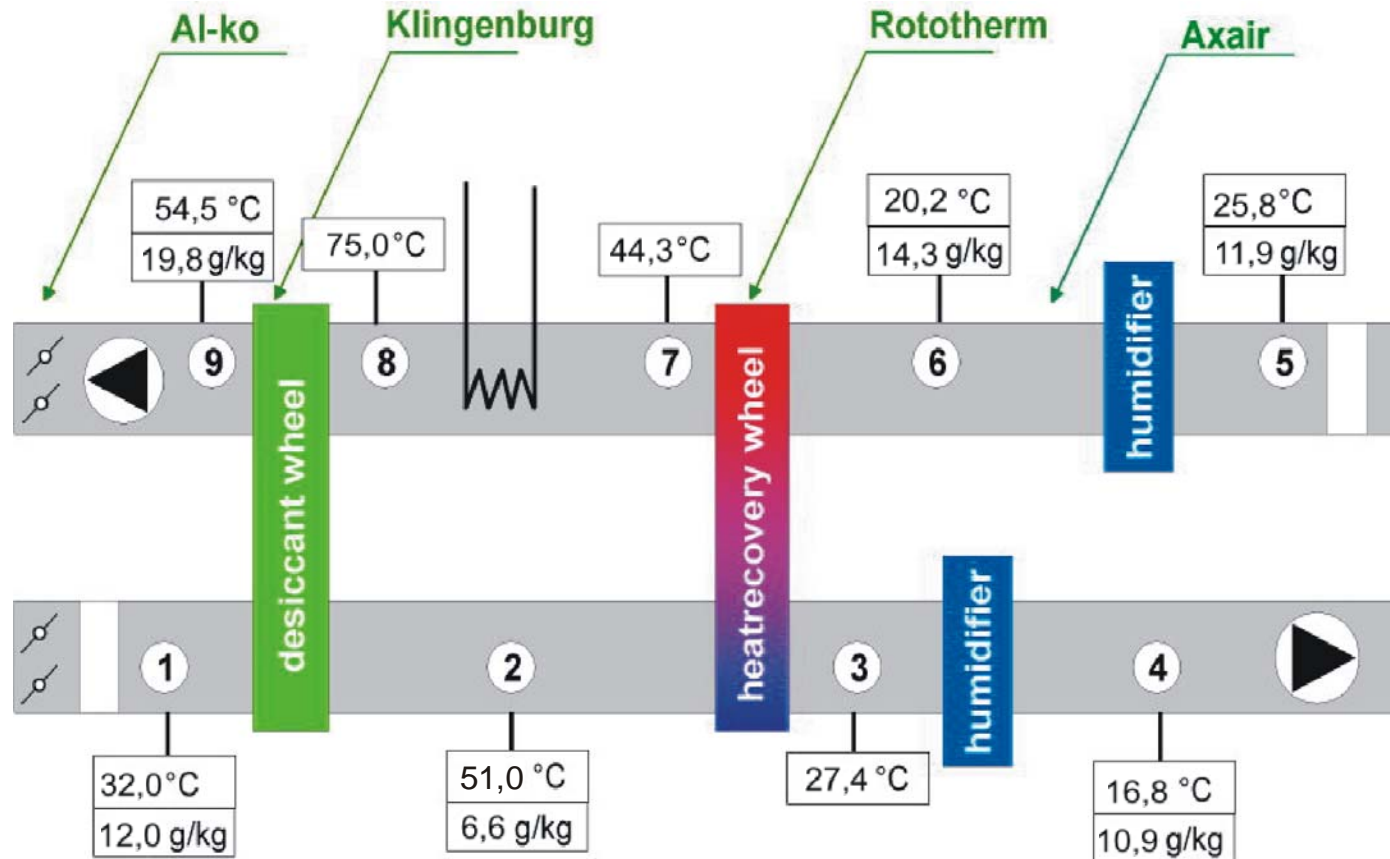
Desiccant Evaporative Cooling (DEC)



- Simple mechanism, use of common materials
- About 6 desiccant wheel manufacturers worldwide
- Use of low temperatures (down to 45°C)
- Chemical storage and higher COP by the use of liquid desiccant (CLi)
- ✗ Large installation area

