

# **Thoughts on the Future of Building Thermal Management**

**Reinhard Radermacher**  
**Center for Environmental Energy Engineering**  
**University of Maryland**

**October 1, 2015**

# Some CEEE Students and Staff



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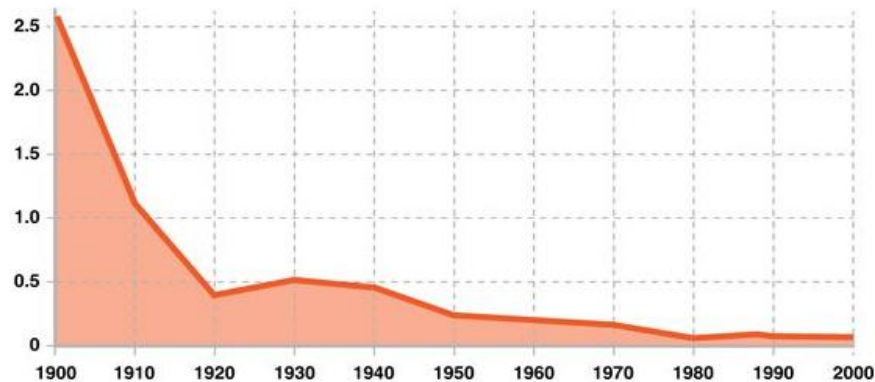
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- 🌱 Background
- 🌱 Evolutionary Progress
- 🌱 (Potentially) Revolutionary Developments
- 🌱 Food for Thought

# Background

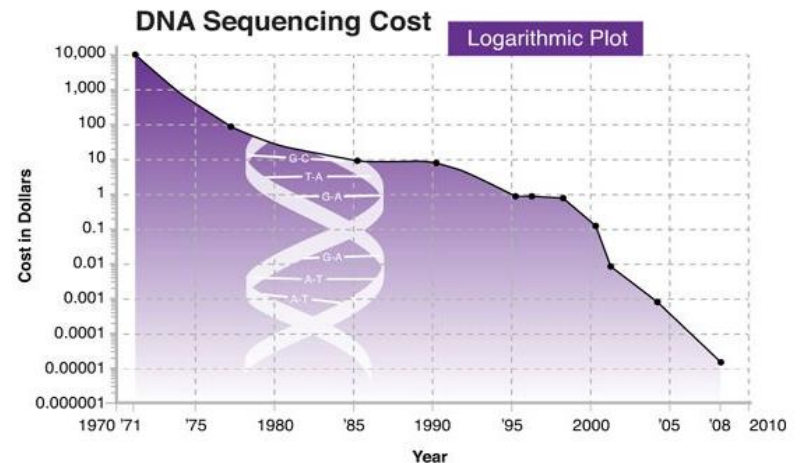
# The World is Changing

35 Average Price of US Electricity over Time (\$ per kWh at 1990 prices)

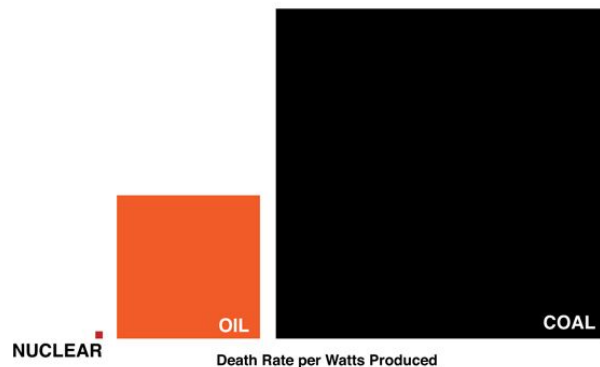


**Smartphone displaces  
\$900K worth of  
equipment**

29 Exponential Decrease in DNA Sequencing Costs



36 Deaths per TWh by Energy Generation Source





# Appalachian Mountains, WV





# ...after Mountaintop Removal

Massey Valley Fill Lyburn,  
WV





# What Does the Future Hold?

CEEE Research Roadmap: Macro View

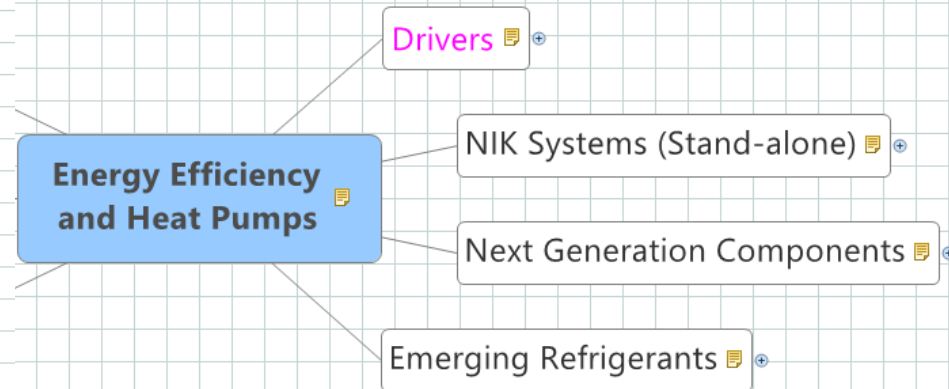
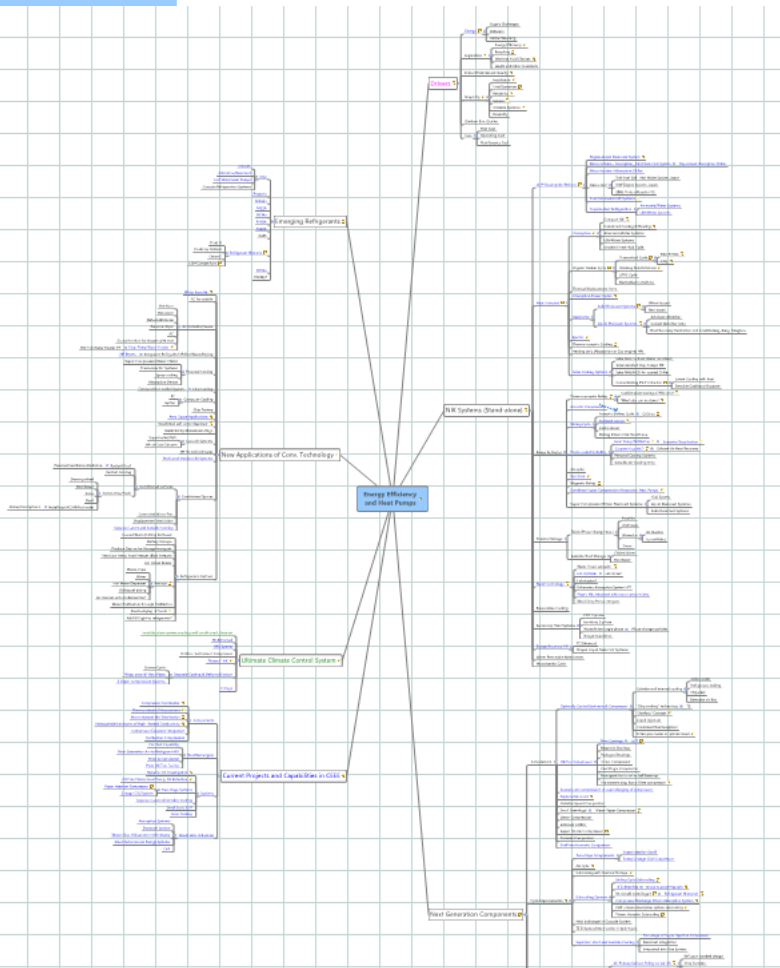
Heating below 100C:

- CHP
- Heat Pumps

Cooling/Refrigeration/Cold Climates

- Heat Pumps

# Heat Pump Knowledgebase



- Alternative Cooling Systems
- Systems Integration
- Find New Applications for Existing Technology
  - Water from air

## CEEE Technology Roadmap Workshops

- system
- Synchron Cycle



# Evolutionary Developments

# FUTURE OF COMPRESSORS



# How Technology Develops...

Would this engineer



Can you



Material  
consumption?  
Energy consumption?  
Environmental  
impact?  
Transportation cost?  
Manuf.cost: ~2%?



