

Absorption Heat Transformer for waste heat temperature upgrading

שנאי חום לשדרוג טמפרטורת חום שיורי

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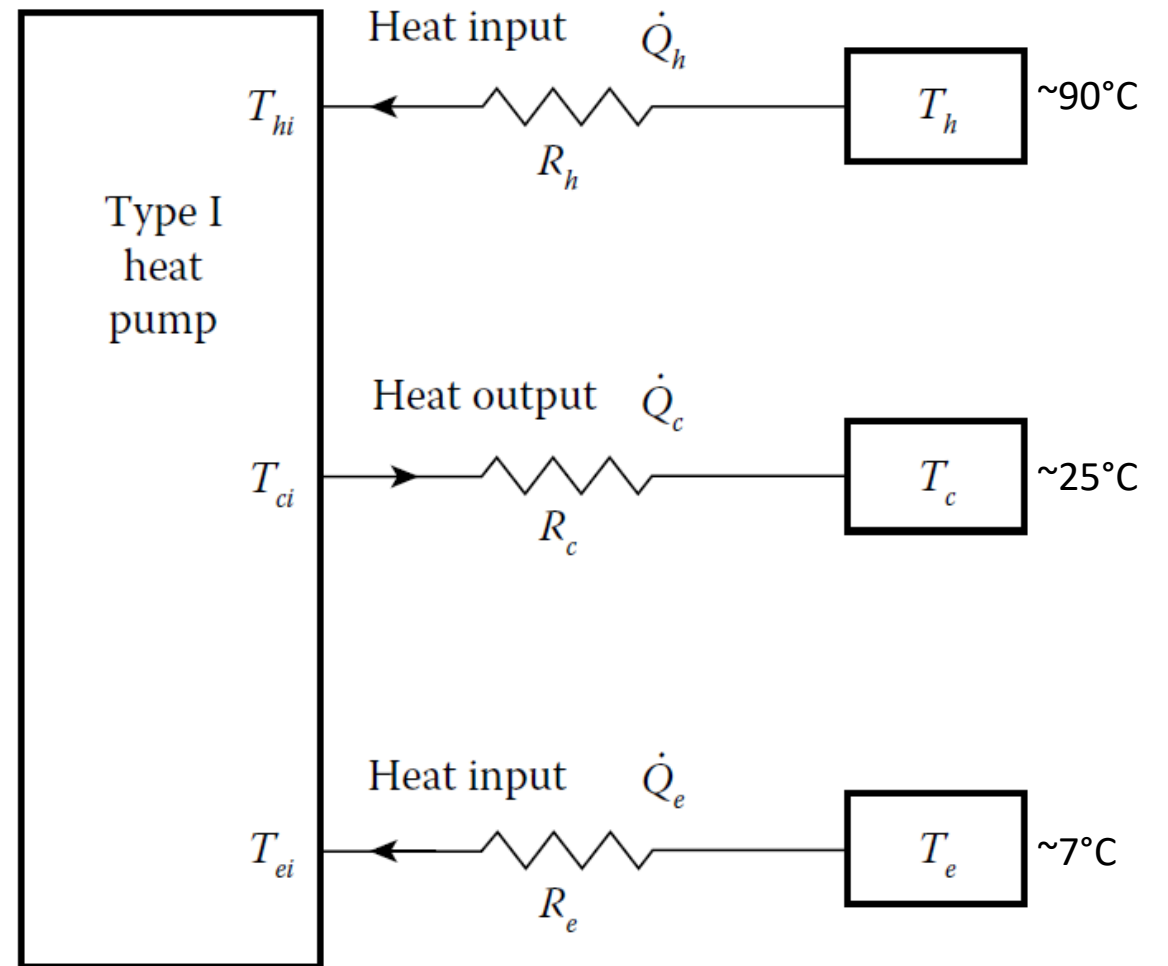
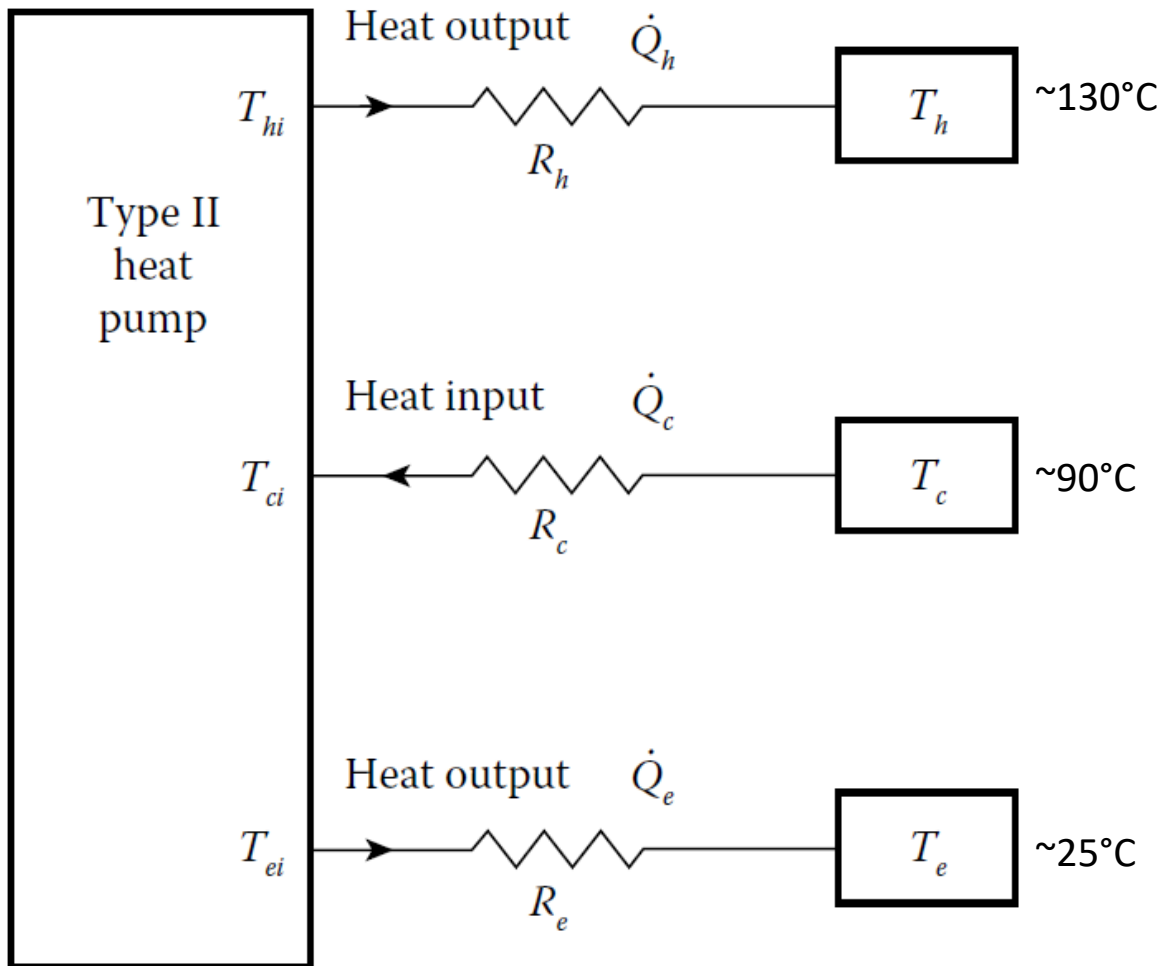
Electricity & Energy 2021

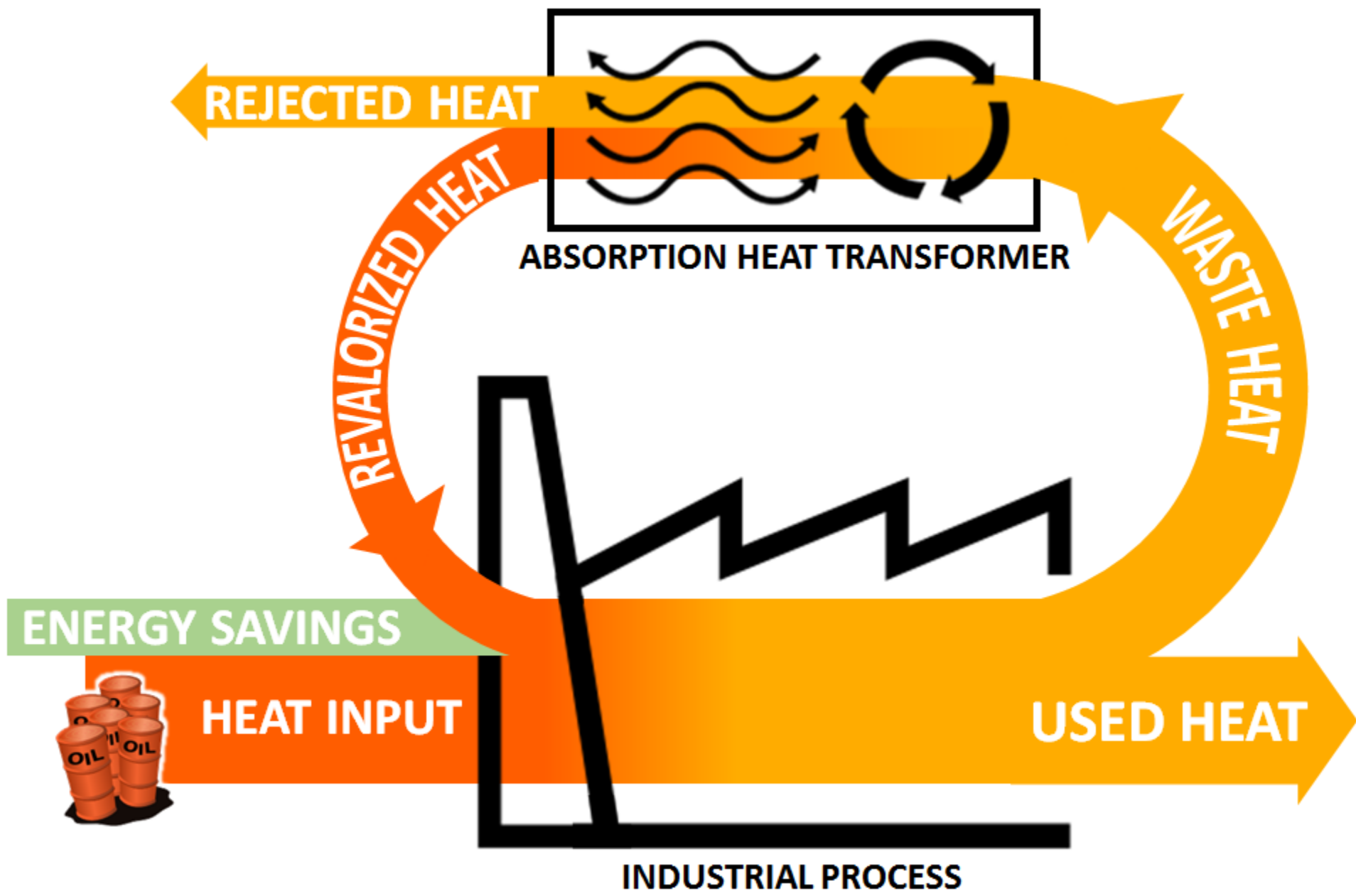
The 21st International Annual Convention of SEEI

November 9-13, 2021, Eilat, Israel

Two main types of absorption heat pumps

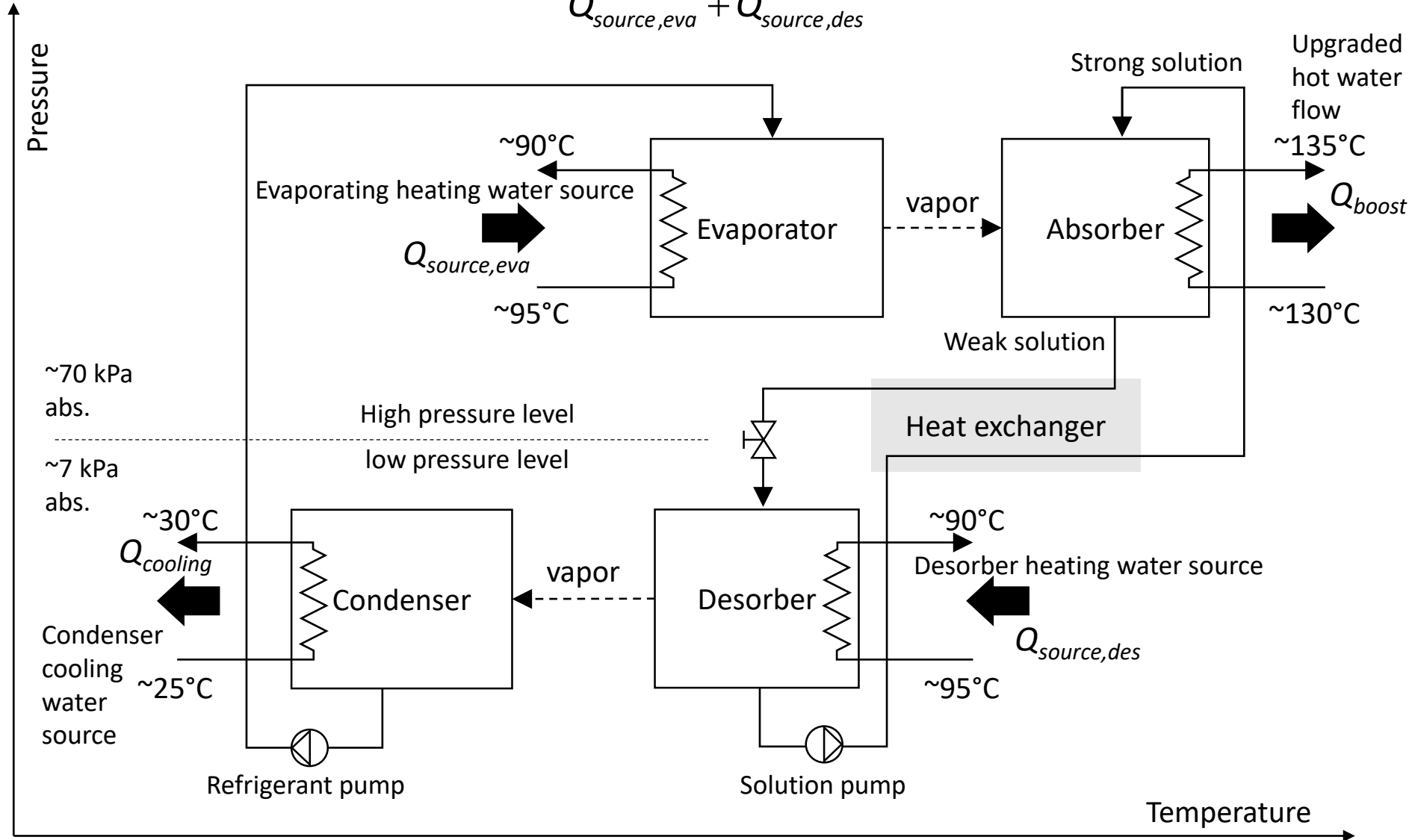
Type I – Absorption refrigerator/chiller (cooling)





LiBr-H₂O Absorption Heat Transformer

$$COP_{thermal} = \frac{Q_{boost}}{Q_{source,eva} + Q_{source,des}} \approx 0.5$$





Horizon 2020



Industrial Energy and Environment Efficiency (www.indus3es.eu)

Participants

1	TECNALIA	Coordinator and R&D		SPAIN
2	TU BERLIN	R&D		GERMANY
3	TECHNION	R&D		ISRAEL
4	BS NOVA	Manufacturing		GERMANY
5	AIGUASOL	Installation		SPAIN
6	TUPRAS	Industry		TURKEY
7	REPSOL	Industry (replication)		SPAIN
8	FERTINAGRO	Industry (replication)		SPAIN
9	CIRCE	Business		SPAIN
10	PNO	Dissemination		BELGIUM

Tüpraş

- Waste heat is 3-8 t/h of pure steam at **~100°C**.
- Available cooling water temperature **25°C**.
- Tüpraş is interested in increasing the boiler feed water temperature from 65°C to **above 110°C** (flexible target).
- Capacities are of a much greater scale than the intended Indus3Es AHT prototype goal.