Source: Fraunhofer -ISE

DEC: Operating Principle



DEC Examples

- Air Collectors : 100 m²
- DEC system (10200 m³/h) with *silica gel*
- Seminar room chilling – Chamber of Commerce in Freiburg/ Germany
- ➔ Simple collector system with direct integration in the conditioning unit
- ➔ No back-up system and storage
- ➔ Best use of solar chiller since cooling load is proportional to sun radiation



Source: Fraunhofer -ISE

DEC Example

- Mataro/Spain
- Public Library
- DEC system (12.000 m³/h) with air collectos 105m²



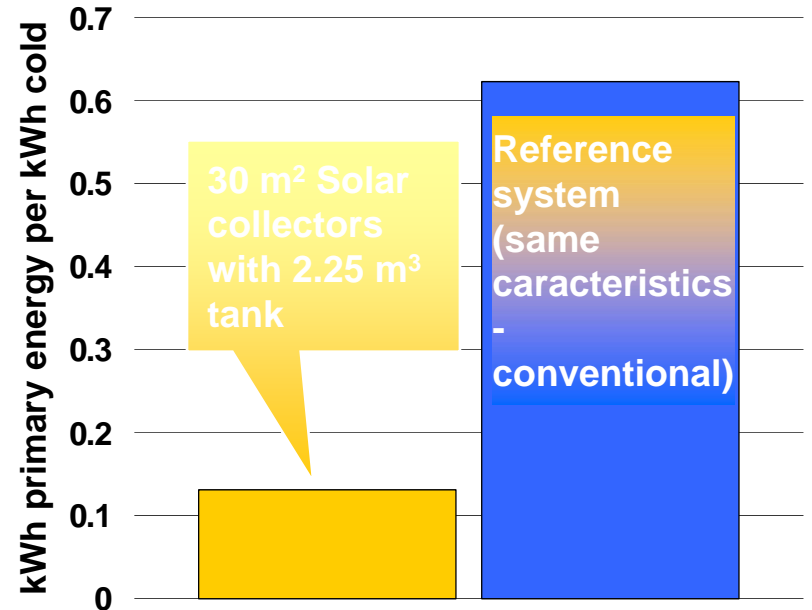
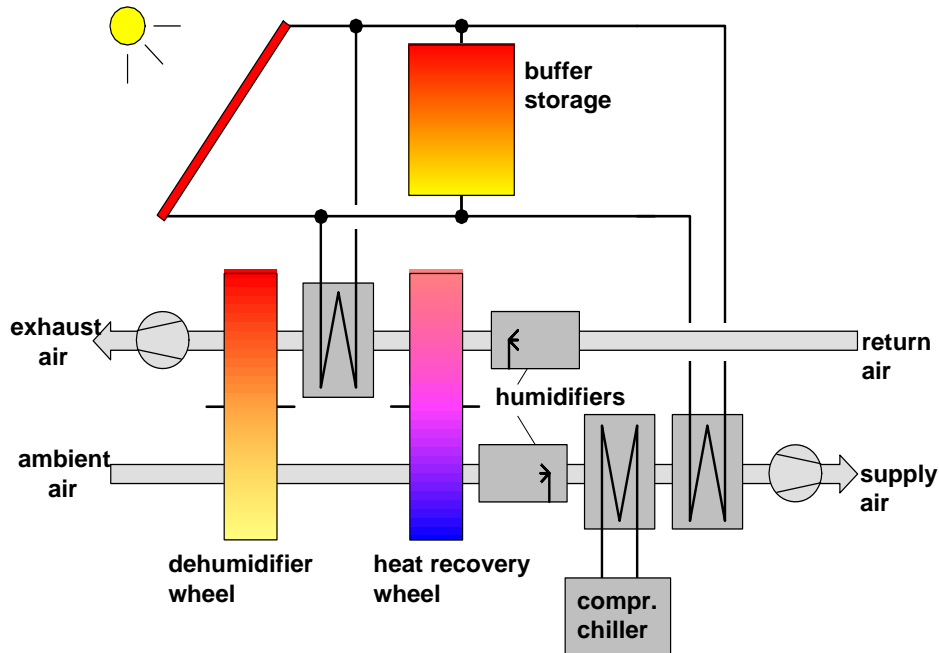
Source: Fraunhofer -ISE