**IOR**  
ior.org.uk

# Creative Compressors...



<http://www.fairchildcontrols.com/54mm-heli-rotor-compressor/>

Oil-free Screw Compressor  
~15,000 rpm



<http://www.embraco.com/wisemotion/Default.aspx>

Oil-free Linear Compressor Variable Capacity



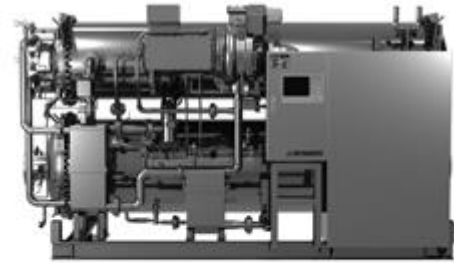
Highest Power  
Density in  
Industry

<http://www.aspencompressor.com/our-technology/>

# Oil-Free Centrifugal Compressor

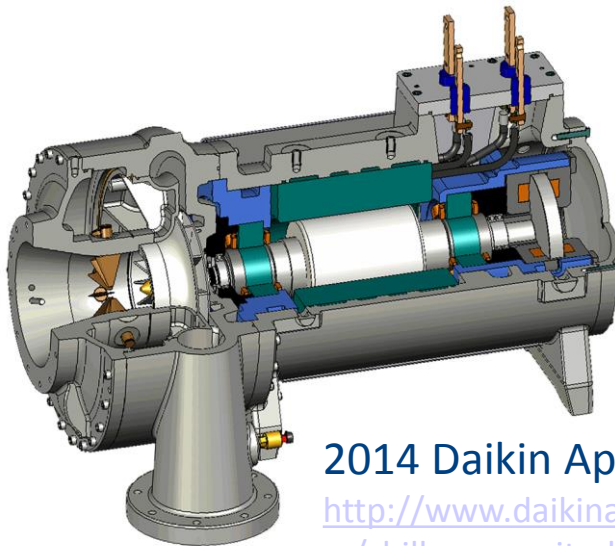


**York YMC² Water-Cooled  
Magnetic Centrifugal Chiller**



**Mitsubishi**

*Centrifugal chiller with magnetic bearing system  
"ETI-40MB/50MB"*



**2014 Daikin Applied**

<http://www.daikinapplied.com/chiller-magnitude-magnetic.php>

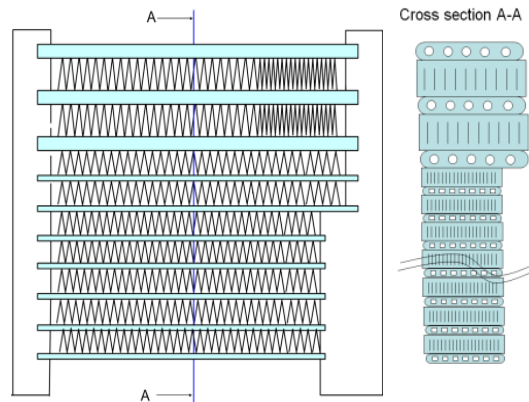
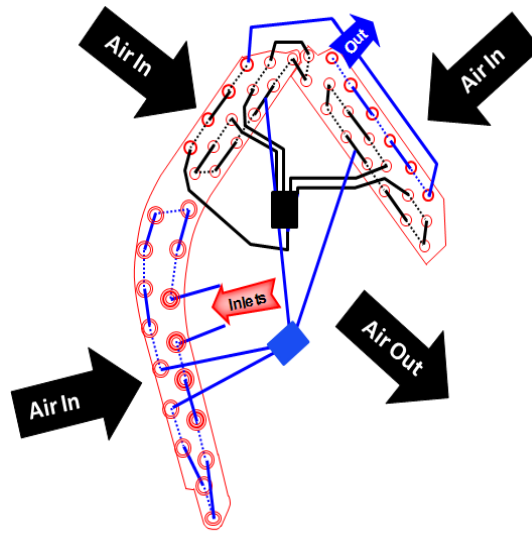
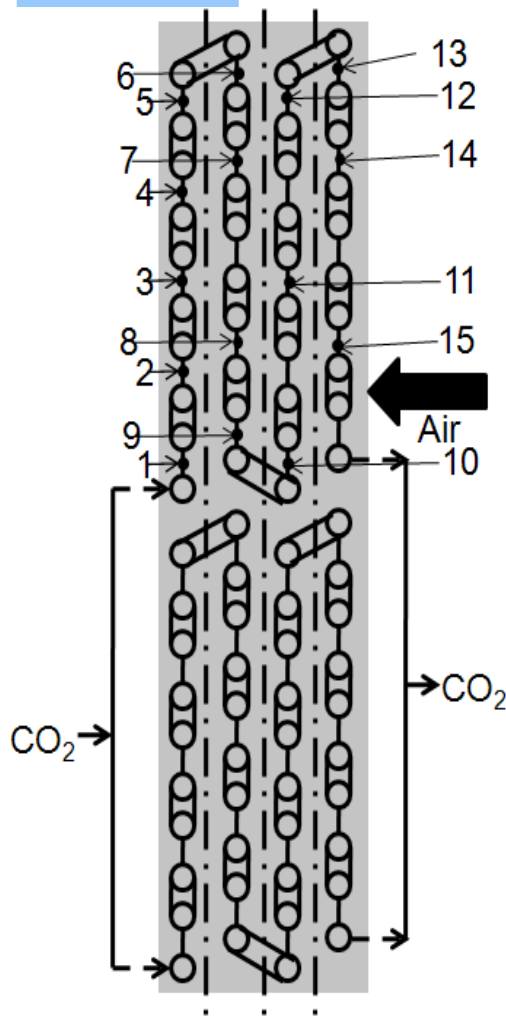


**Trane® Series S™ CenTraVac™  
Chiller**

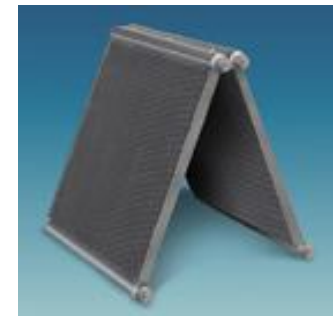
# FUTURE OF HEAT EXCHANGERS



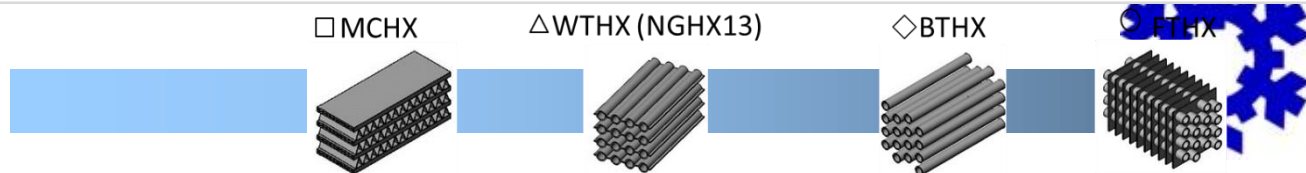
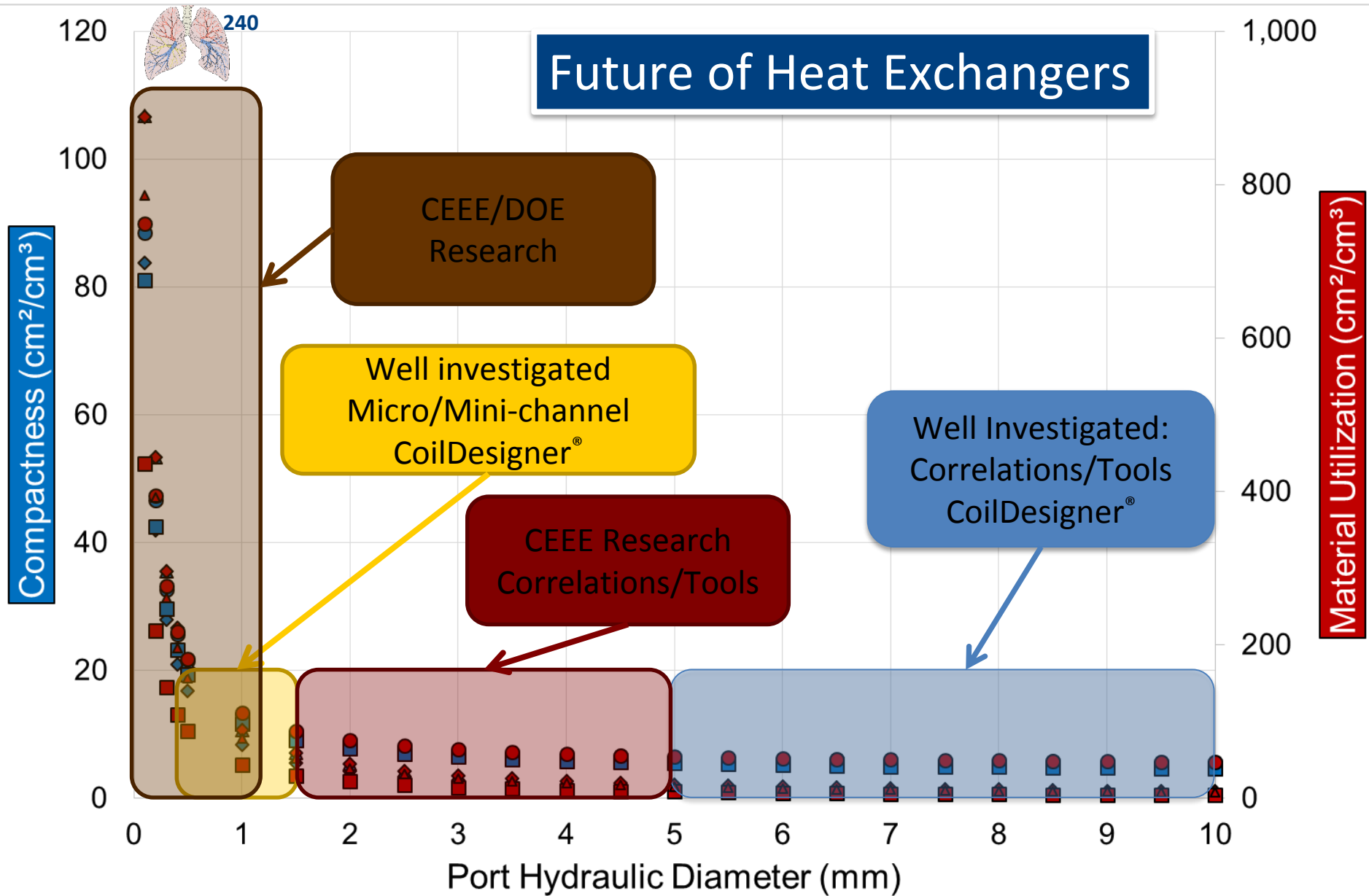
# Air-to-Refrigerant Heat Exchangers