“Lab scale”
10 kW

“Breadboard Scale”
50 kW

Final prototype
“Pilot scale”
200 kW

With focus on:

HPV (high-pressure vessel)

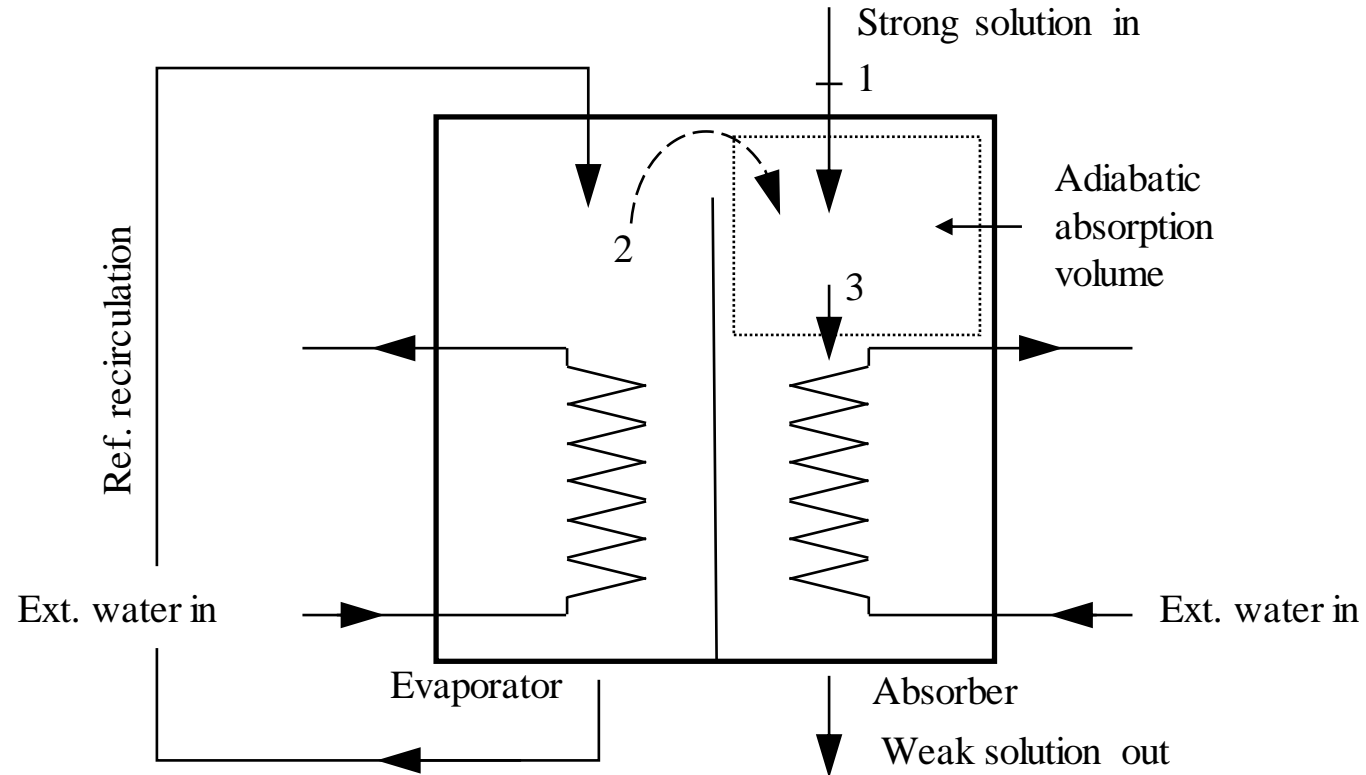
Adiabatic Absorption

Motor-less Purge System

Alternative configuration and distribution system

Adiabatic absorption

ADIABATIC ABSORPTION HIGH-PRESSURE VESSEL (HPV)



Mass balance:

$$\dot{m}_1 + \dot{m}_2 = \dot{m}_3$$

$$\dot{m}_1 x_1 = \dot{m}_3 x_3$$

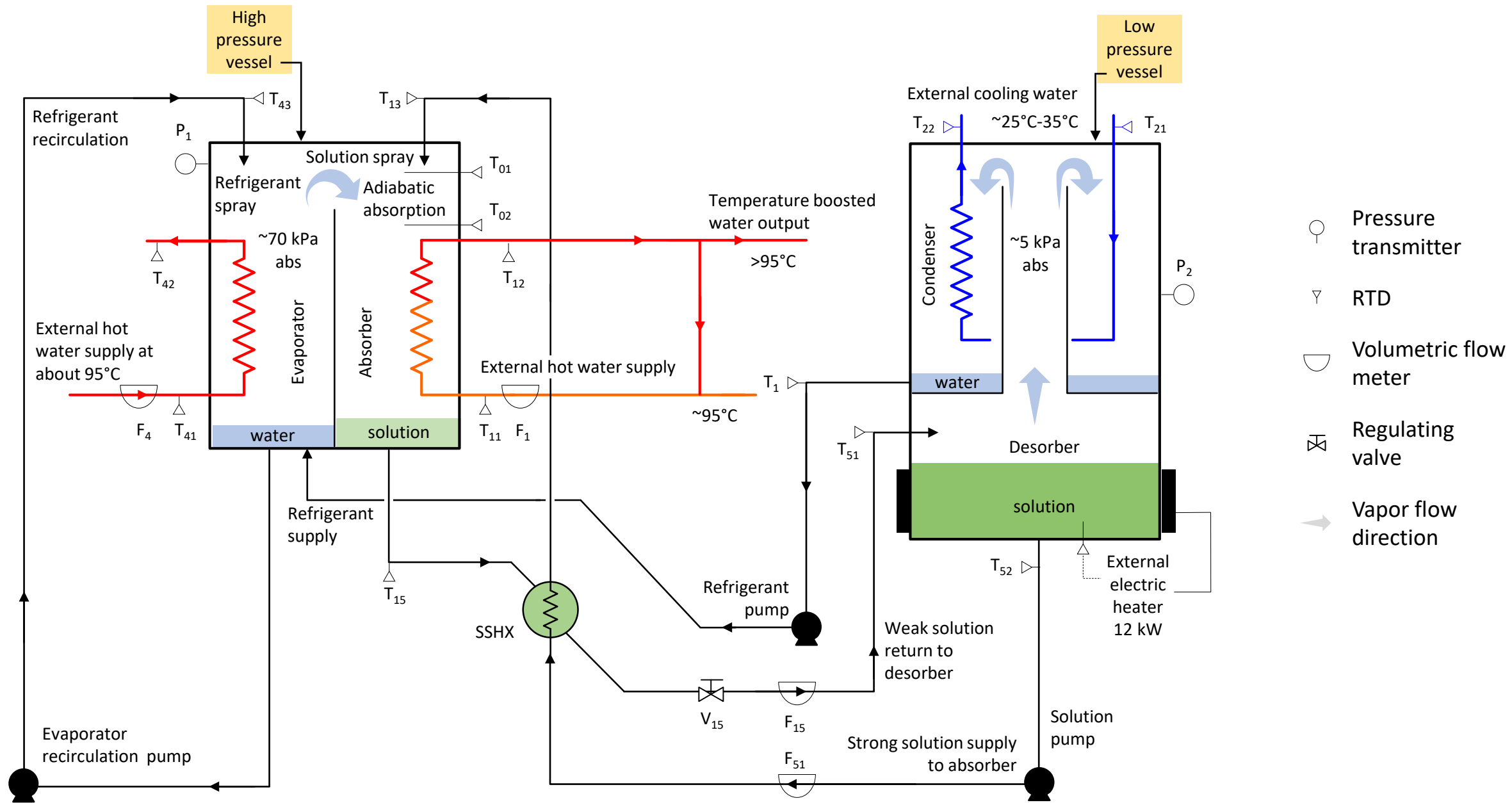
$$h_3 = h_{sat}(x_3, P)$$

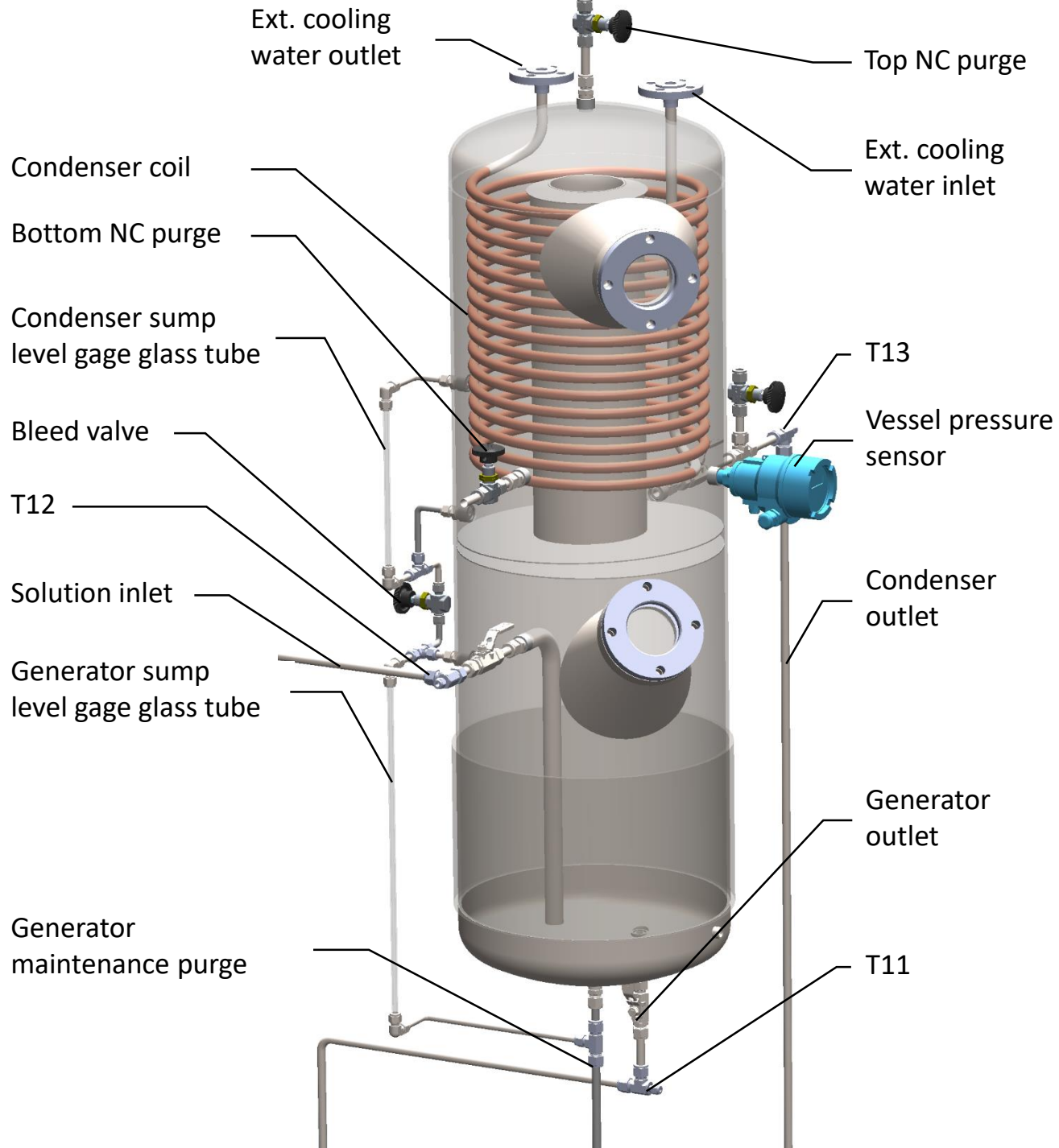
$$\Rightarrow T_3 = T_{sat}(h_3, P)$$

Energy balance:

$$\dot{m}_1 h_1 + \dot{m}_2 h_2 = \dot{m}_3 h_3$$

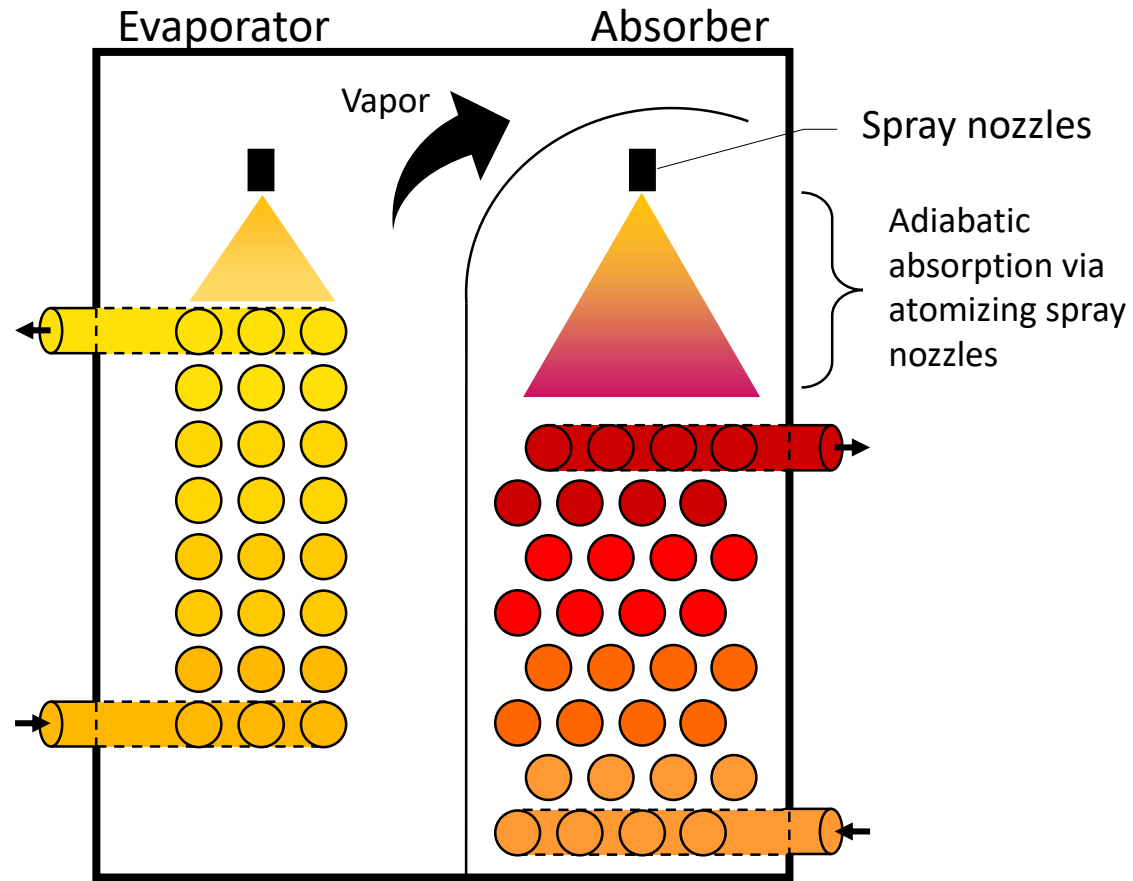
$$h_3 = \frac{x_3}{x_1} h_1 + \left(1 - \frac{x_3}{x_1}\right) h_2$$