Fraunhofer ISE – Liquid DEC office cooling



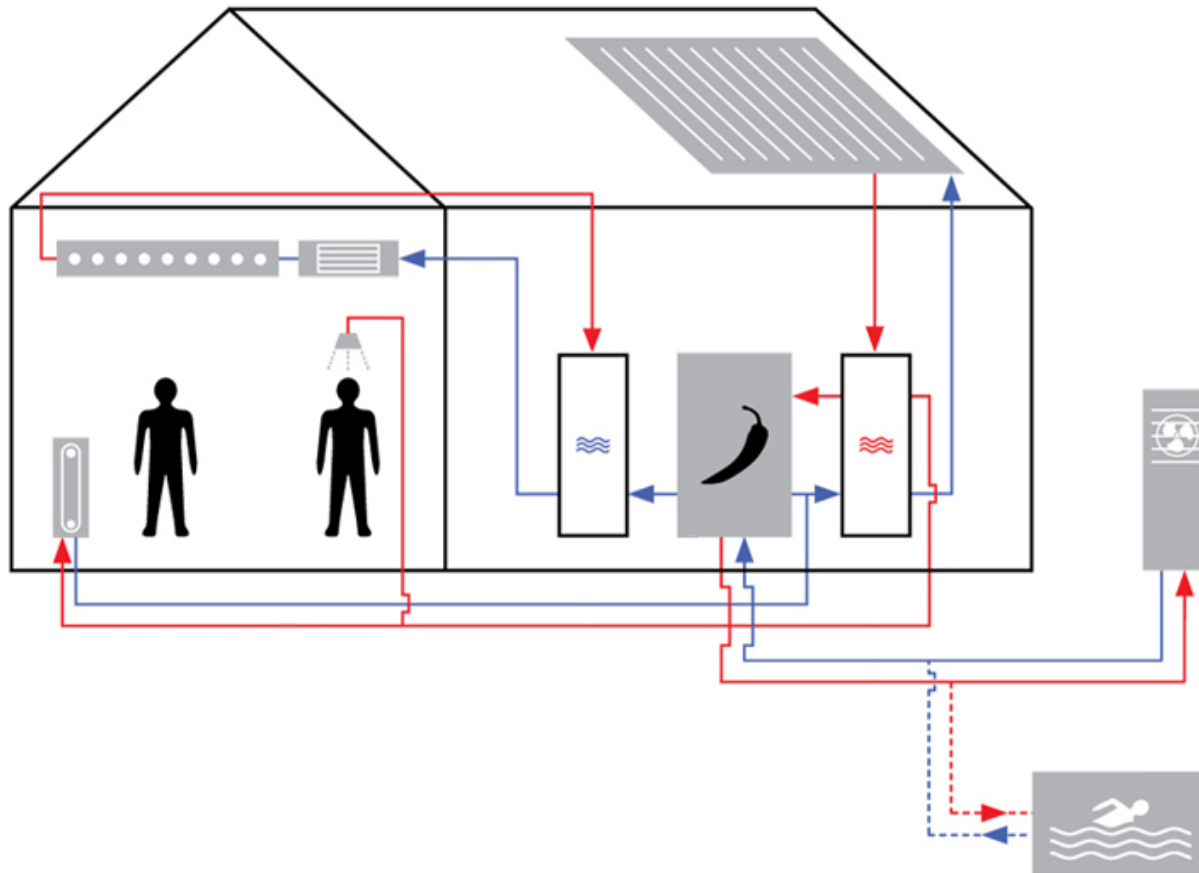
Source: Fraunhofer -ISE

Hybrid Systems



- „DEC“ system with integrated compression chiller in Palermo, Italy (240 m²)