Standard configuration MCHX

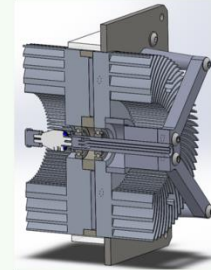


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# Air Bearing Condenser (SNL)

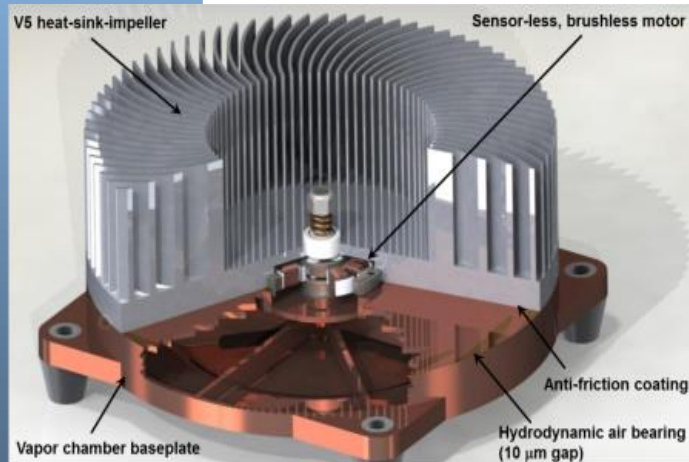
- Conv. air-refrigerant heat exchanger: Large volume (HX + Fan)
- Sandia Cooler
  - HX combines “fan” and “fin”, compact
  - Air-bearing maintains 5-10 micrometer air gap
  - Quiet and efficient



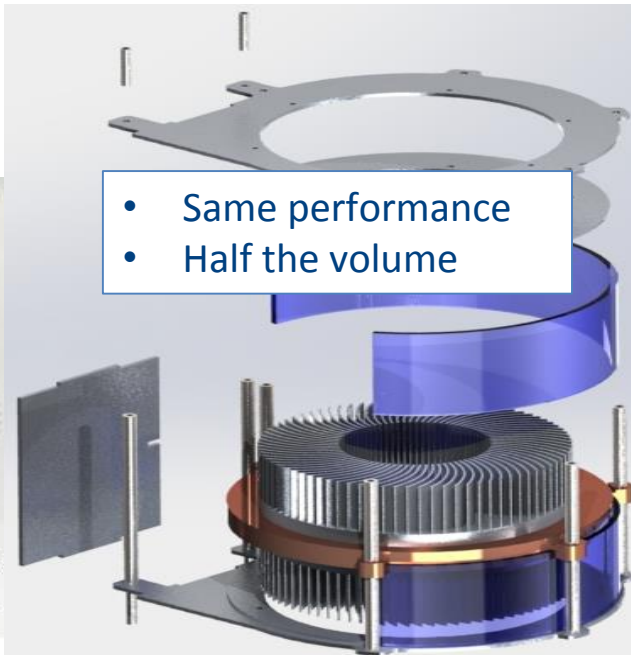
Cross-section of Sandia Cooler device concept



Laird Baseline Unit



- Same performance
- Half the volume



- Reduced Volume
- Increased COP



<http://energiaoldal.hu/csendes-es-hatekony-szamitogep-hutes/>



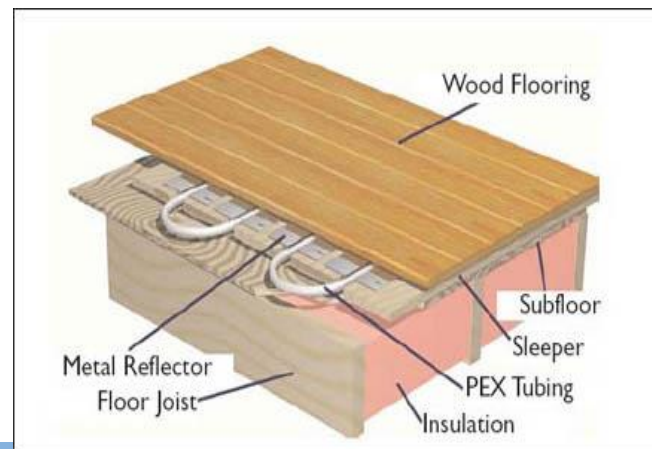
# Floor Heating – Chilled Ceilings



<http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/reno/ho/images/ce-04-1.jpg>



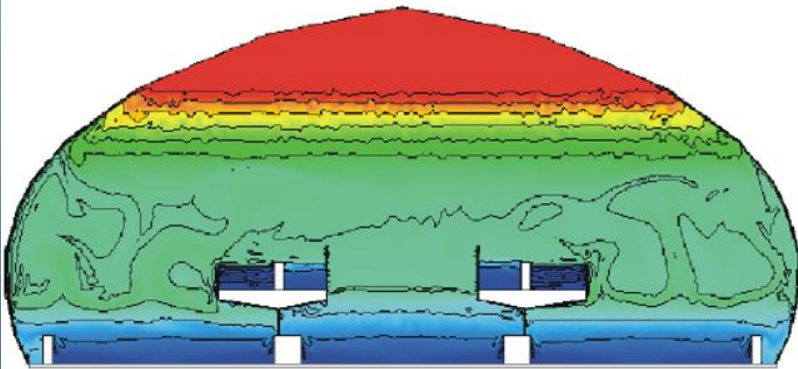
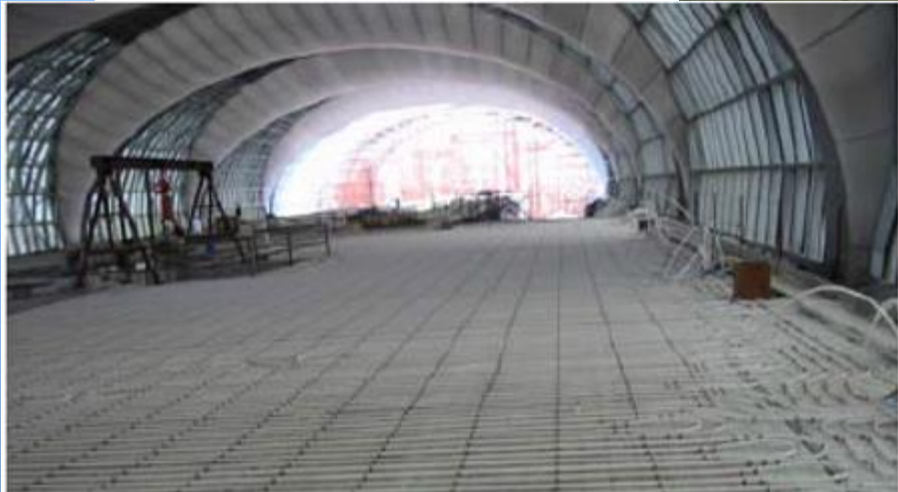
Frenger Systems Limited  
Delta House  
Shaftesbury Street South  
Derby  
DE23 8YH



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# Examples



Olesen B., 2009, Low temperature radiant heating – high temperature radiant cooling, ASHRAE, Louisville



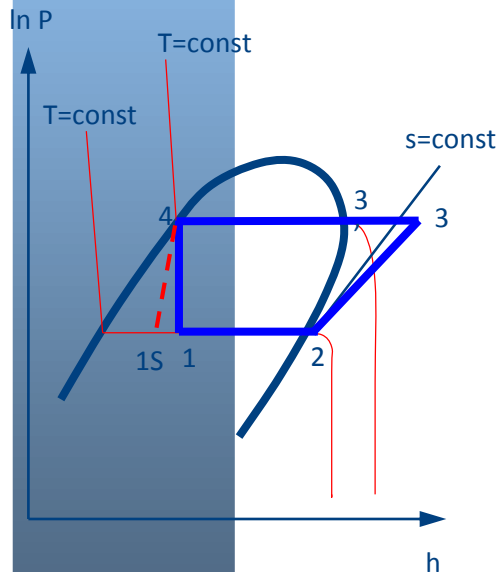
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# Vapor Compression Cycle Improvements