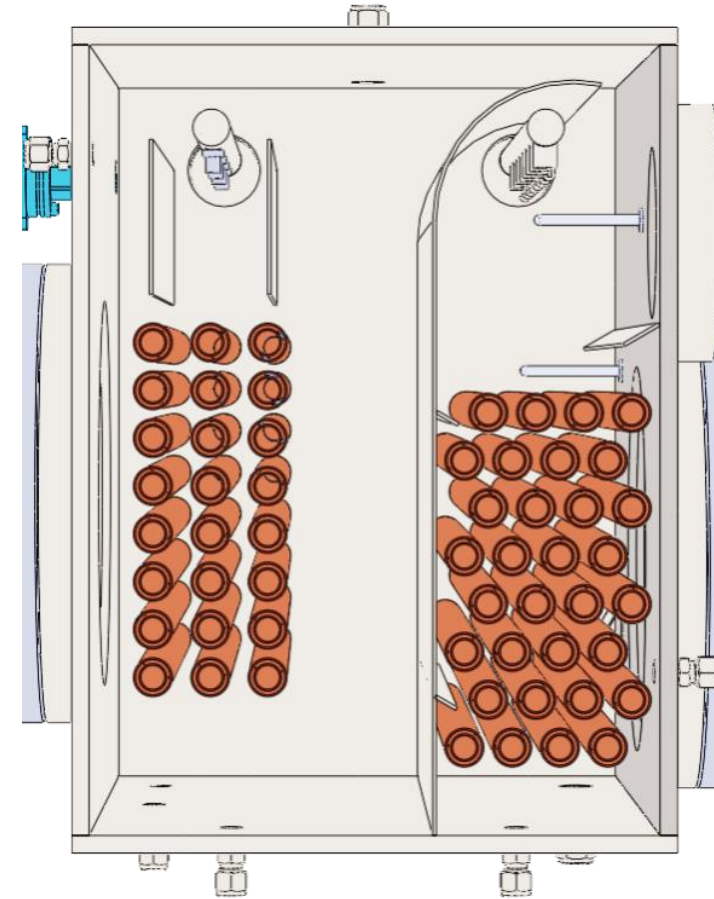


Lab Scale AHT high-pressure vessel (HPV)

Concept

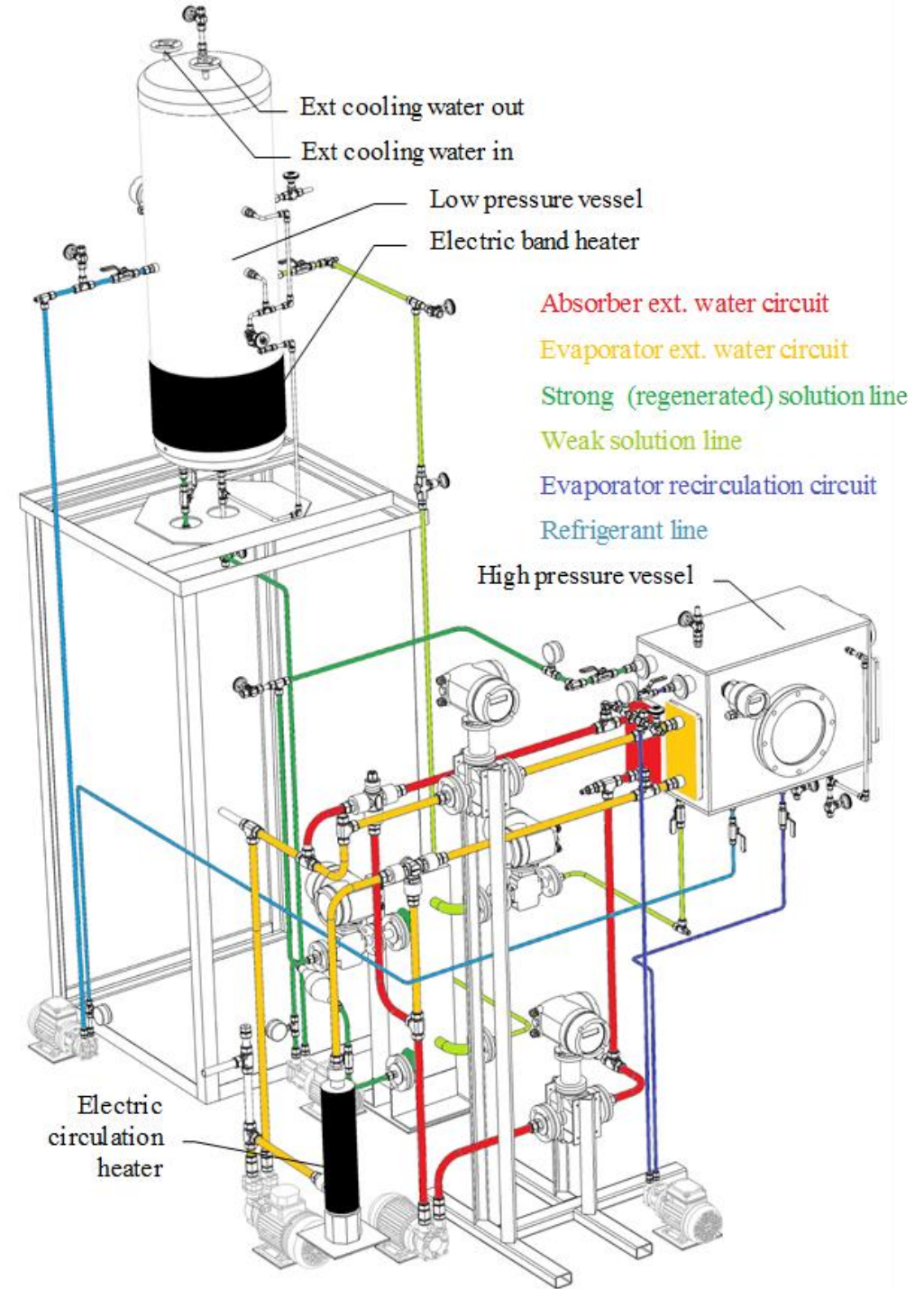
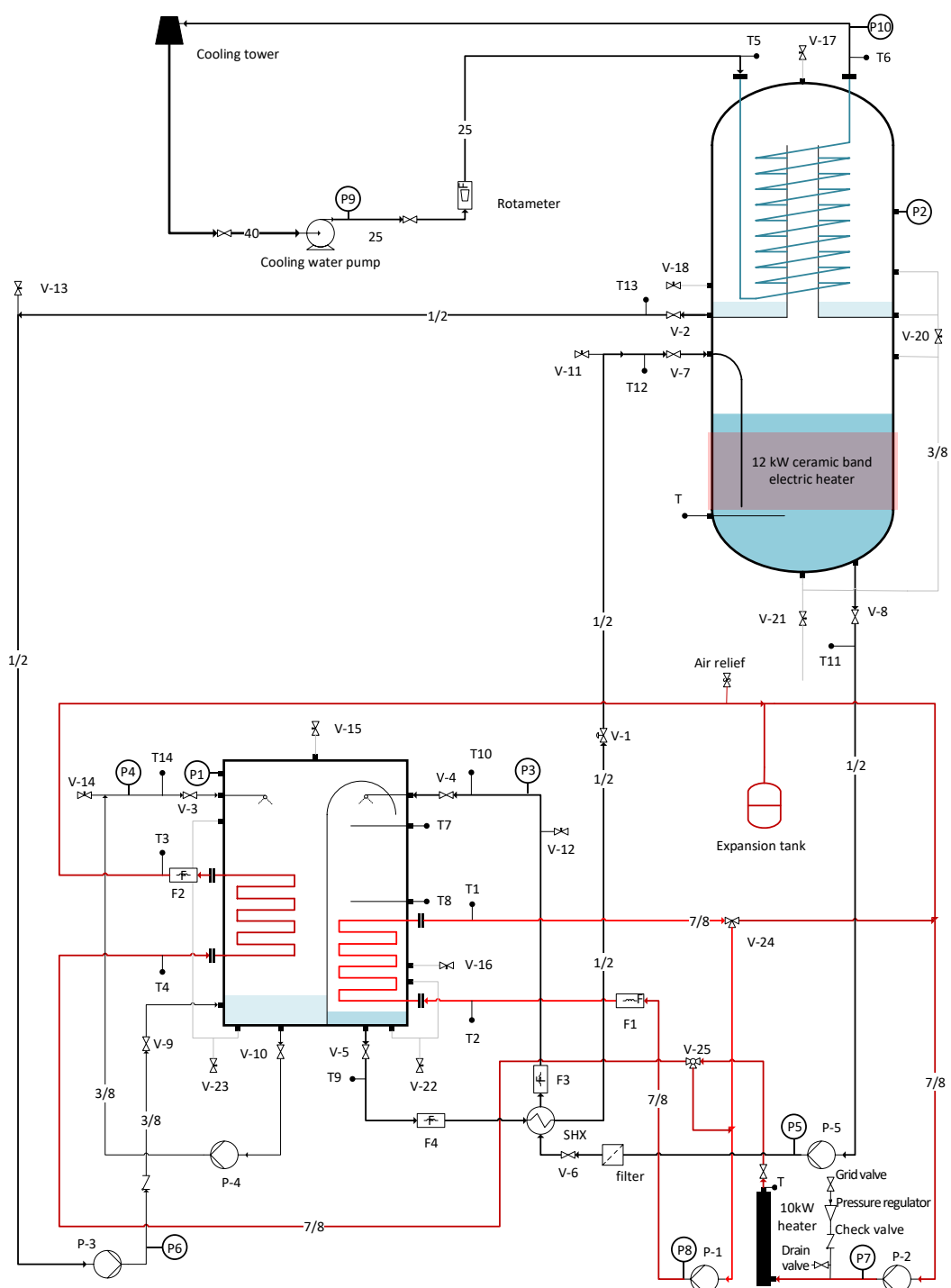