House Chilling



Source: SolarNext

Small Scale Solar Chillers



EAW



SorTech AG



SK SonnenKlima GmbH

House with small chiller 4.5kW



Source: Rotartica

Heat Rejection

Dry Cooling Tower

The heat is dissipated through a heat exchanger with the use of fans

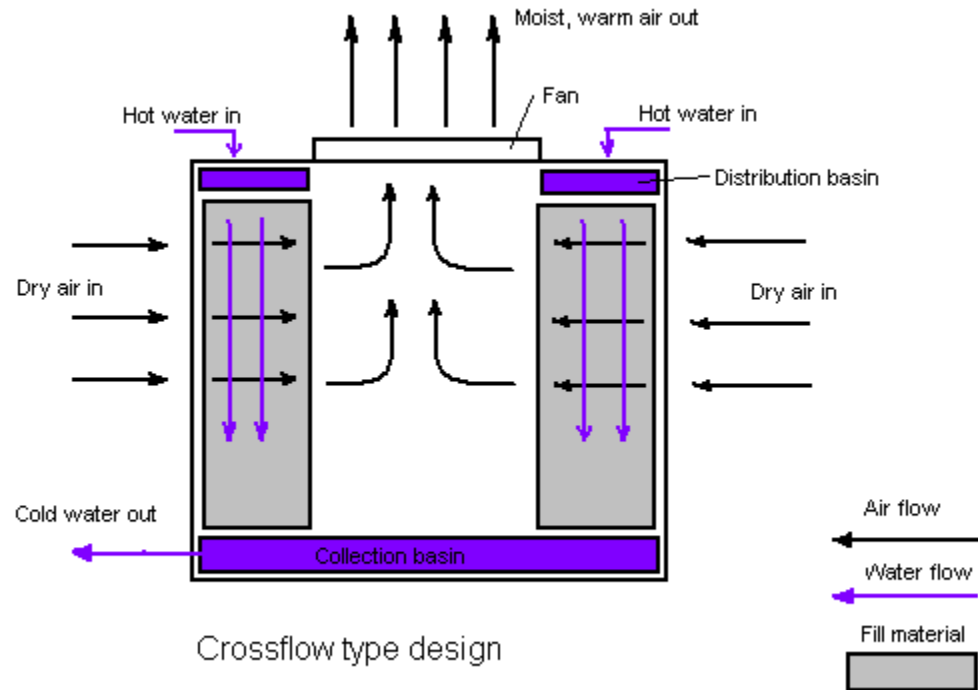


Problems:

Big construction, problem with rejection in summer high temperatures (above 32°C)