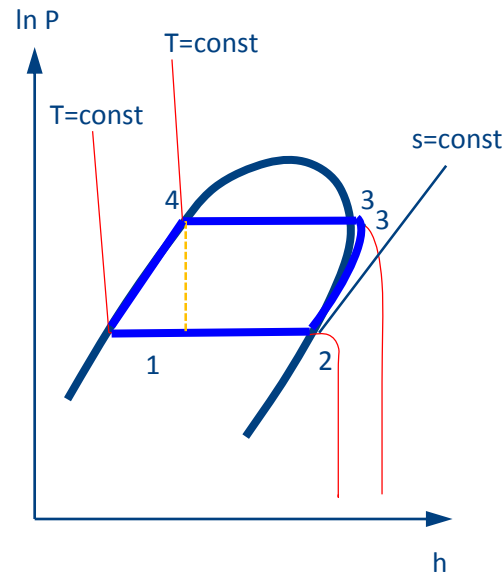
# Ultra Efficient Vapor Compression

## Saturation Cycle

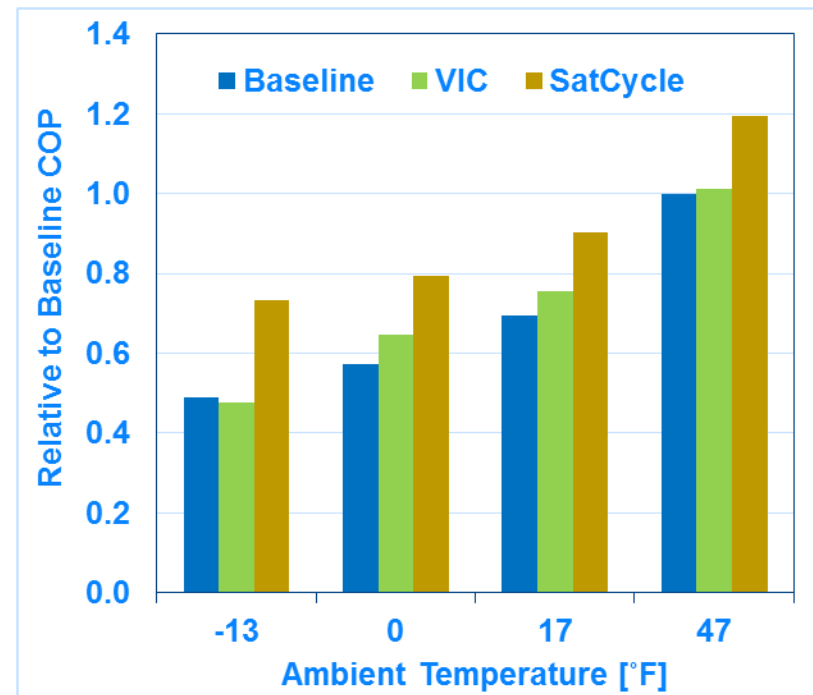
- First concept
- 22%  $\uparrow$  35°C cooling COP
- 53%  $\uparrow$  -25°C heating COP



(a) Conventional Cycle



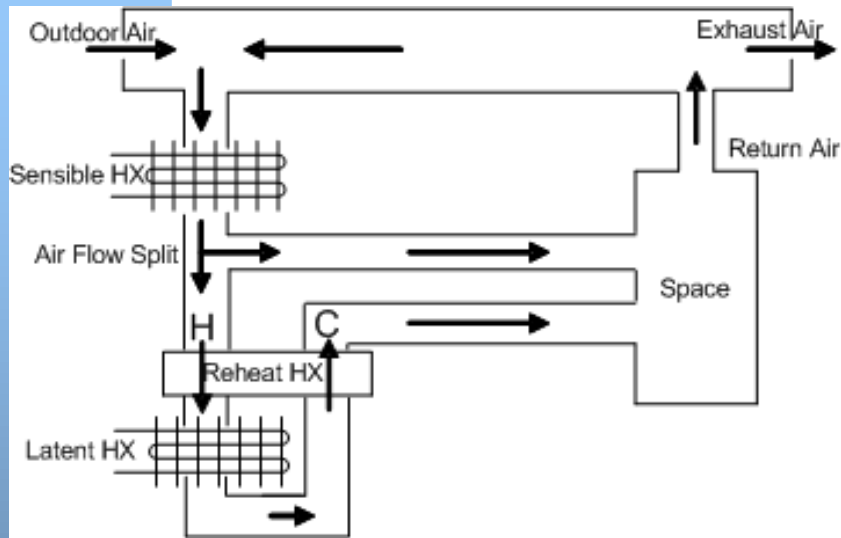
(b) Saturation Cycle



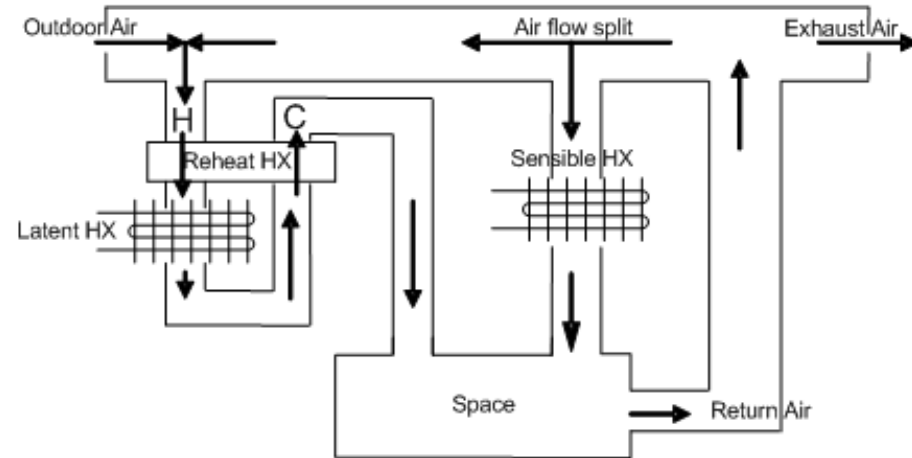
# System Integration Benefits



# Introduction-SSLC Configurations



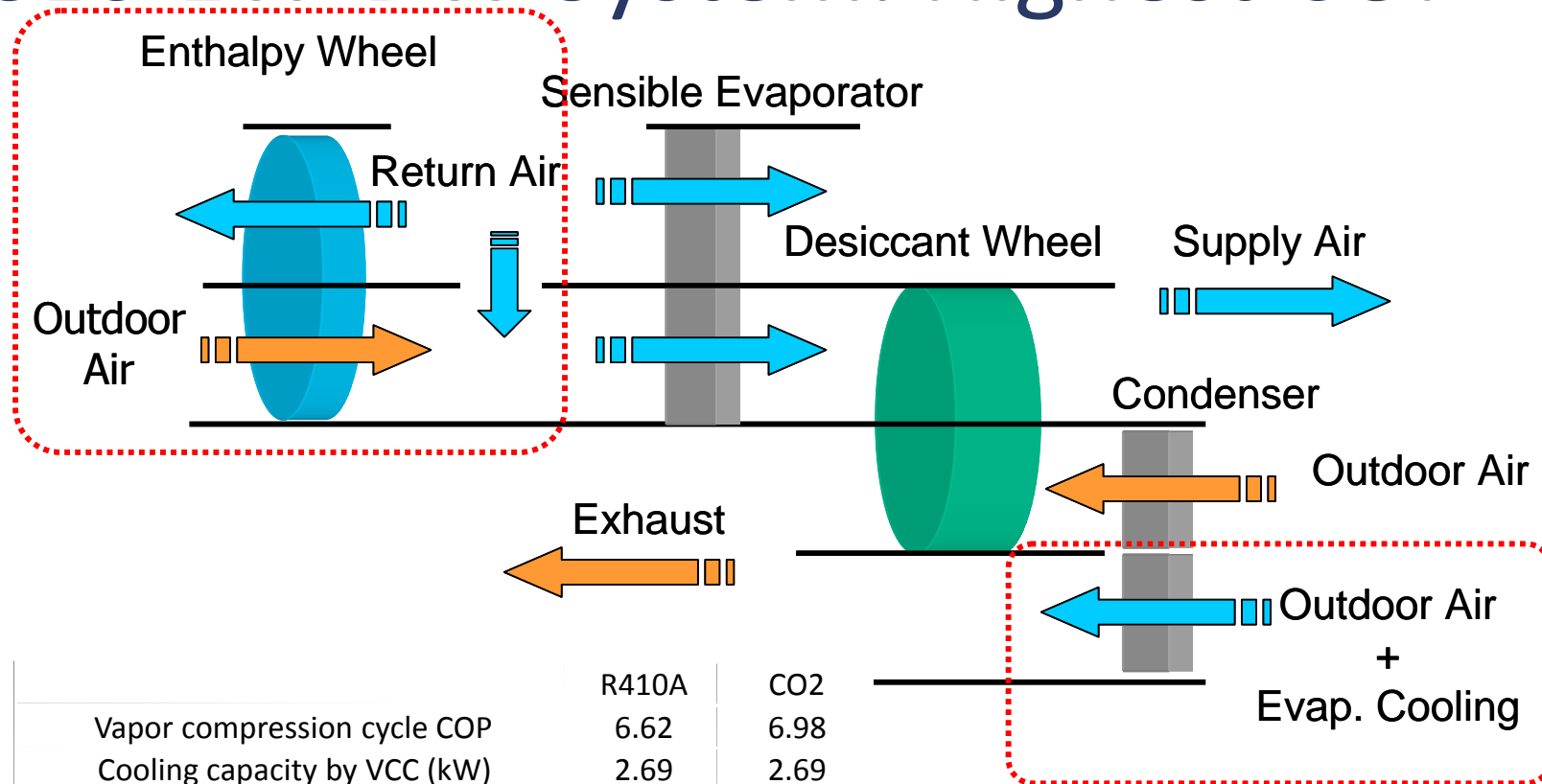
SSLC Serial Configuration



SSLC Parallel Configuration

Outside condition	Standard	Humid	Hot & Dry	Hot & Humid
Energy savings	30%	27%	37%	26%