CAD visualization



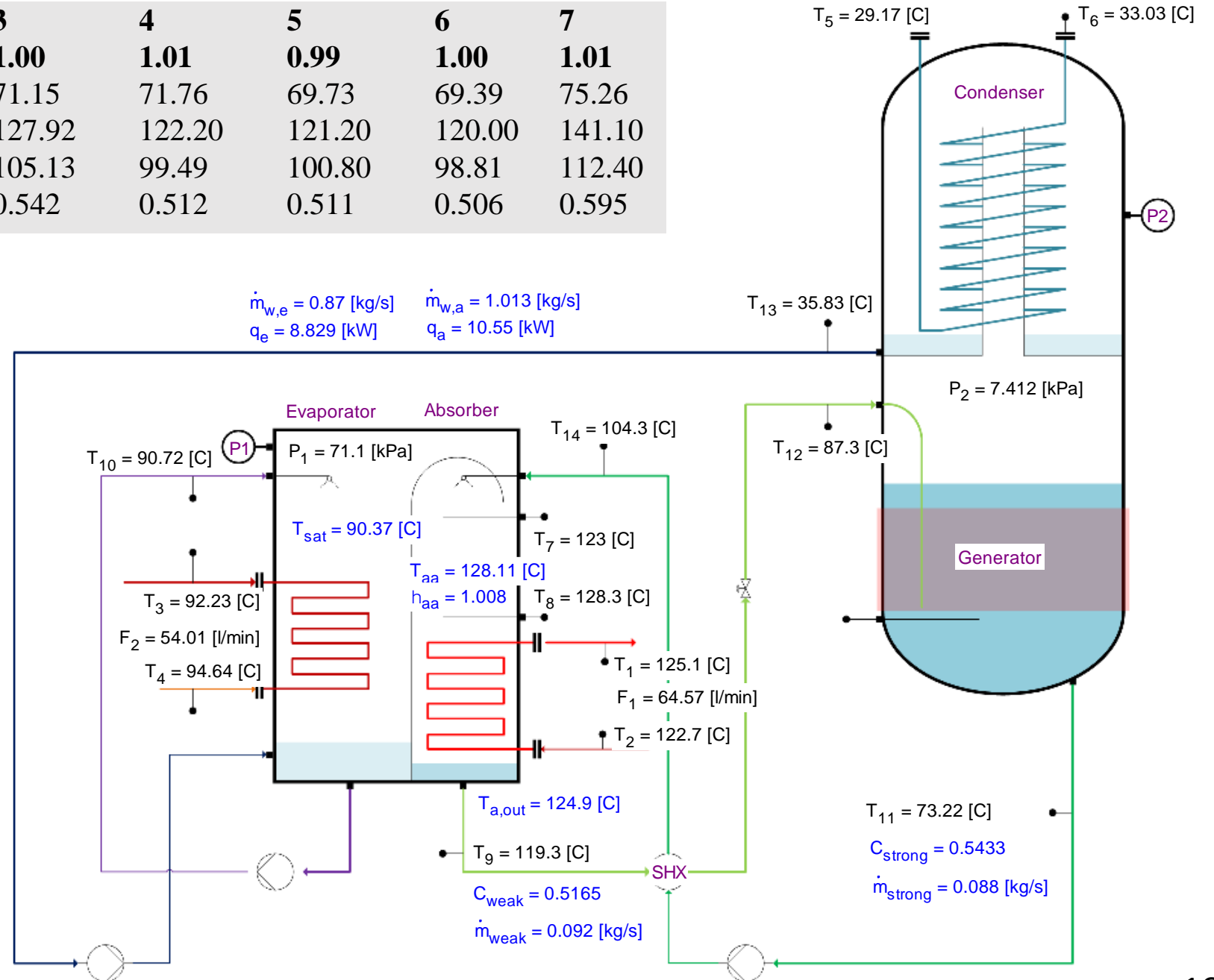


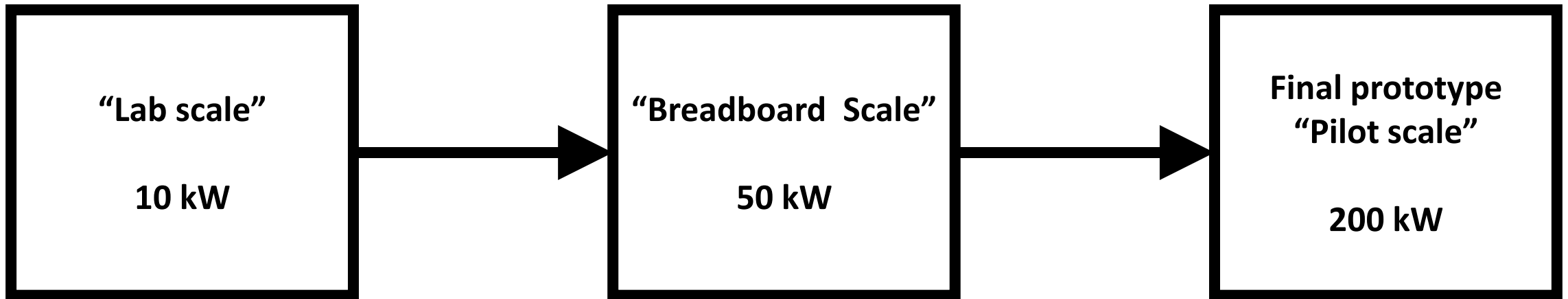


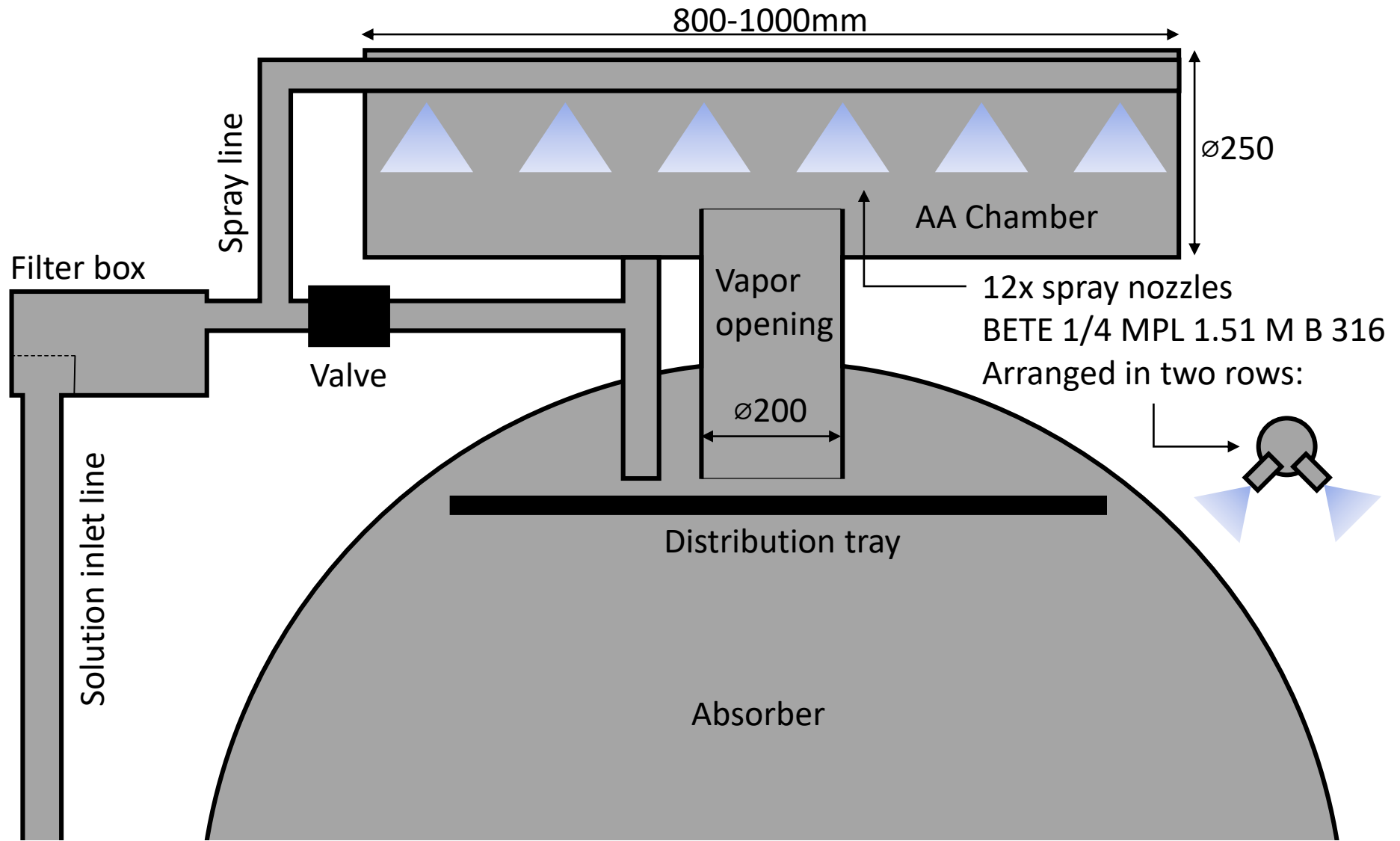


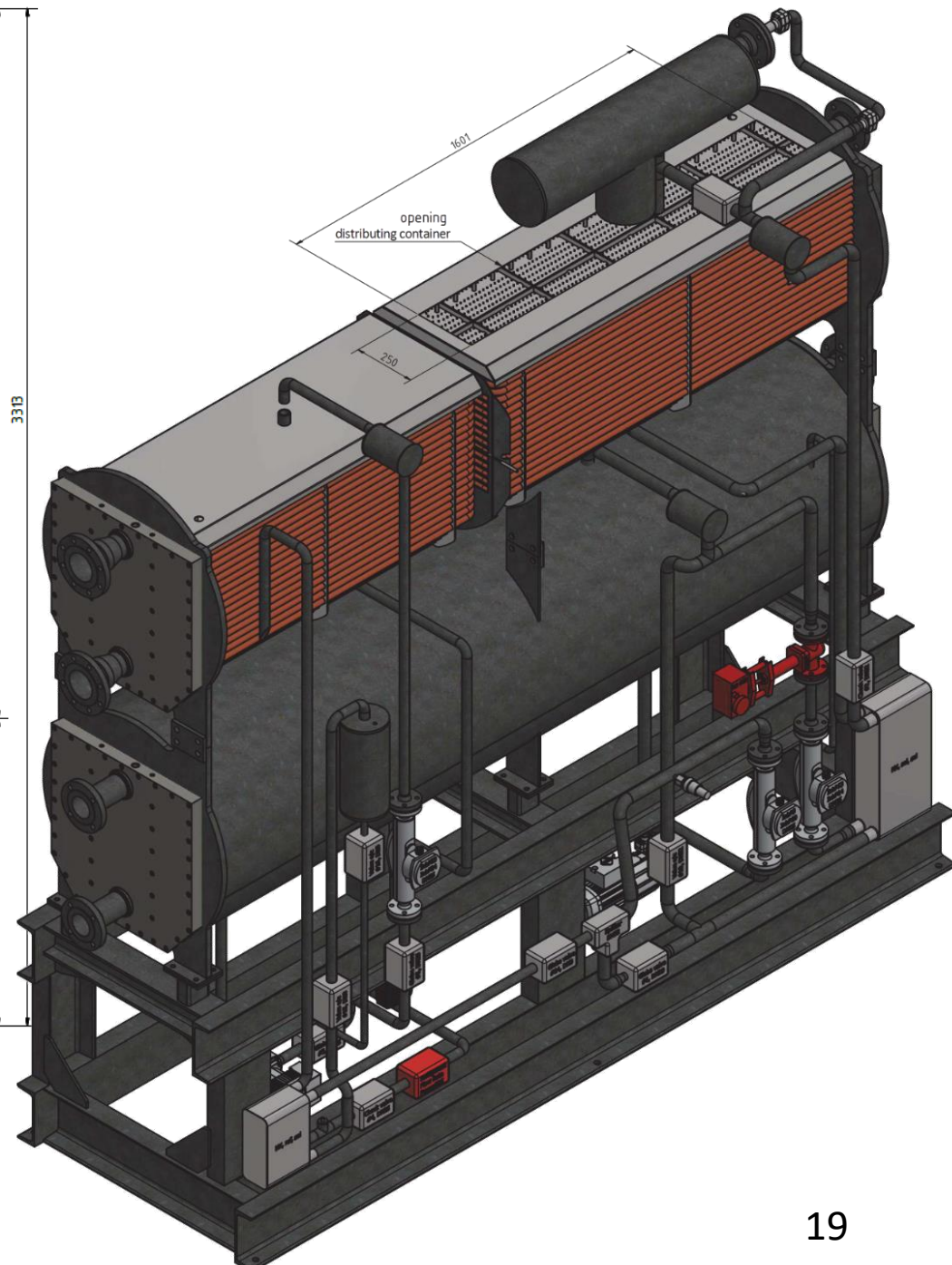
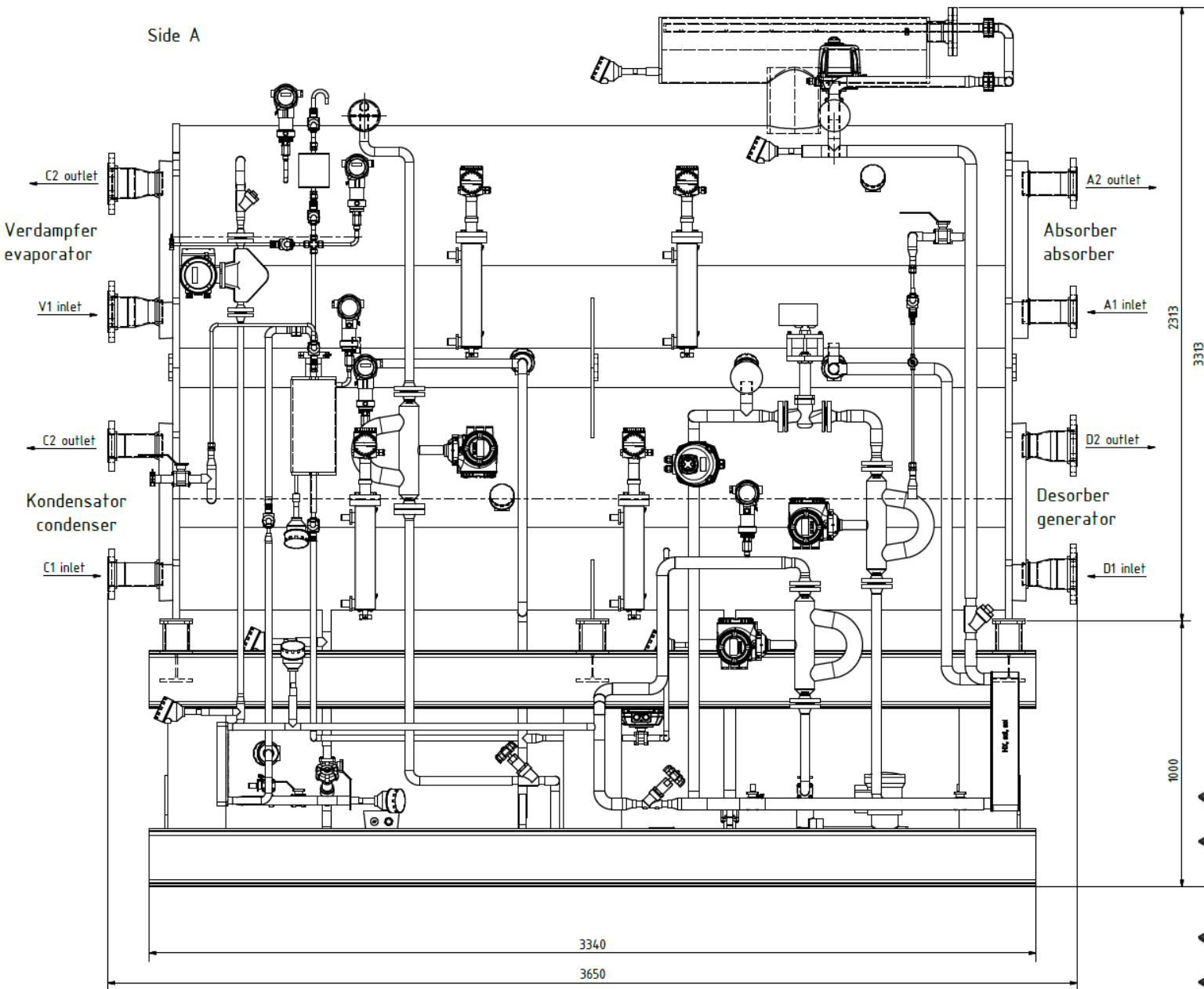
Measurement	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
η_{aa}	1.01	1.00	1.00	1.01	0.99	1.00	1.01
P [kPa]	71.09	70.95	71.15	71.76	69.73	69.39	75.26
T_8 [°C]	128.31	128.08	127.92	122.20	121.20	120.00	141.10
T_{14} [°C]	104.25	105.20	105.13	99.49	100.80	98.81	112.40
x_{II}	0.543	0.543	0.542	0.512	0.511	0.506	0.595