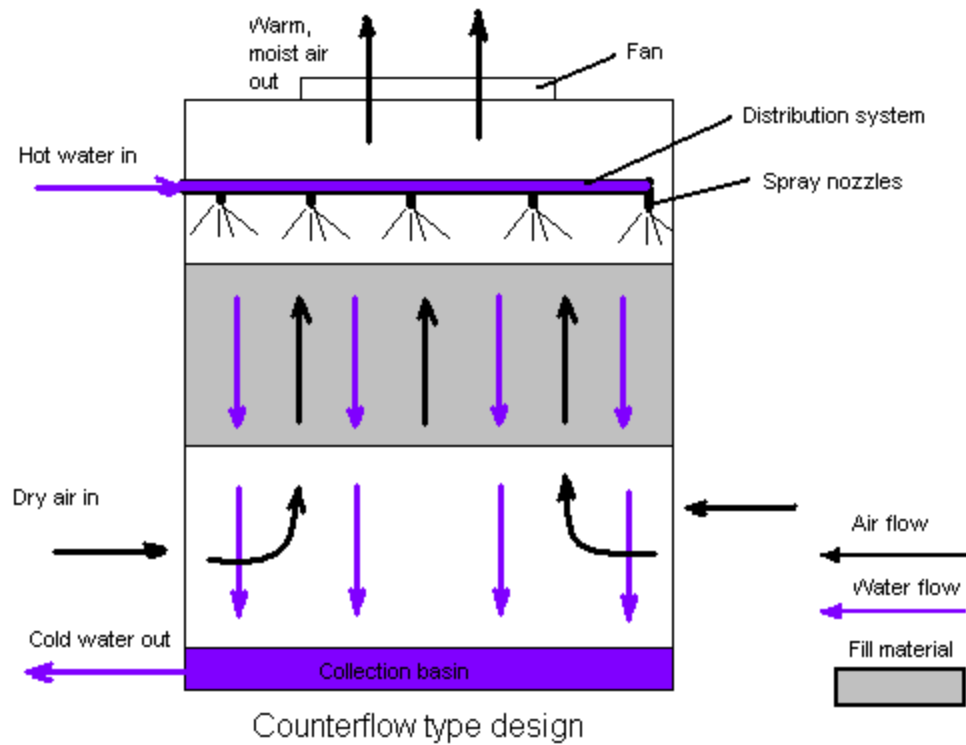
Heat Rejection

Crossflow wet cooling tower



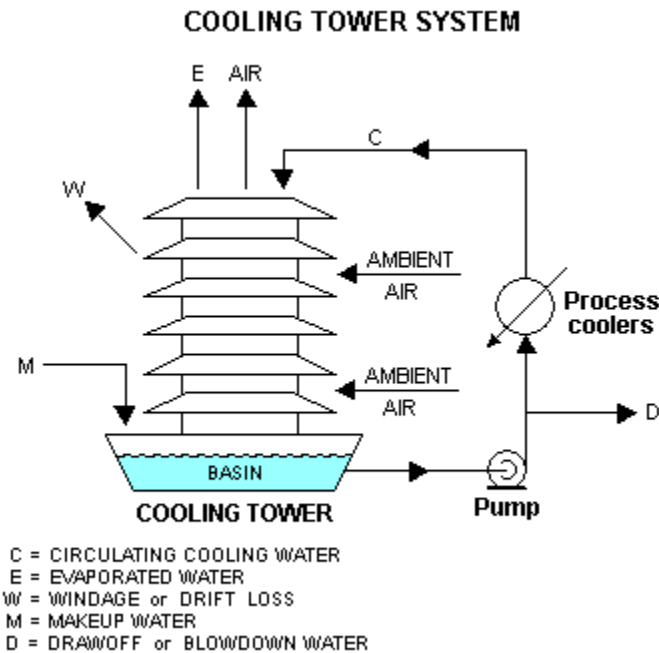
Heat Rejection

Counterflow wet cooling tower



Heat Rejection

Wet Cooling Towers

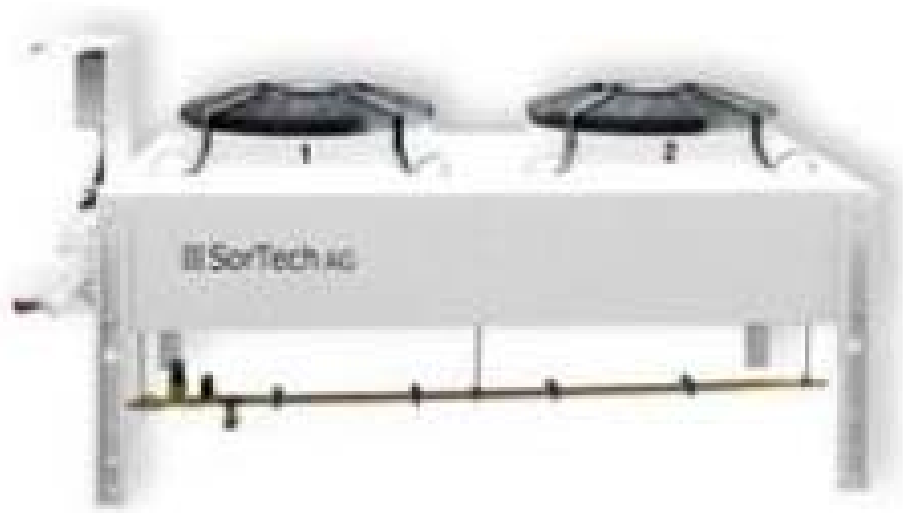


Problems:

- Water Consumption
- Formation of Legionella Bacteria

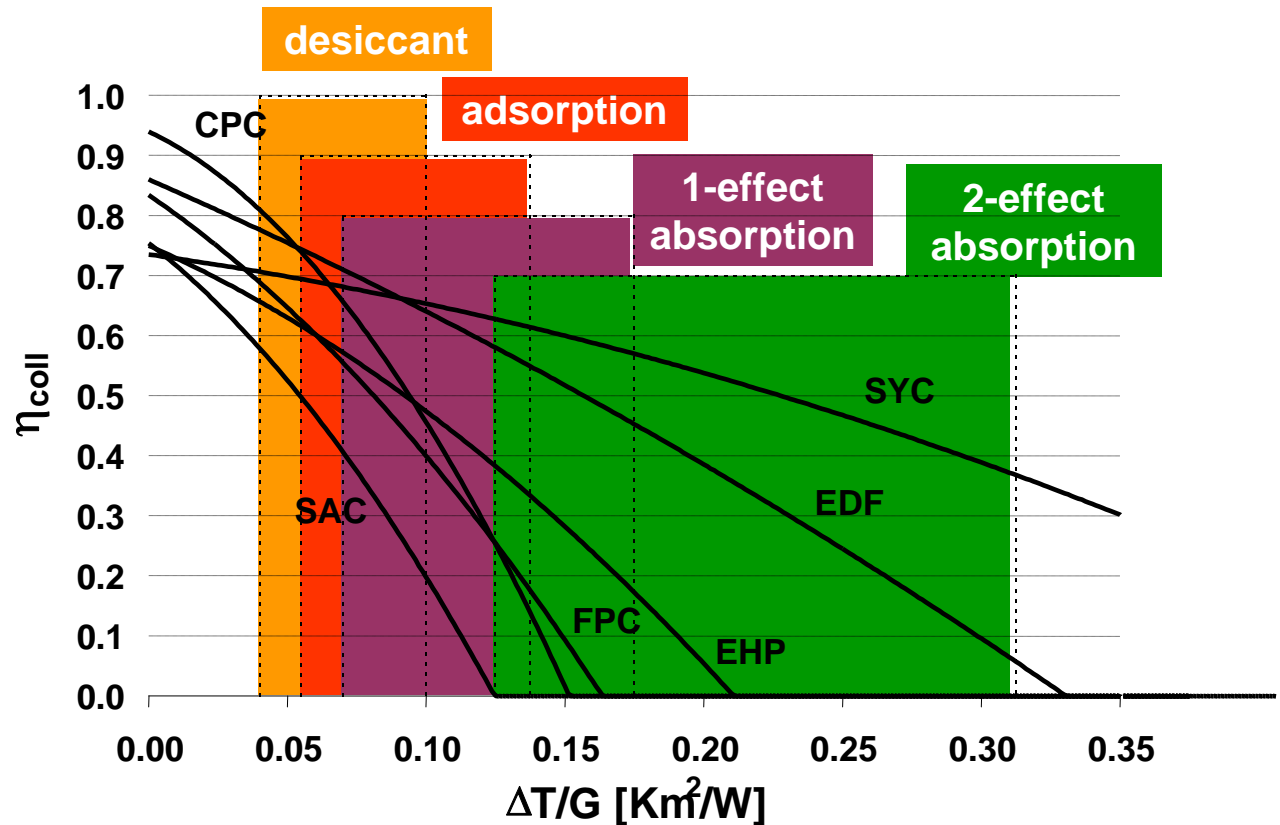
Heat Rejection

Hybrid cooling tower



Solar Cooling, Technical aspects

SAC = solar air coll.
CPC = stationary CPC
FPC = selectively coated flat plate
EHP = evacuated heat-pipe
EDF = evacuated, direct flow
SYC = stationary concentrated, Sydney-type



Solar Cooling

Technical Aspects

Chillers have 2 COP:

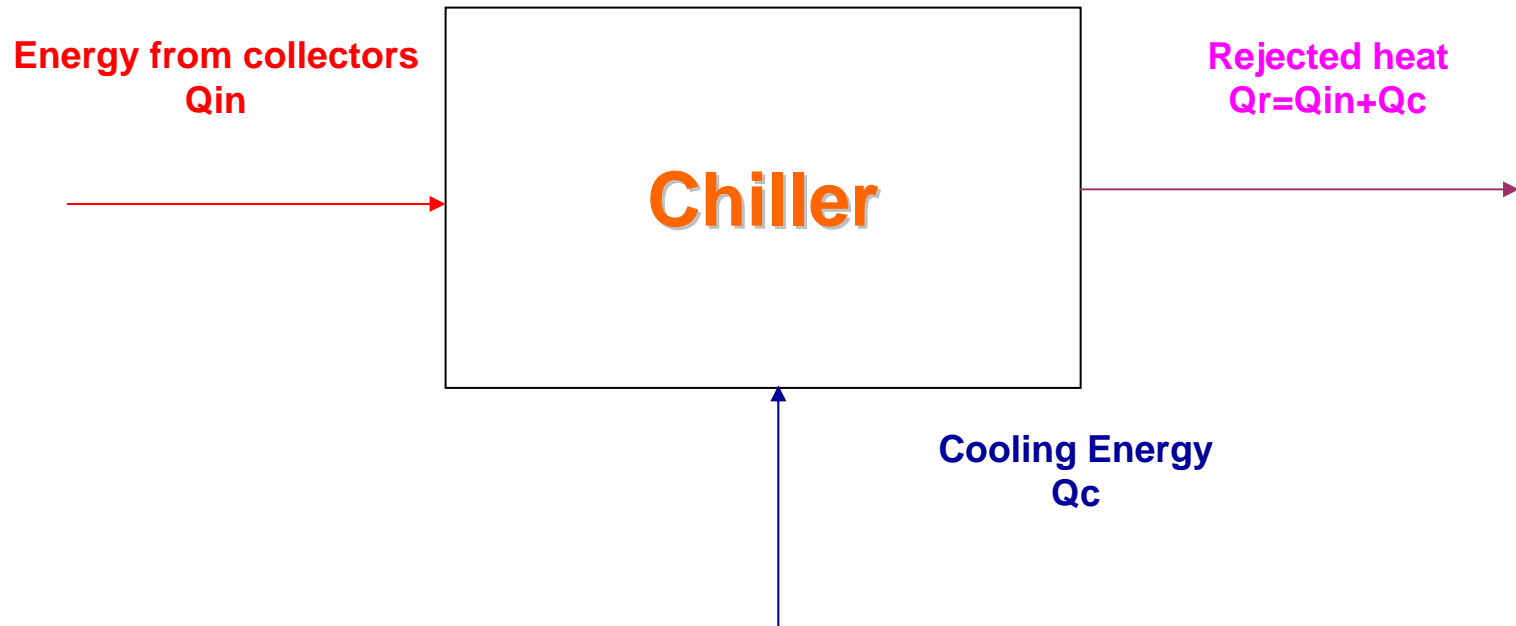
Thermal COP = $Q_c/Q_{in th}$

Electrical COP = $Q_c/Q_{electrical}$

| | Split unit | Geothermal Heat pump | Adsorption | Absorption | DEC |
|-------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-------|
| COP _{el} | 2-4 | 4-5 | 60-80 | 60-80 | 4-5 |
| COP _{th} | - | 0.2 | 0.5-0.6 | 0.6-1 | 0.3-1 |

Solar Cooling

Technical Aspects



- Required Power from Collector Field

$$Q_{in} = Q_c / COP_{th}$$

- Rejected power

$$Q_r = Q_{in} + Q_c$$

- For 10kW chiller with $COP_{th} = 0.6$:

$$Q_c = 10\text{kW}$$

$$Q_{in} = 10\text{kW} / 0.6 = 16.67\text{kW}$$

$$Q_r = 10 + 16.67 = 26.67\text{kW}$$

- Electrical consumption For 10kW chiller with $COP_{th} = 60$:

$$Q_c = 10\text{kW}$$

$$Q_{el} = 10\text{kW} / 60 = 166.7\text{W}$$

Solar Cooling System Dimensioning

- Cooling Load Calculation (from EM calculations)
- Definition of coverage percentage
- Available space for:
 - Solar collectors (about 1.5 x collector area)
 - Storage tanks
 - Chiller
 - Cooling tower
- Connection with existing distribution system
- Connection with back-up chiller

- Calculation of Cooling Power (according to load and % of coverage)
- Calculation of Solar Collector Field Power
- Calculation of Cooling Tower

- Dimensioning of collector field according to Solar Combi systems

Solar Cooling

Component Dimensioning

Component dimensioning follows the rules of general hydraulic dimensioning but required flow is given by the manufacturer

CLEAN ENERGY FOR YOU

Technical Data

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Adsorber: | SorTech AG, Germany | Cooling ceiling (nominal) | |
| Working pair: | Water / Silica Gel | Cold water cycle: | |
| Dimensions (LxDxH): | 0.79 x 1.35 x 1.45 m | Cooling capacity: | 15 kW |
| Operating weight: | approx. 510 kg | Temperature in/out: | 18 / 15°C |
| Electrical input: | | Flow rate | 4.3 m³/h |
| Voltage: | 230 V ~ 50 Hz | Connection: | 1¼" external thread |
| Power: | 30 W | Hot water cycle: | |
| | | Capacity: | 26.8 kW |
| | | Temperature in/out: | 75 / 69°C |
| | | Flow rate | 3.8 m³/h |
| | | Connection: | 1¼" external thread |
| | | Recooling cycle: | Dry cooler |
| | | Capacity: | 41.8 kW |
| | | Temperature in/out: | 27 / 32°C |
| | | Flow rate | 7.0 m³/h |
| | | Connection: | 1¼" external thread |

SolarNext AG
Nordstraße 10

Solar Cooling System Design

Hot Storage:

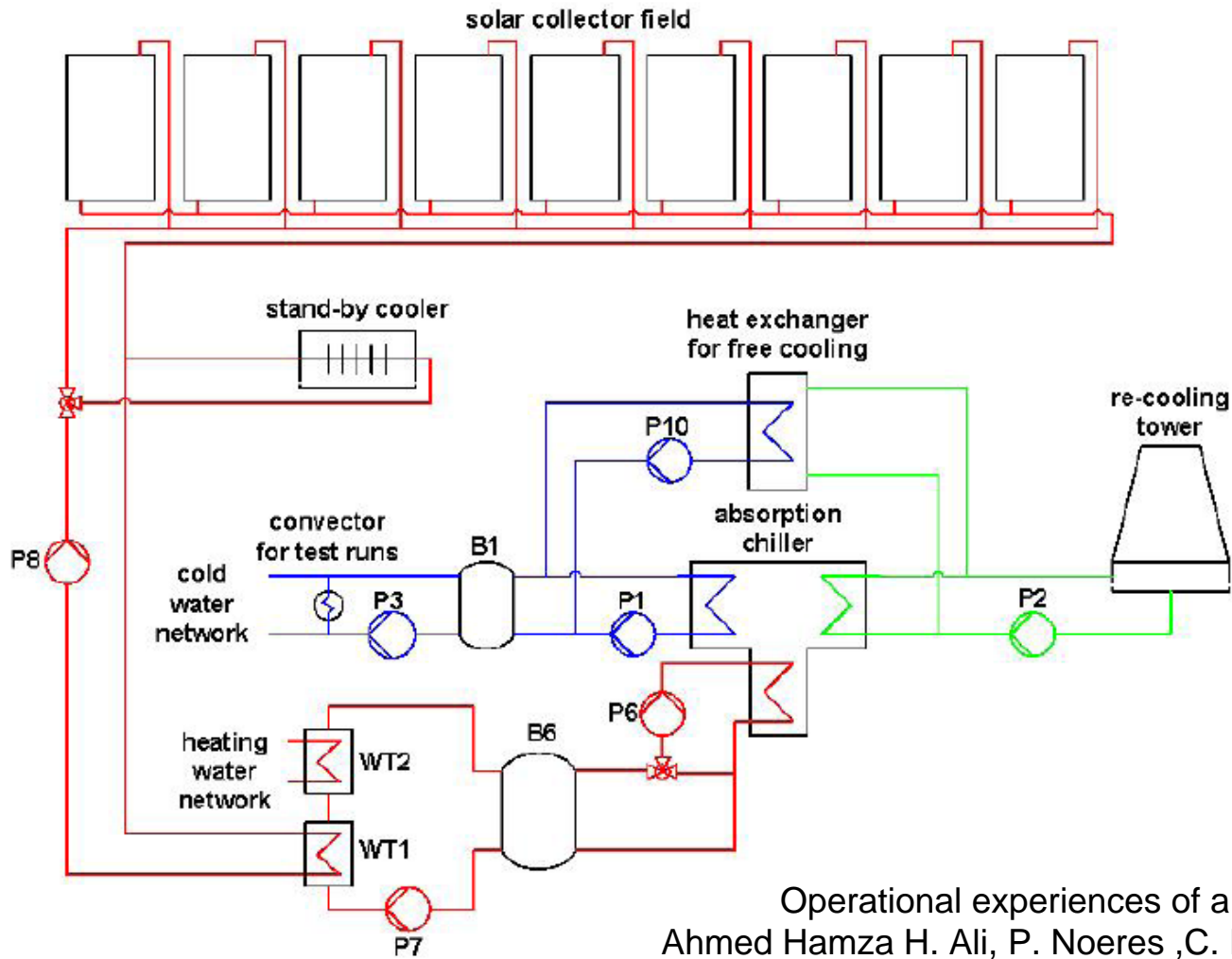
- Maximize the efficiency of the collectors
- Energy Storage (about 40lt/m²)

Cold Storage:

- Maximize efficiency of Chiller (operation at maximum COP conditions)
- Energy Storage (about 15lt/m²)

Solar Cooling

Detailed System Design



Operational experiences of a solar cooling plant
Ahmed Hamza H. Ali, P. Noeres, C. Pollerberg and C. Doetsch

General Information

- ✓ Seasonal coinherence of load and energy supply
- ✗ Small scale solar chiller industry still under developement
- ✗ High chiller cost for chillers of less than 30kW (1000€/kW)
- ✓ Integration on existing systems (use of Fan coils – underfloor heating)
- ✓ Solar Chillers in split unit format expected soon

General Solar Field dimensioning:

- $3\text{m}^2/\text{kW}_c$ for closed circuit chillers
- 10m^2 per $1000\text{m}^3/\text{h}$ for open circuit chillers