# SSLC-EW-DW System: Highest COP



	R410A	CO2
Vapor compression cycle COP	6.62	6.98
Cooling capacity by VCC (kW)	2.69	2.69
System COP	8.62	9.09
System cooling capacity (kW)	3.50	3.50
Power input (kW)	0.41	0.39
System COP improvement from EW	73.00%	68.00%
Enthalpy wheel capacity (kW)	1.32	1.32
Enthalpy wheel latent capacity (kW)	0.67	0.67

# Solar Decathlon 2011

- 🌱 US DOE Sponsored Competition
- 🌱 20 Universities competing
- 🌱 UMD won 1<sup>st</sup> Place, October 2011

Watershed 2011



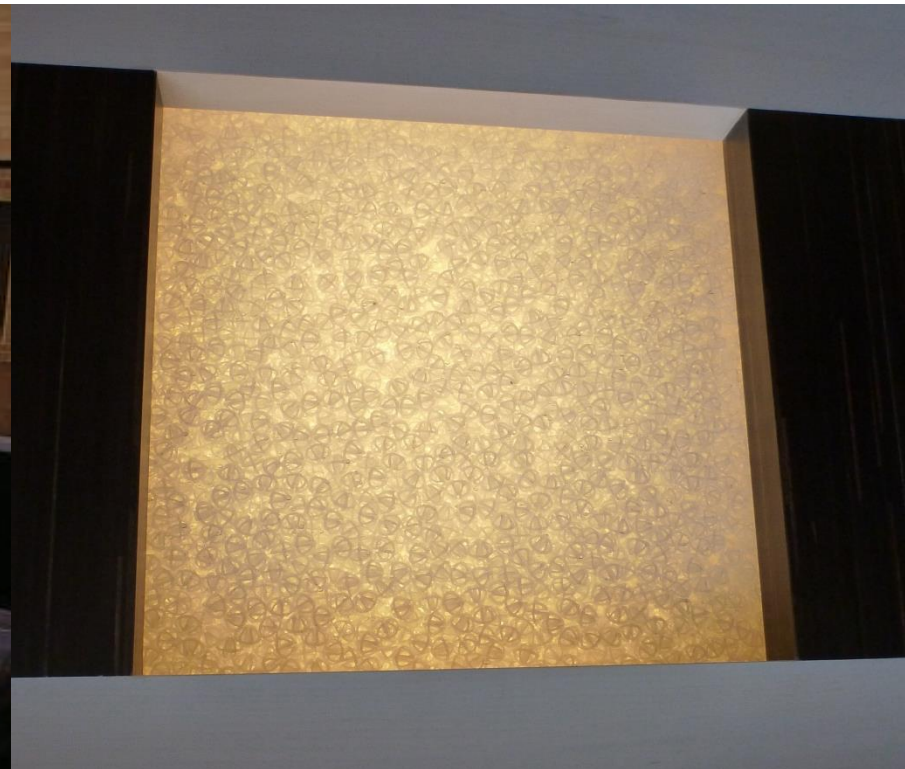
Leafhouse  
2007





# Liquid Desiccant 'Water Fall'

- Architectural feature
- $\text{CaCl}_2$  Solution
- Solar hot water regeneration
- Solution storage tank
- Split system AC
- Now basis for start-up company



# Roving Comforter, RoCo



## RoCo Technology

- Personal 'attendant' for thermal comfort
- Cooling and heating through one or more robotically controlled air nozzles
- Follows a person
- Integrates thermal storage
- Many implementation and cost options