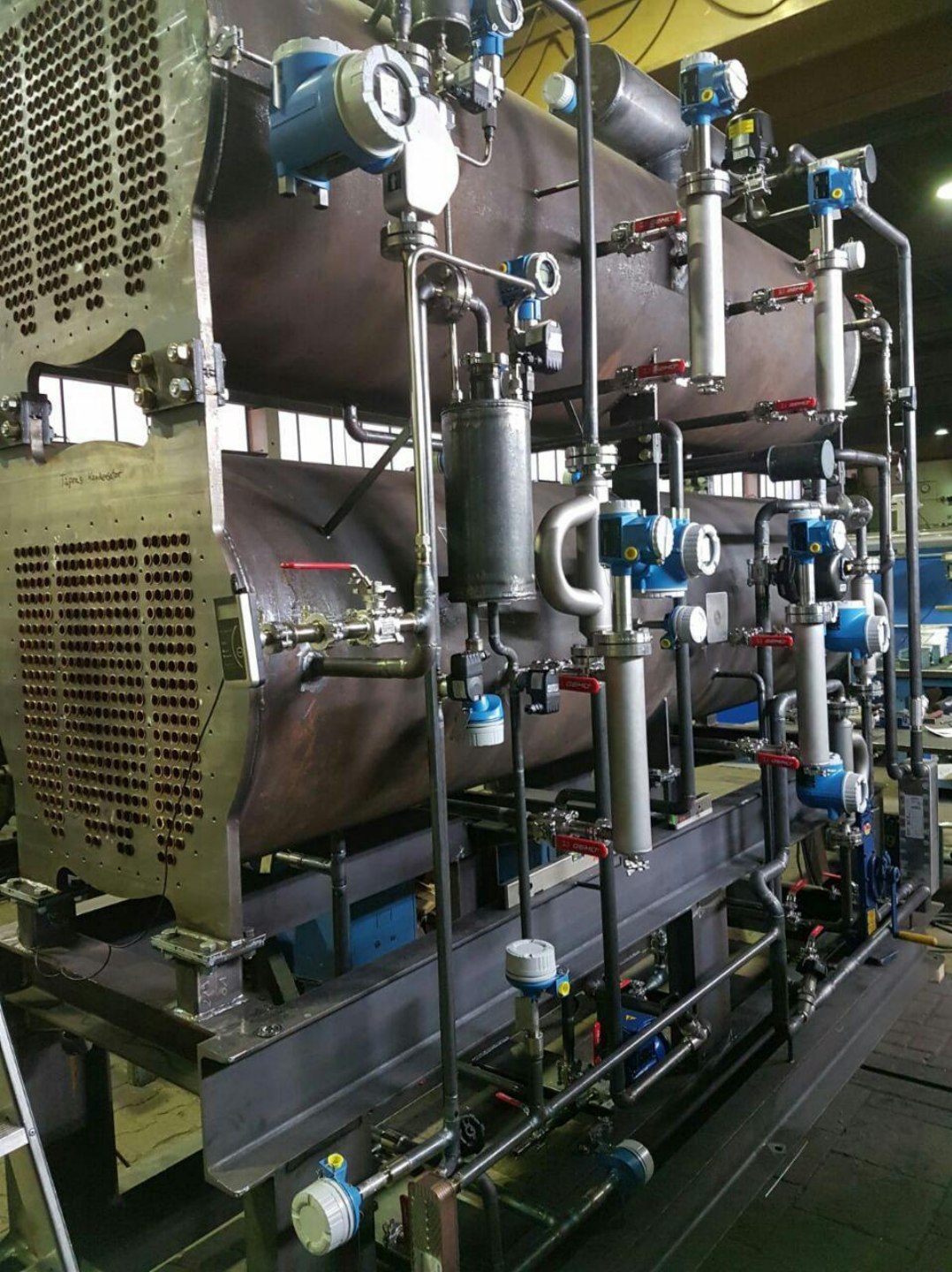
$$\eta_{aa} \equiv \frac{T_8 - T_{14}}{T_{aa} - T_{14}}$$





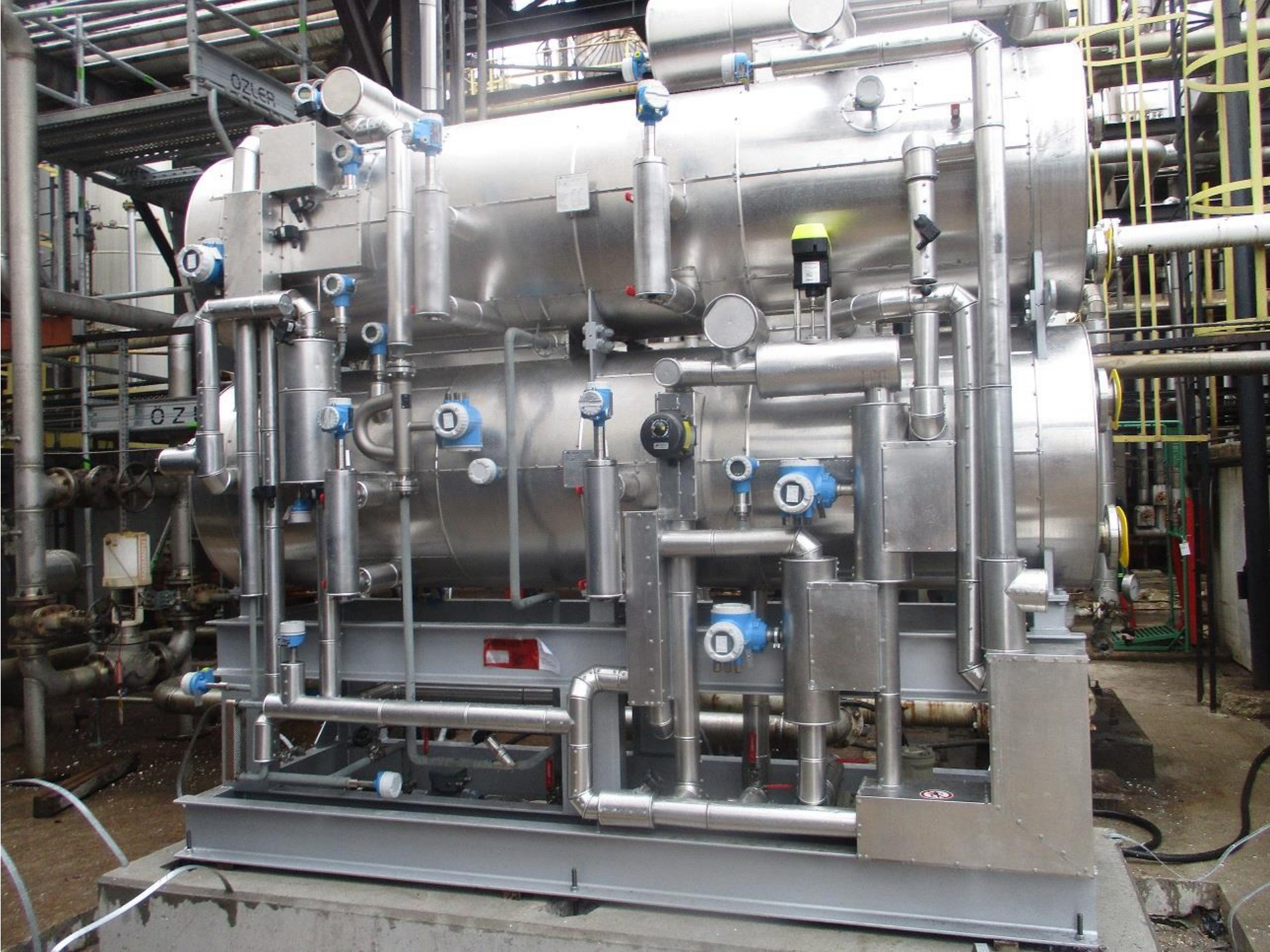


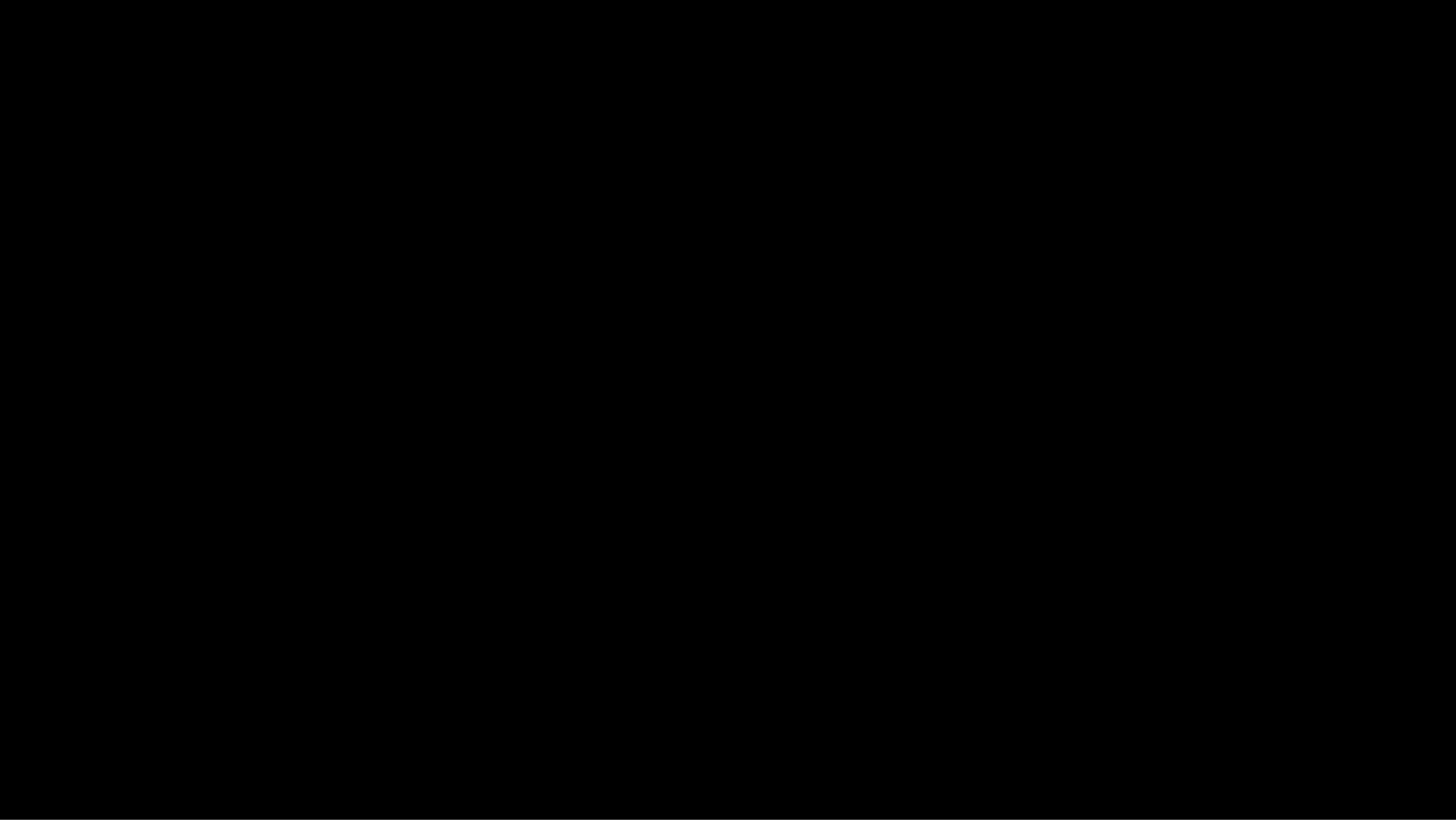










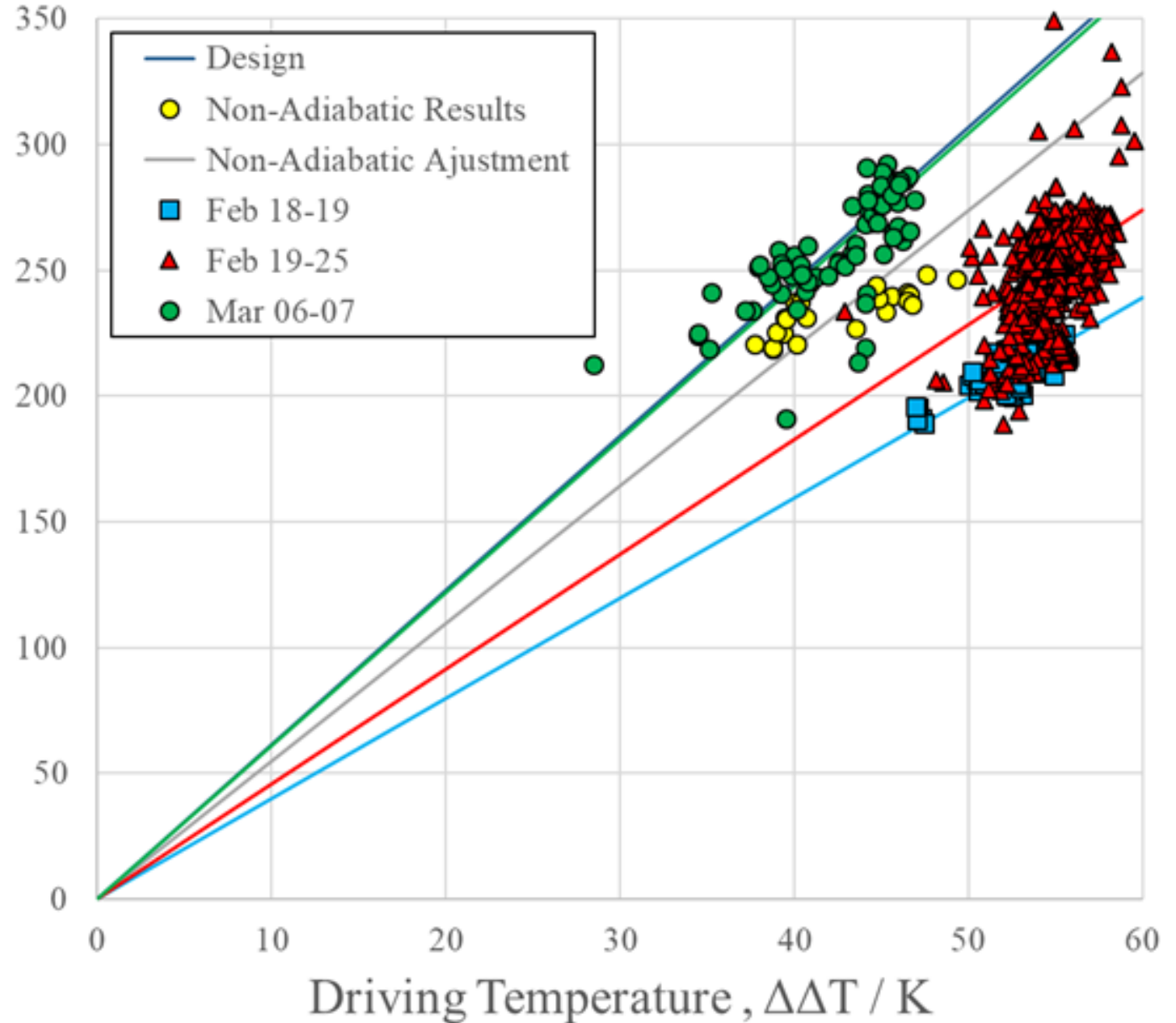


Measurements from November 2019 to March 2020.

Adiabatic absorption shows about 12% increase of the AHT heating power.

Covid-19 halted the project's progress and caused cancelation of scheduled control algorithm debugging and purge system fixing and commissioning.