RoCo  
12% savings



0.72 QBTU  
savings



31% savings



1.86 QBTU  
savings



15% saving scenario

34% saving scenario

UMD/CEEE

ORNL

RoCo  
Team

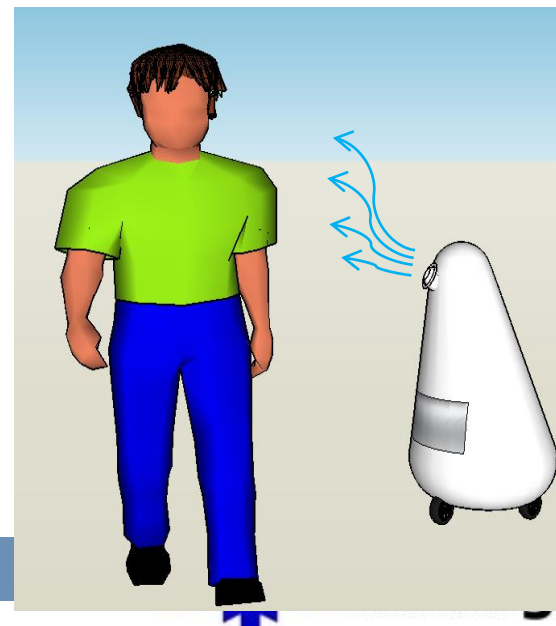
GE

IB|firstbuild

Sandia

To be marketed through

IB|firstbuild

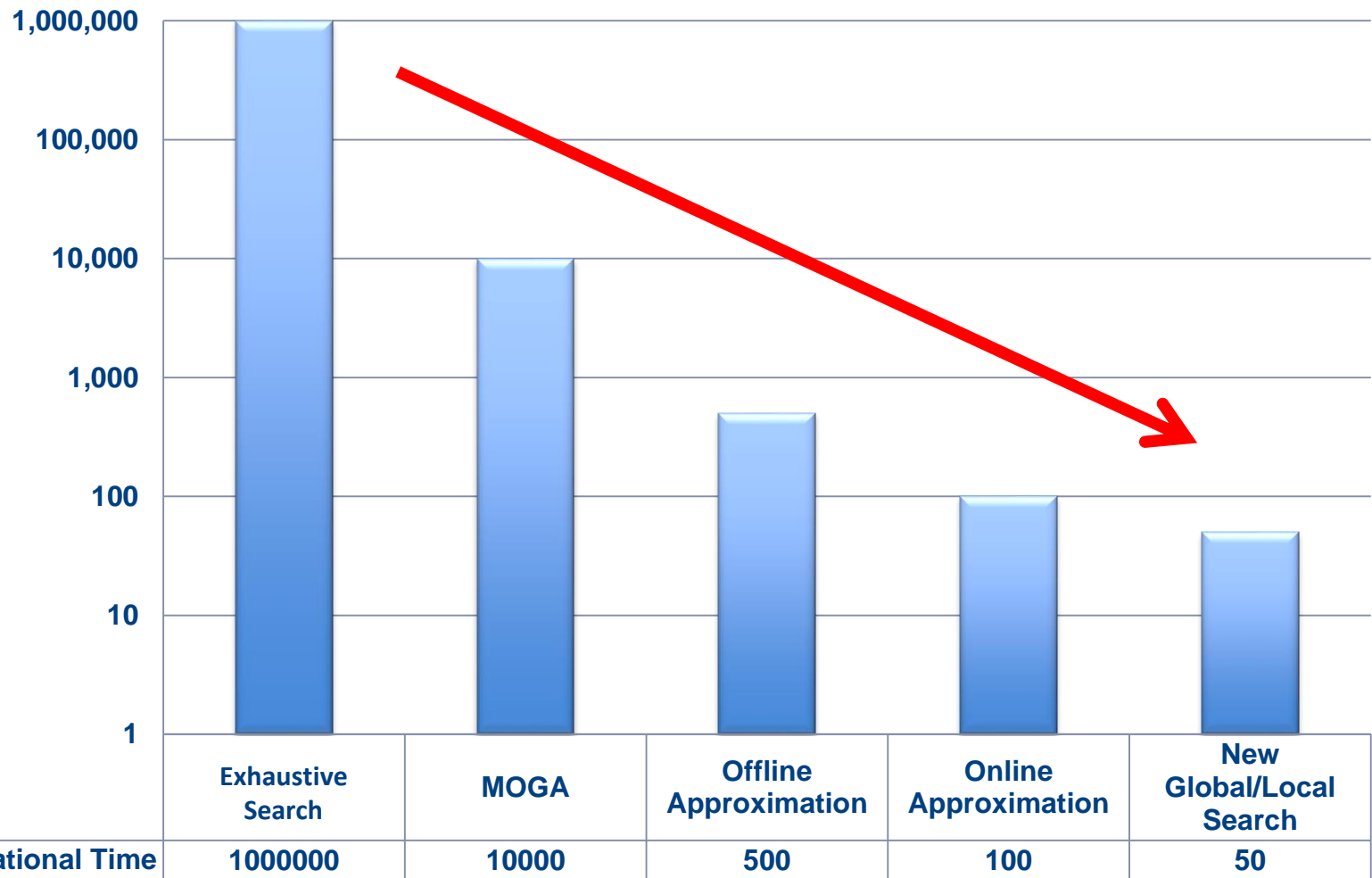


R  
uk



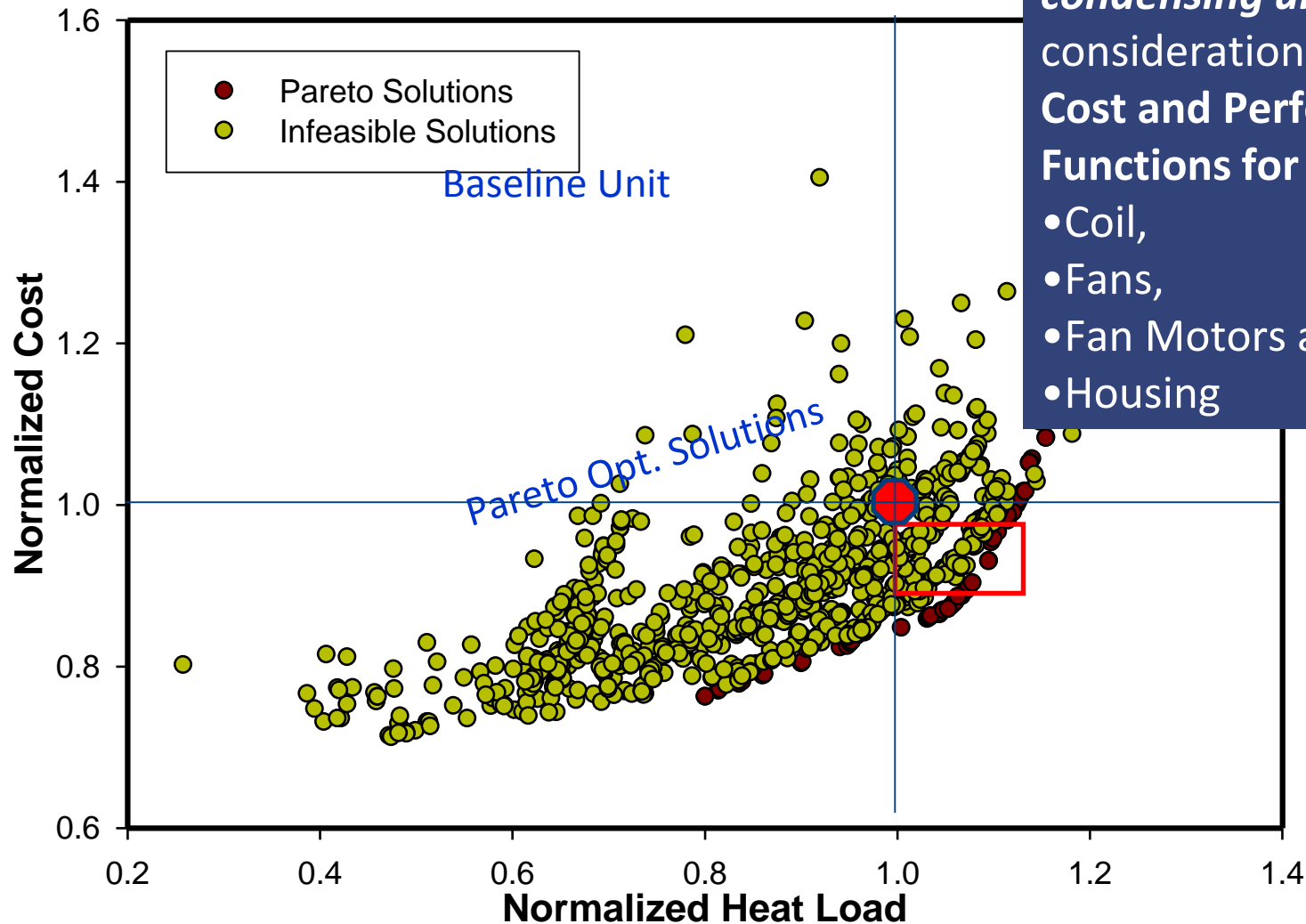
# SYSTEMATIC EXPLORATION OF DESIGN SPACE AND WHAT IT MAY LEAD TO

# Fast Ways of Exploring Design Space



# Cost Minimization Example: Condensing Unit

Infeasible & Pareto Solutions for Condensing Unit

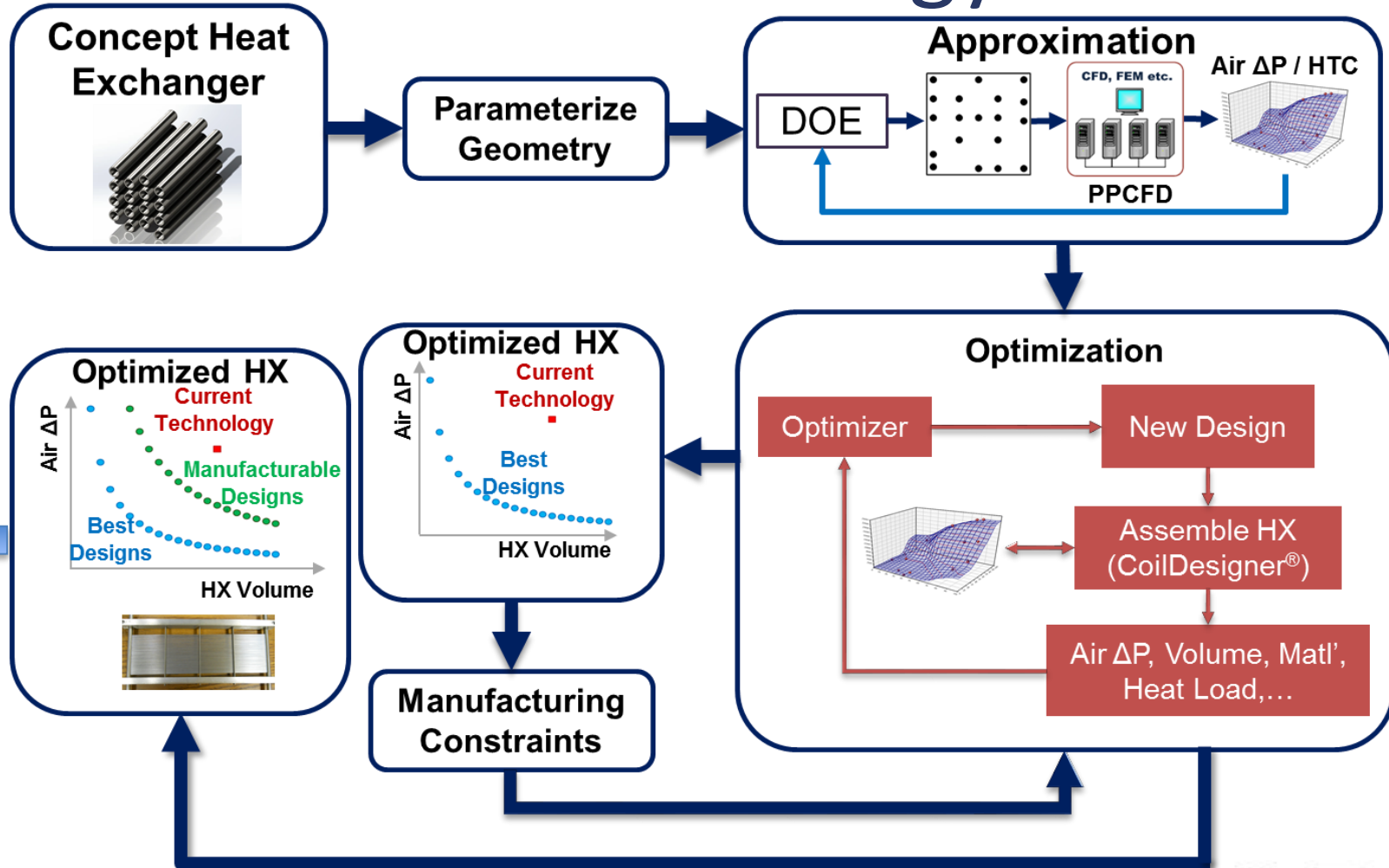


Minimization of first cost of *condensing unit* under consideration of:

**Cost and Performance Functions for**

- Coil,
- Fans,
- Fan Motors and
- Housing

# NGHX Methodology



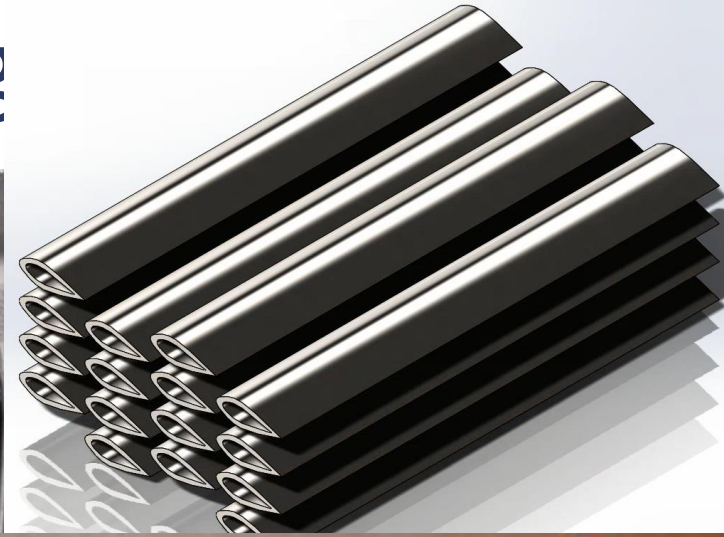
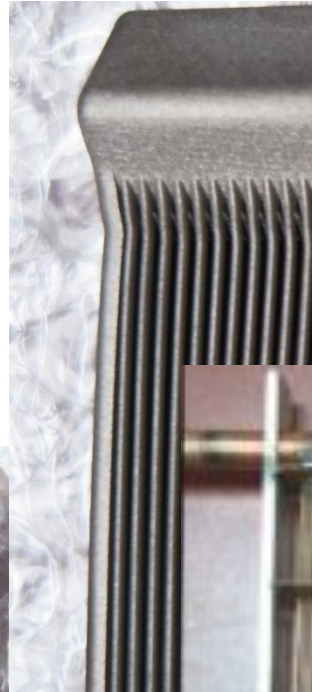
# Heat Exchang

## ***Validation***

Energy Balance  $\pm 2.5\%$

Heat Capacity  $\pm 7\%$

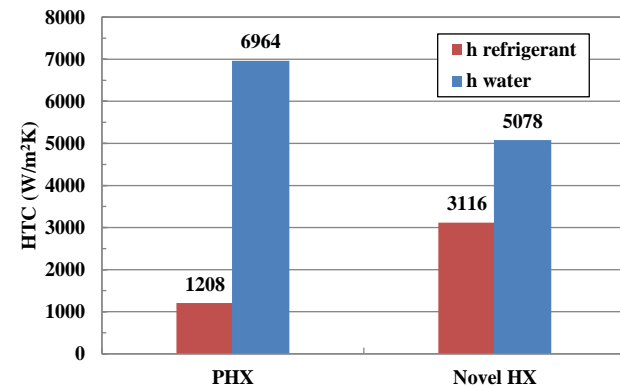
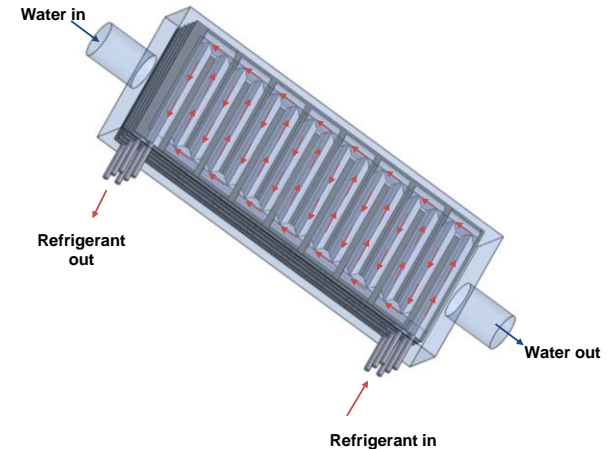
Air-side pressure drop  $\pm 12\%$





# Novel Plate HX Example

- ❖ Fused Al sheets for flexible compatibility
- ❖ Independent water- and refrigerant-side spacing
- ❖ UA-value doubled
- ❖ @ same or lower dP



# Revolutionary Developments

# Magnetic Cooling: GE Appliances Prototype

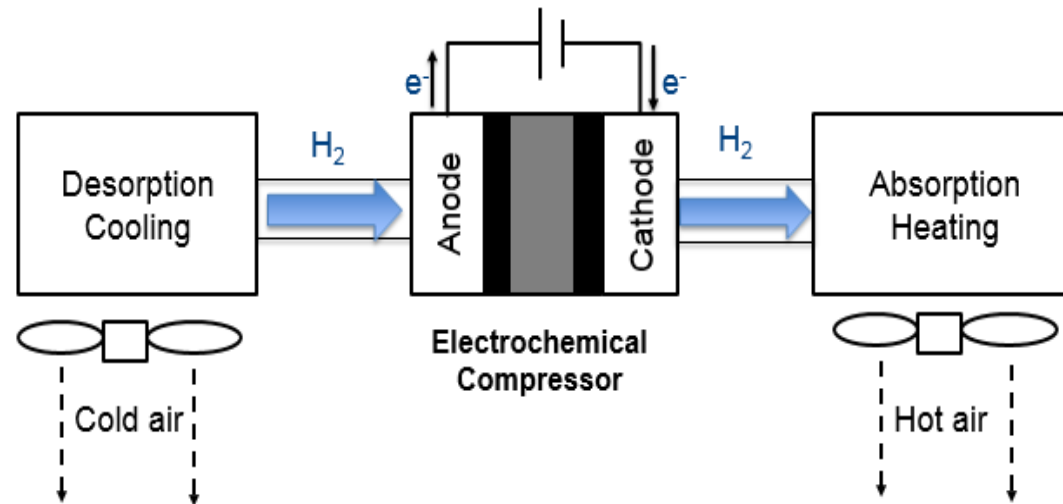


- Refrigerator/freezer
- 80 F temperature lift
- Using 50 stages cascade cycle
- 20-25% more efficient than current vapor compression based refrigerator

<http://www.ge.com/research/live/>

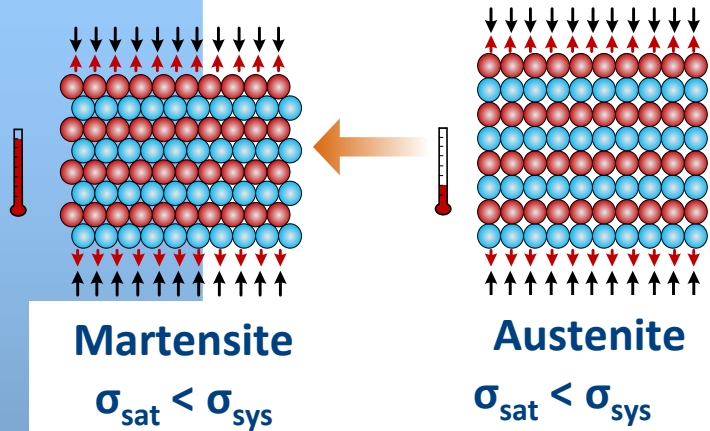
<http://www.gereports.com/post/75911607449/not-your-average-fridge-magnet>

# Electrochemical Compressor Driven MH Heat Pump

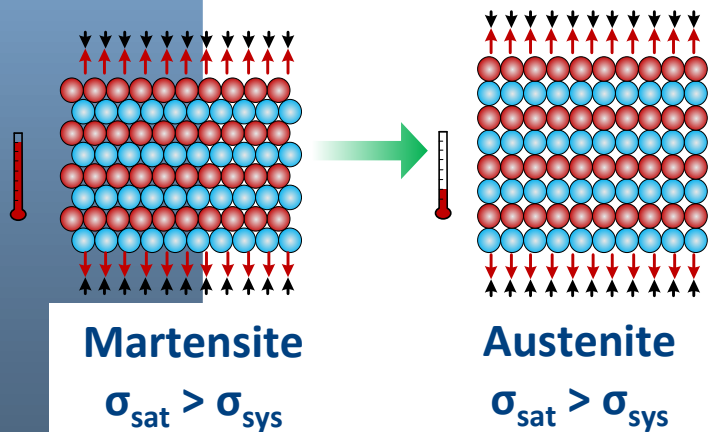


- Mechanical compressor is replaced by electrochemical compressor
- System contains pure hydrogen
- Comparable or higher compression efficiency than mechanical compressor
- No moving parts
- Hydrogen flow direction can be reversed by switching the anode and cathode, simplifying design