Absorber Capacity / kW



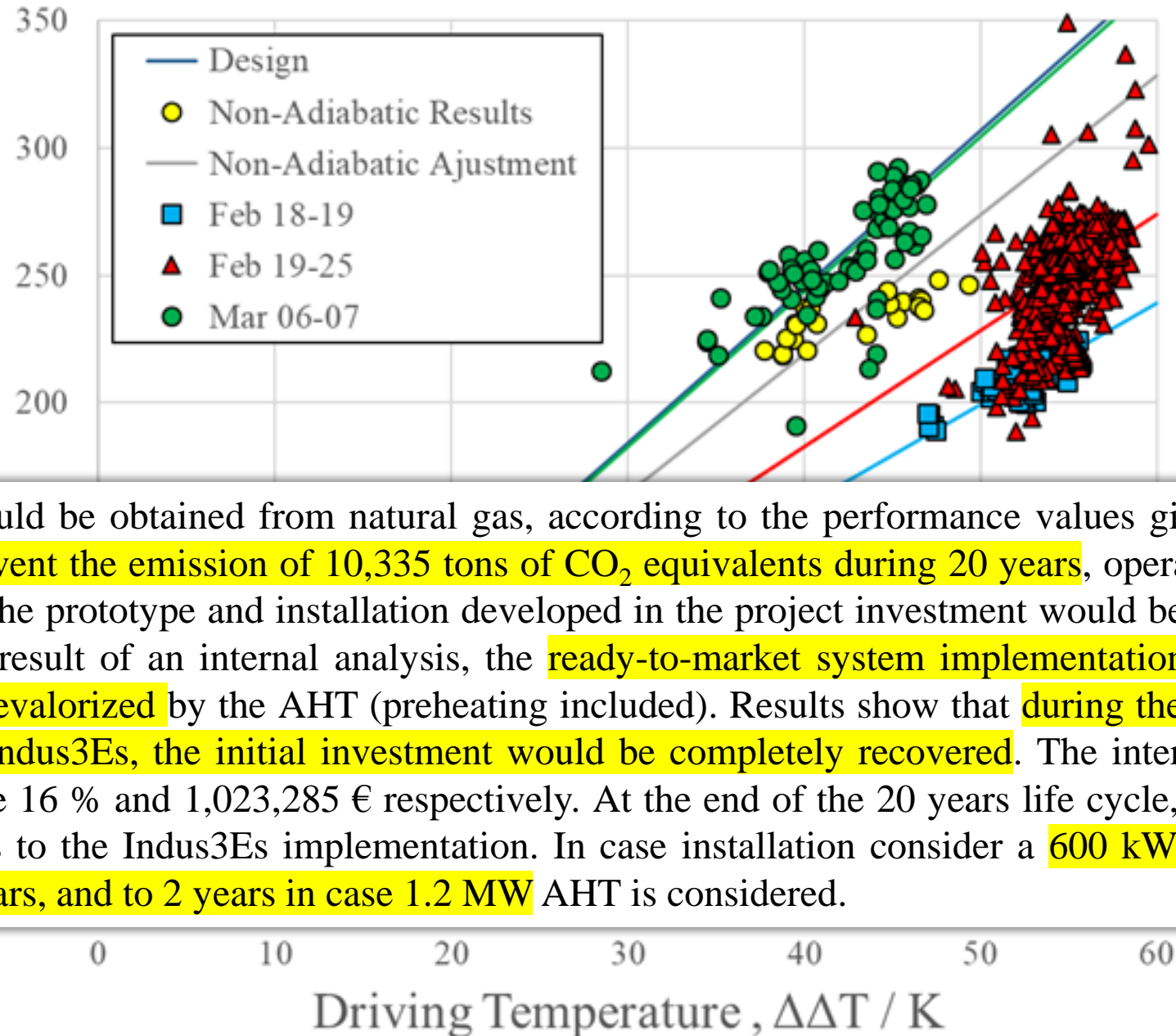
$$\Delta\Delta T = R \cdot (t_{\text{eva}} - t_{\text{con}}) - (t_{\text{abs}} - t_{\text{gen}})$$

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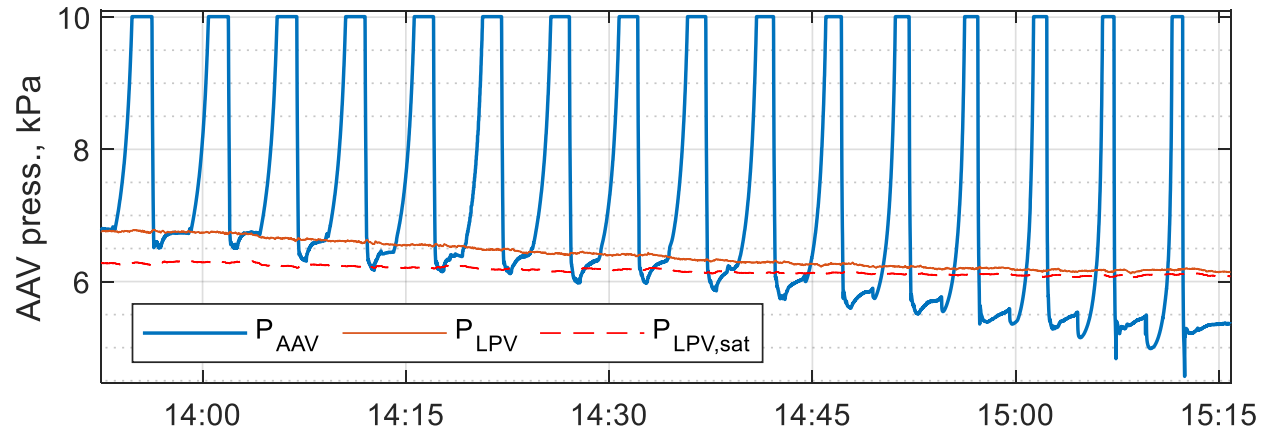


...Considering that the saved energy would be obtained from natural gas, according to the performance values given by the final users, the Indus3Es system will prevent the emission of 10,335 tons of CO₂ equivalents during 20 years, operating 8,760 hours per year. Considering the costs of the prototype and installation developed in the project investment would be recovered in between 10 – 11 years. However, as result of an internal analysis, the ready-to-market system implementation would be about 420.000 €, i.e. about 1.500 €/kW revalorized by the AHT (preheating included). Results show that during the sixth year after the implementation of the market Indus3Es, the initial investment would be completely recovered. The internal rate of return and the net present value would be 16 % and 1,023,285 € respectively. At the end of the 20 years life cycle, more than 1.7 million euros would be saved thanks to the Indus3Es implementation. In case installation consider a 600 kW prototype, payback period would be reduced to 3 years, and to 2 years in case 1.2 MW AHT is considered.

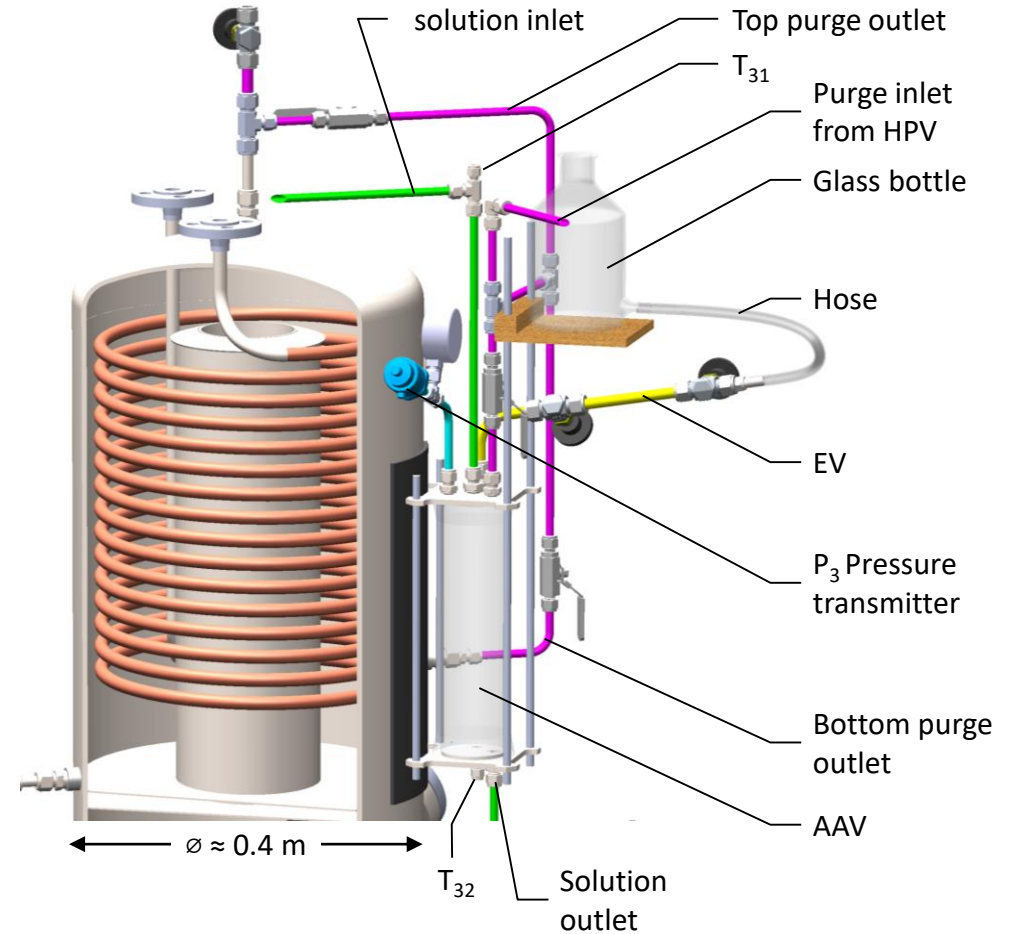
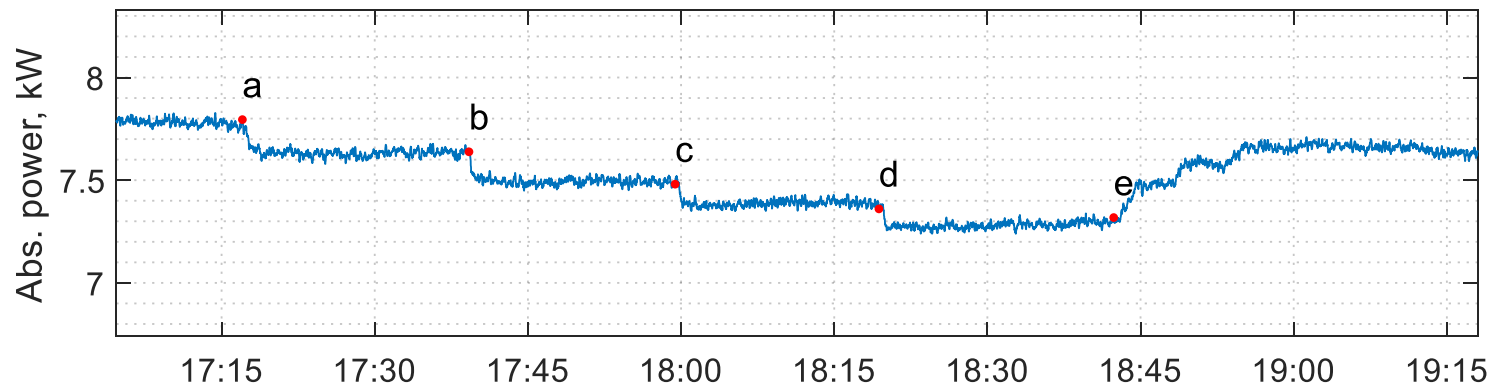
$$\Delta\Delta T = R \cdot (t_{\text{eva}} - t_{\text{con}}) - (t_{\text{abs}} - t_{\text{gen}})$$

Motor-less non-absorbable purge system

LPV pressure reduces and approaches the expected vapor saturation pressure as purging is performed.

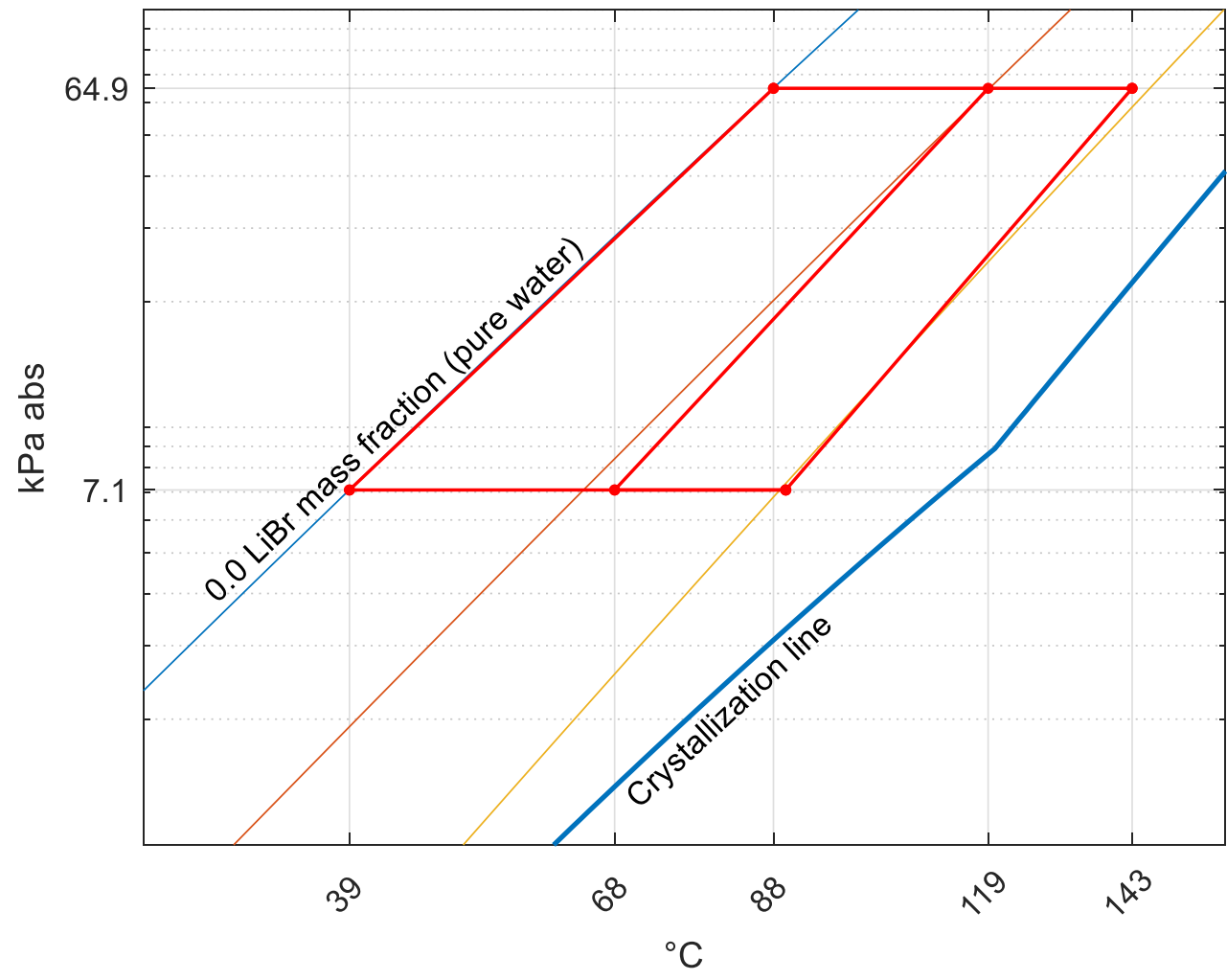
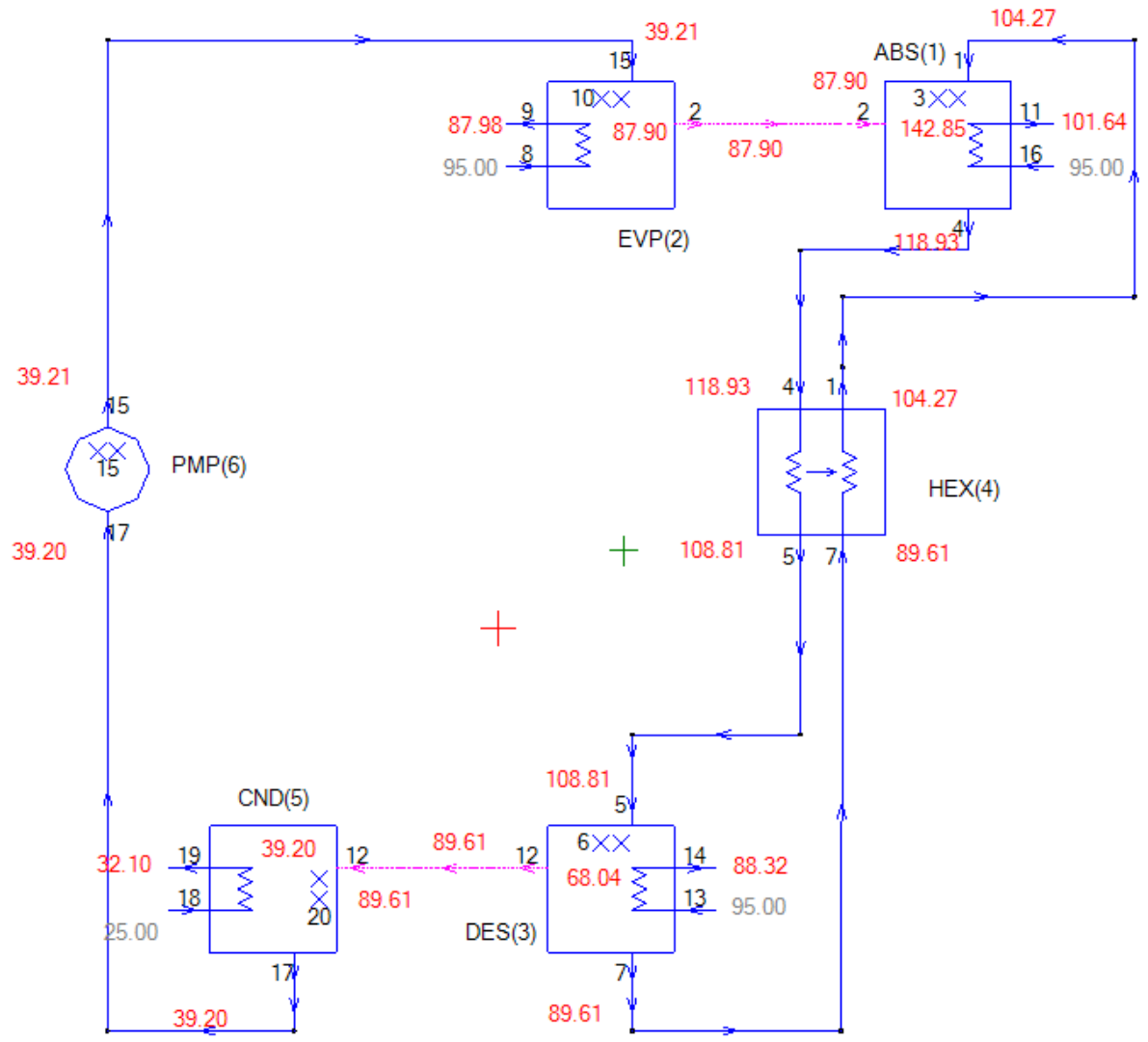