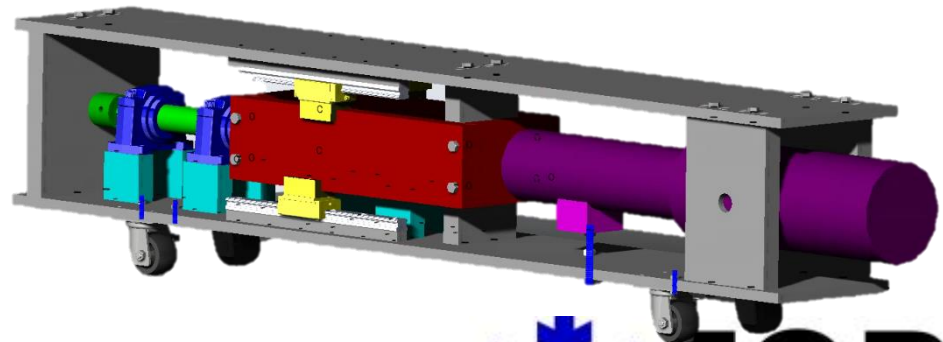
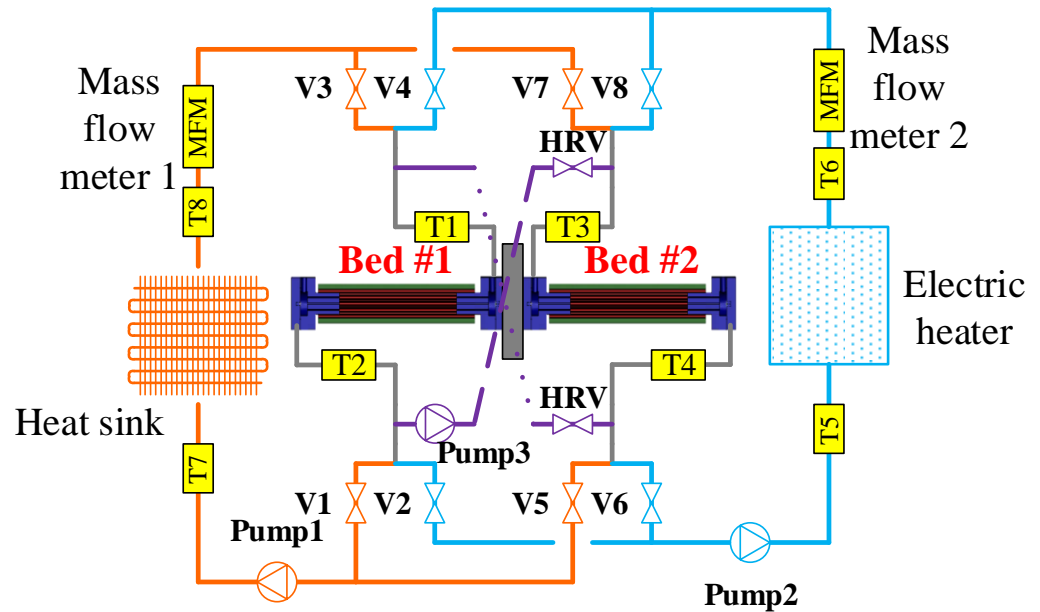
# Thermoelastic Cooling



Apply stress to the system

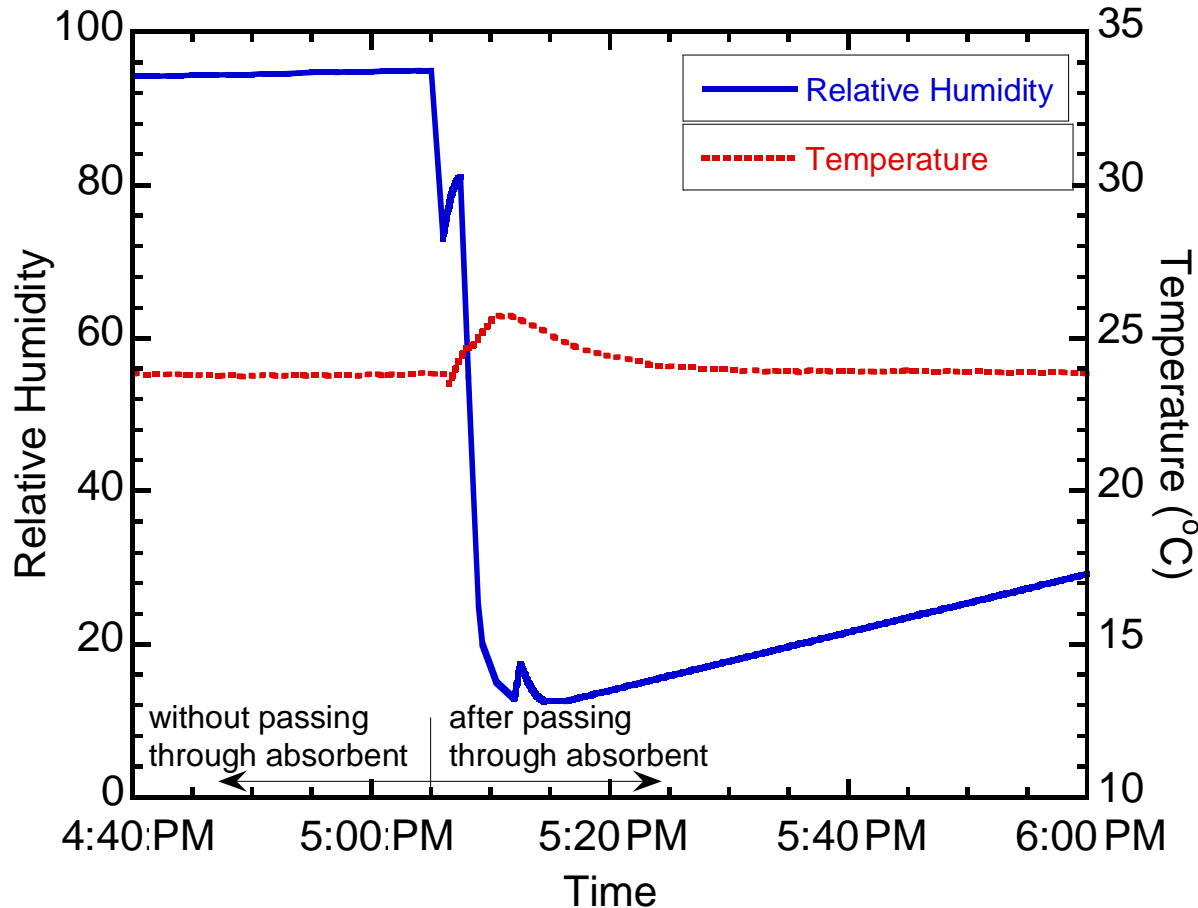
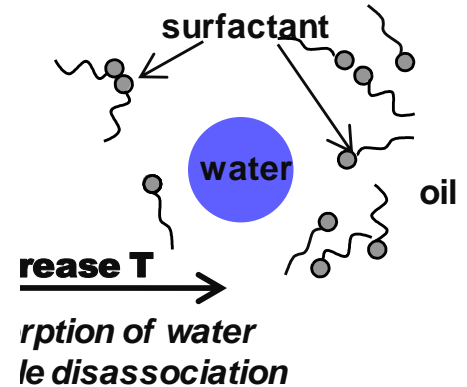
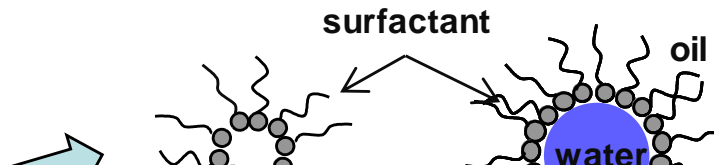
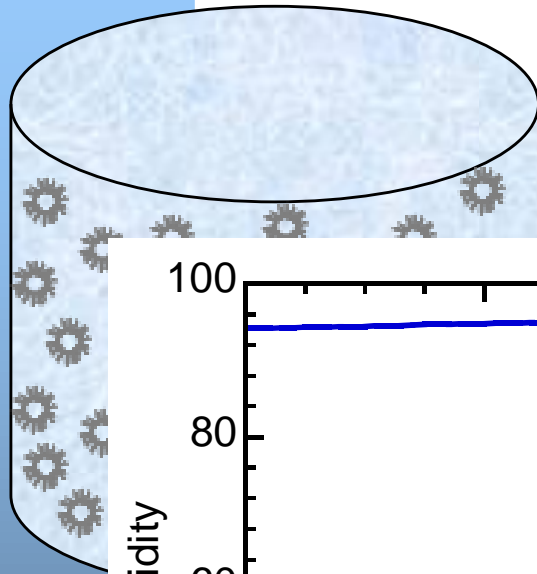


Remove stress from the system





# Novel Microemulsion Absorbent



# Outlook

- 🌱 Increasing energy efficiency -> smaller products sold
- 🌱 Ventilation and hot water larger portion of business
- 🌱 Renovation is much larger market, more difficult to address = huge opportunity
- 🌱 The nature of Innovation is changing rapidly

# Thank You



# **We hope you enjoyed this webinar from the Institute of Refrigeration**

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