HPV performance recovery as a consequence of purging (e), after multiple N_2 injections (a, b, c, and d)

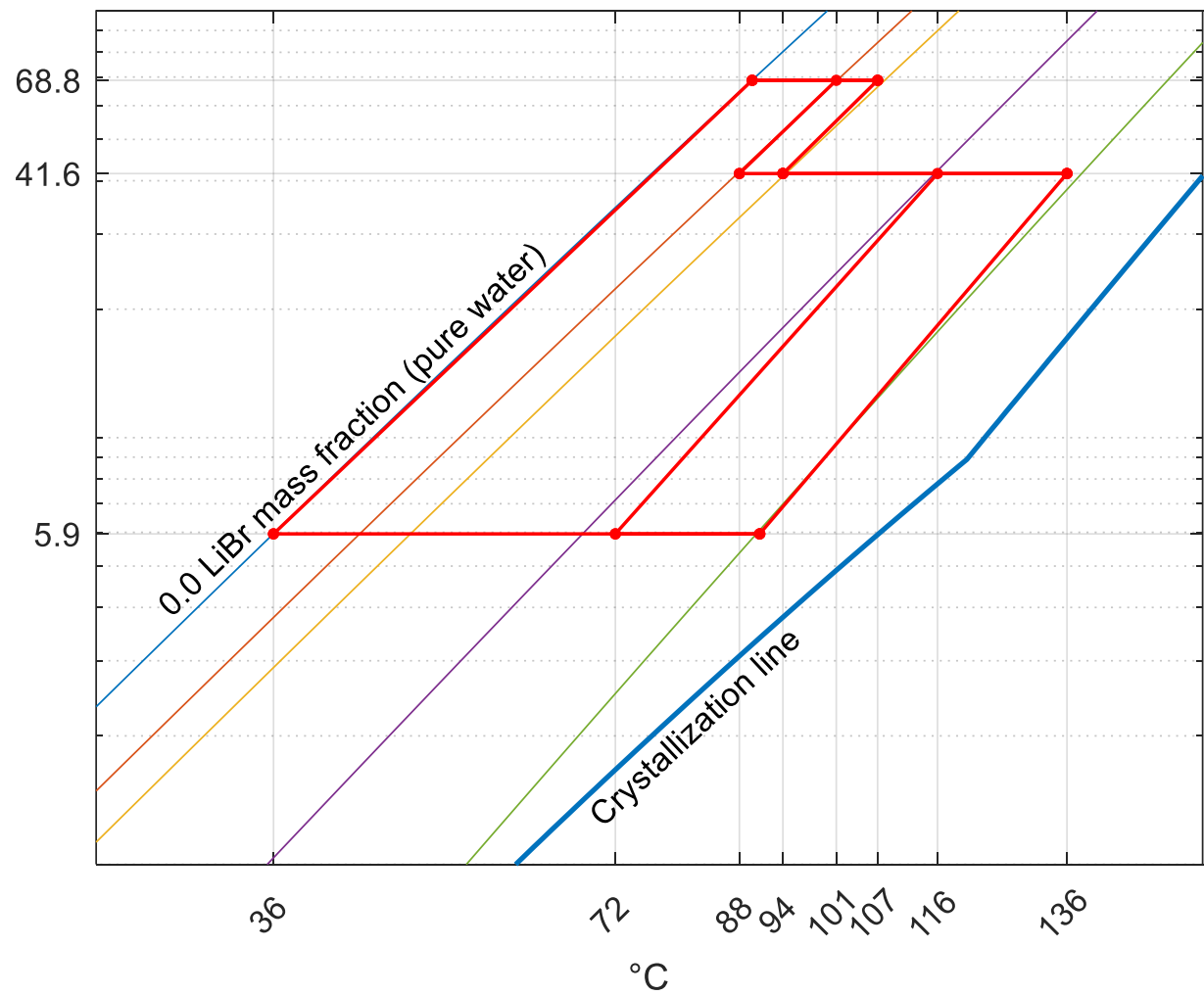
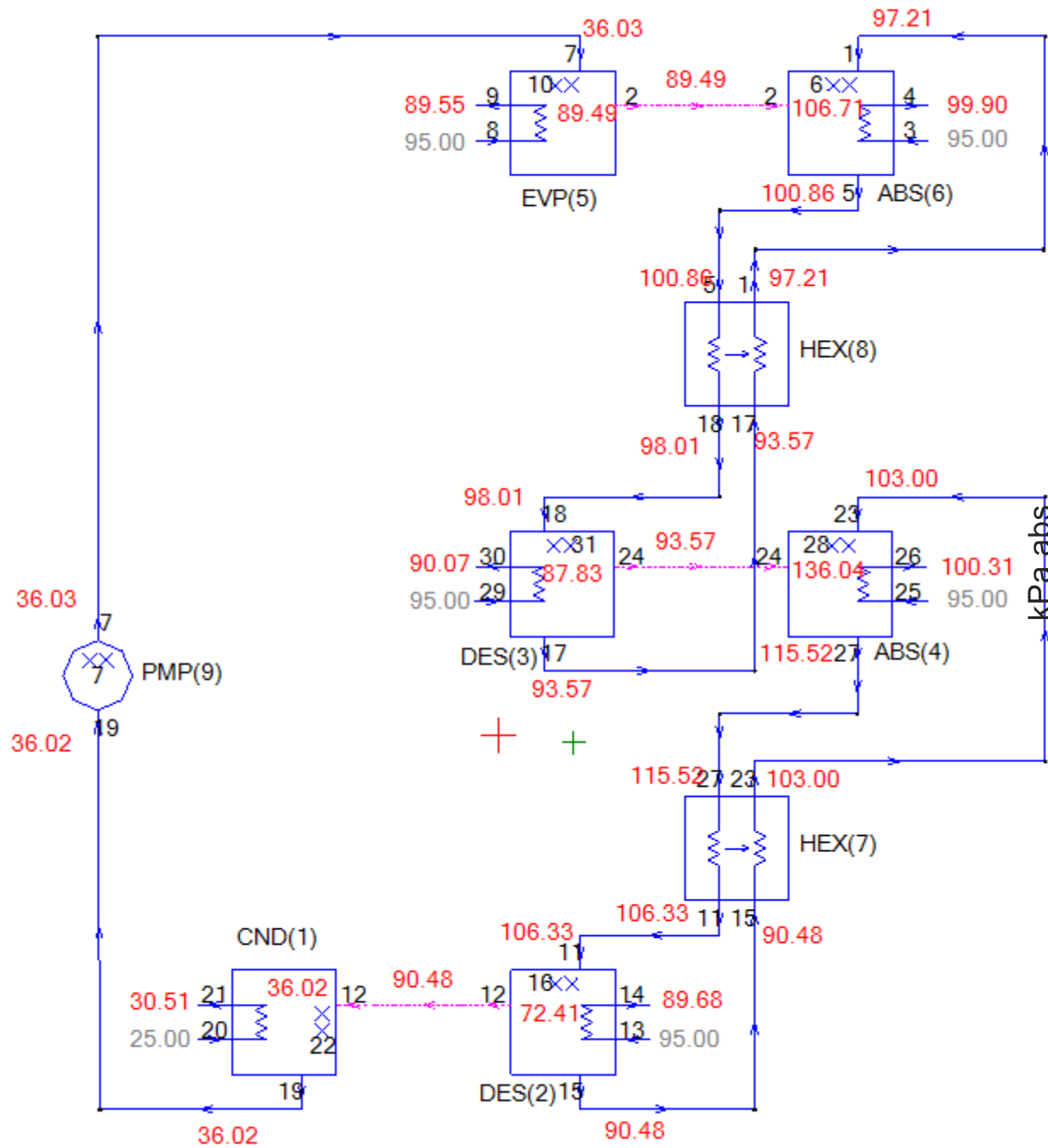


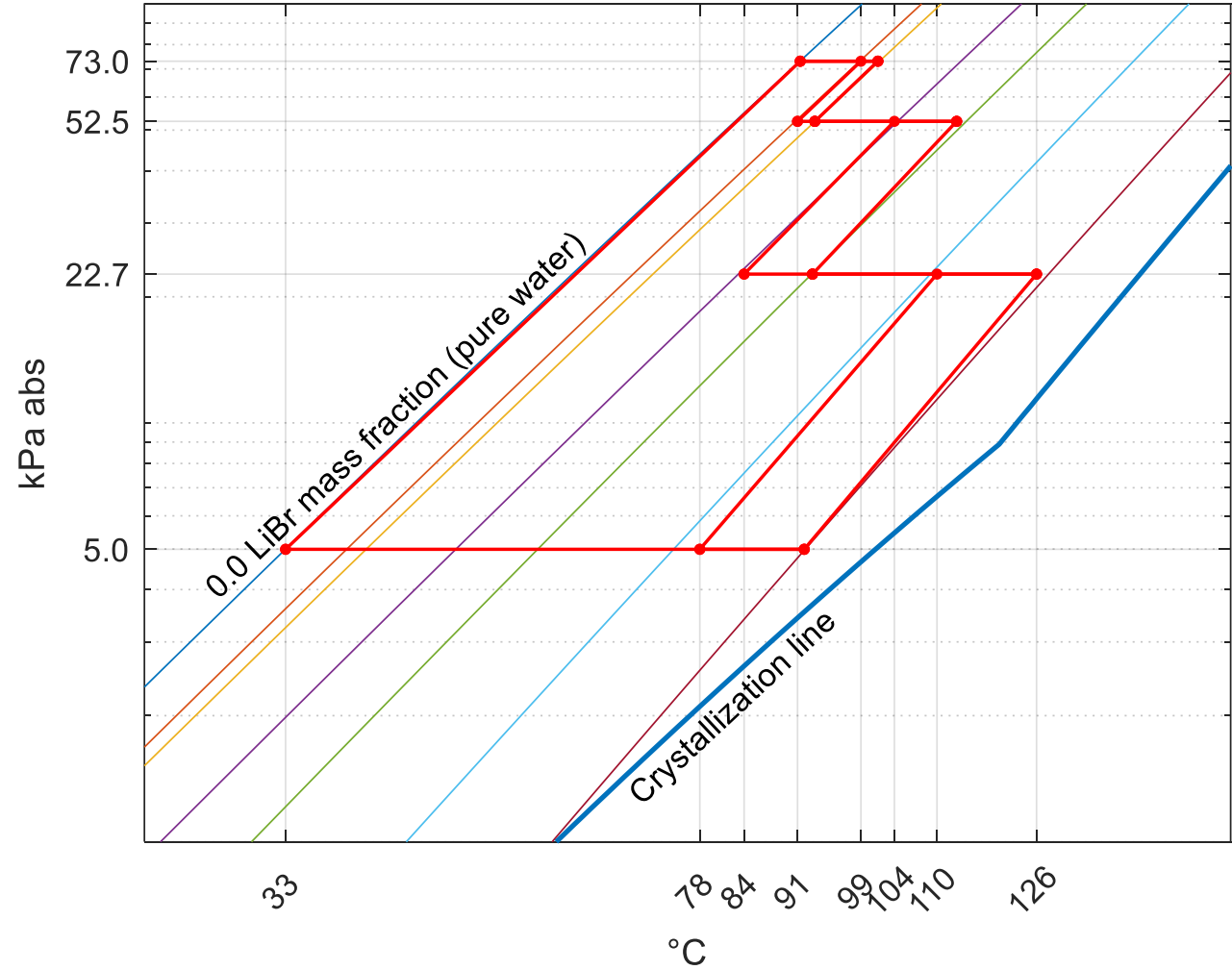
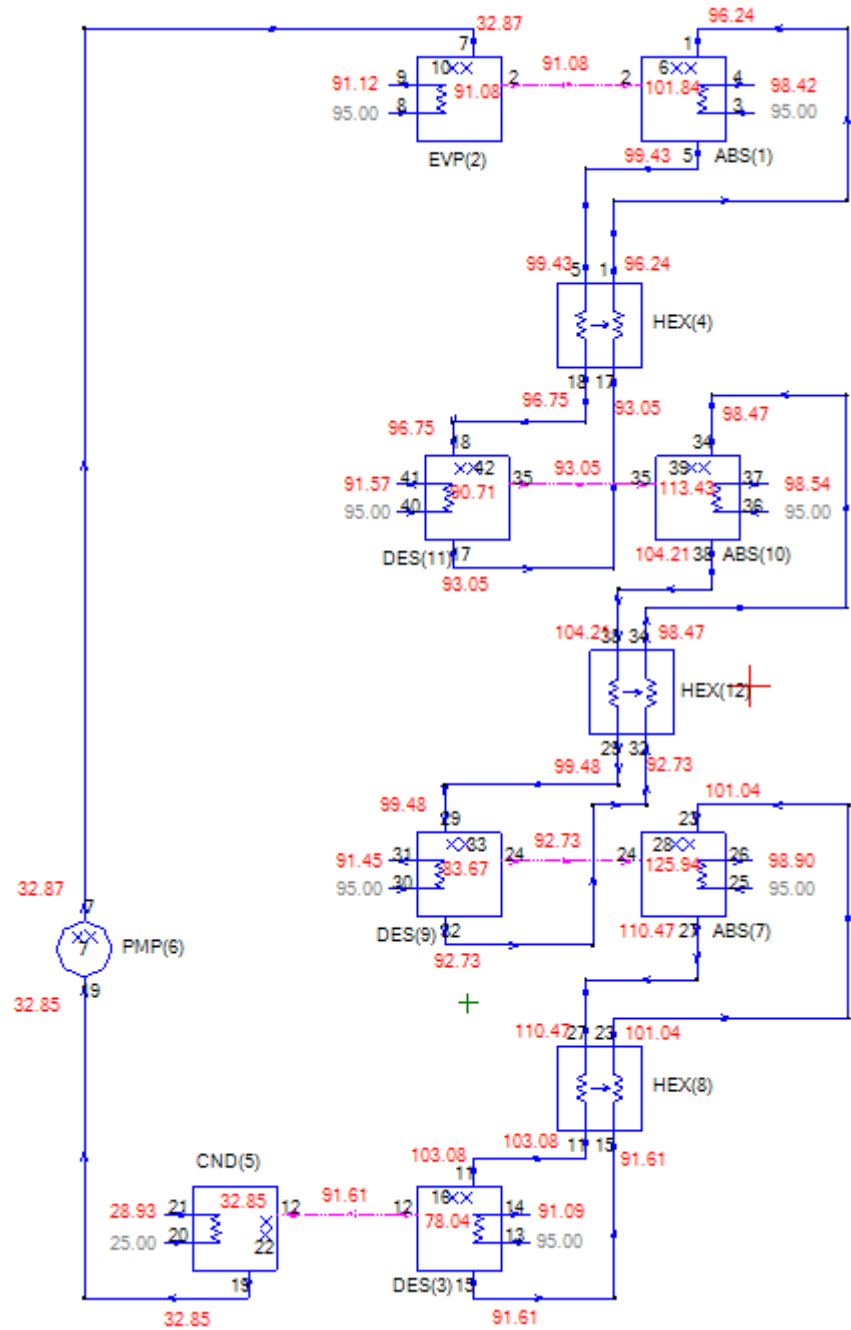
Multi-stage AHT

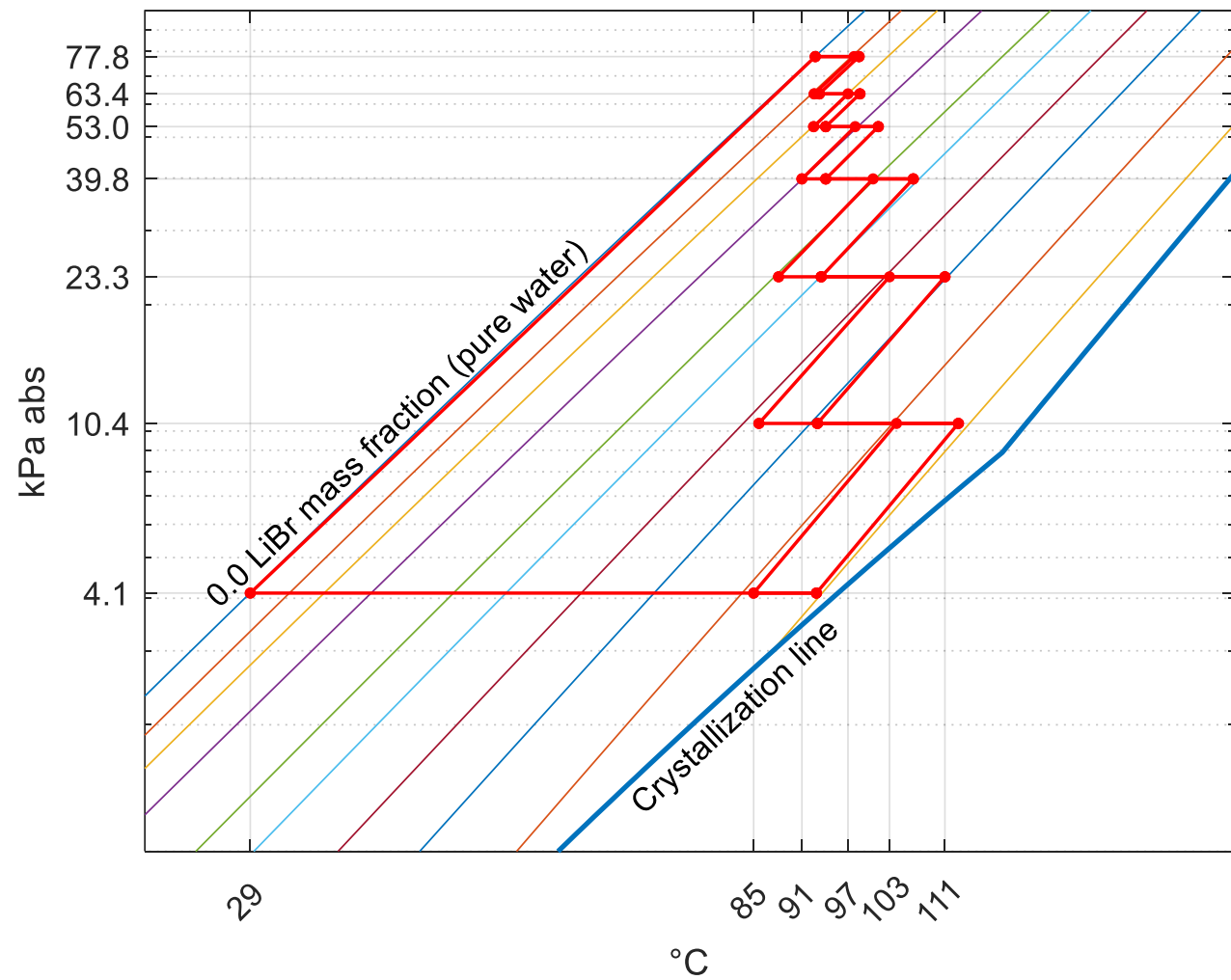
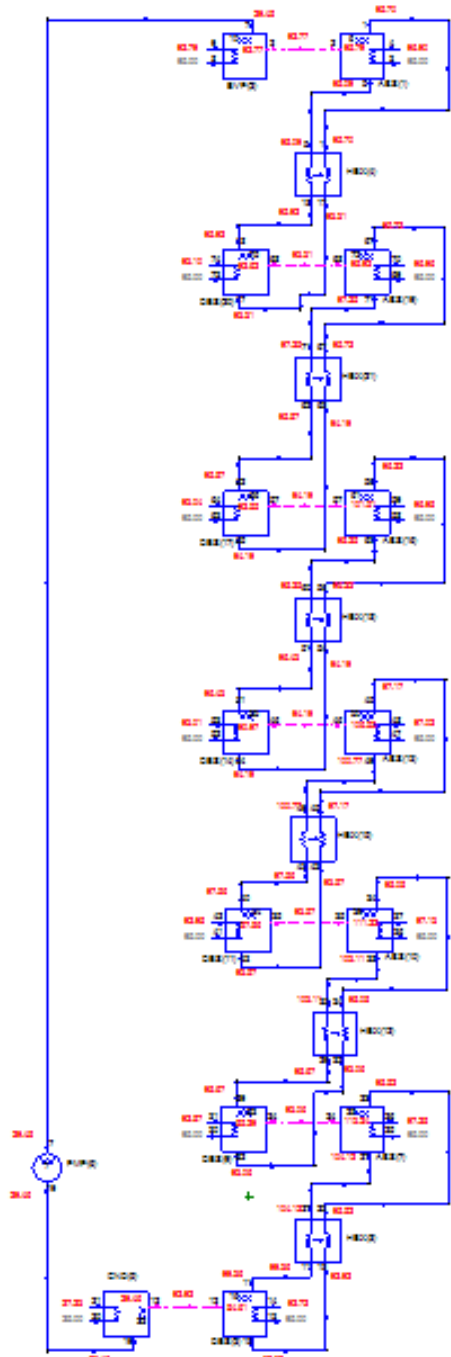
For applications requiring low temperature lifts



Evron, Y., Gommed, K., and Grossman, G., "ABSIM—modular simulation of advanced absorption systems: Recent software enhancements" in International Journal of Refrigeration, Volume 93, September 2018.

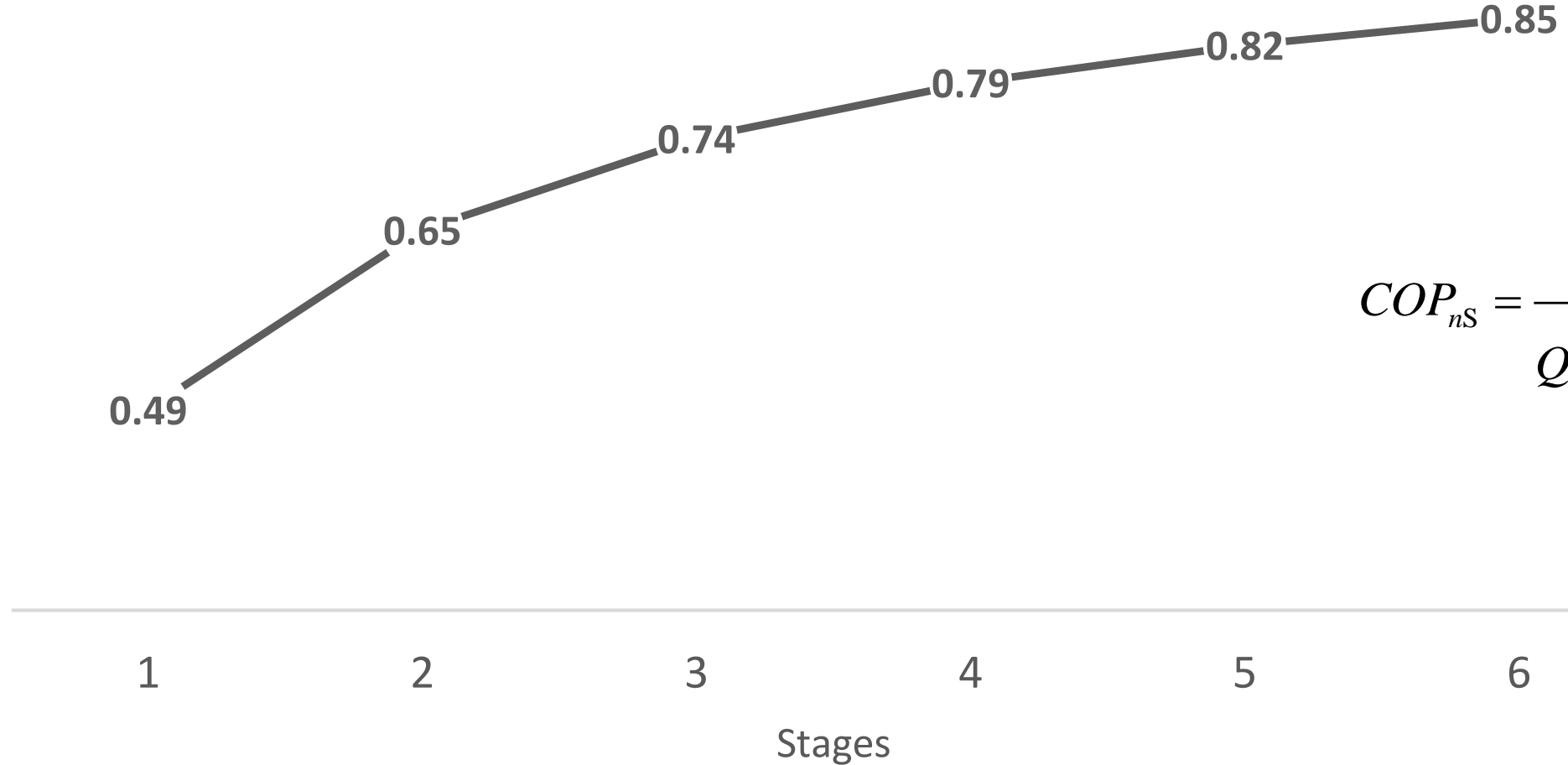






$$COP \equiv \frac{\text{useful heat produced}}{\text{waste heat invested}}$$

COP



$$COP_{nS} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_{b,A,0i}}{Q_{s,E} + \sum_{i=1}^n Q_{s,D,0i}}$$

...between 1981 and 2019, 48 absorption heat transformers have been installed in 42 plants with a total capacity of \approx 134MW...

...More than 74% of the installations were in Asia. Approximately 61% of the heat transformer installations were applied into the chemical industry.

Europe for instance, has implemented the heat transformer technology in a few cases in the 1980s followed by no new system commercialization or operative plants until 2014, except for the installations in Netherlands (1991), Sweden (1995) and Germany (1998).

These installations worked only for a few years because of [corrosion problems](#). Owing to the technical issues related to conventional working fluids (such as corrosion at high temperature, crystallization and purge of non-condensable gases),...

CONCLUSIONS

Advancements in AHT technology:

1. Obtaining **adiabatic absorption** via atomizing spray nozzles (which also serves as a liquid distribution system),
2. Patented **automatic motor-less non-absorbable gasses purge system**, experimentally proven.
3. New **multi-stage AHT** configuration option found **for low temperature lift** applications - simulation results show potential to **improve AHT efficiency by more than 10% for double-stage, and more than 20% for triple-stage** (or higher).

FUTURE WORK

1. Optimize atomization level for adiabatic absorption.
2. Demonstrate a fully-automated purge system, and optimize vapor flow rate for proper non-absorbable gasses entrainment.
3. Build and operate a multi-stage AHT to demonstrate improved efficiency for lower temperature lifts.