

Review on Two Stage Evaporative Cooler

Dr. U.V.Kongre, N.T.Neware, P.A.Bagade, N.P.Ingale

Abstract— Evaporative cooling is eco-friendly and energy efficient technology. There are mainly two types of evaporative technology, in which direct and indirect evaporative cooling takes place. Where in direct evaporative cooling there is adiabatic humidification and for reduction in relative humidity by means of cooling of air in heat exchanger. In case of indirect evaporative cooling the water sprayed in the heat exchanger. Primary purpose is to cool the air from the atmosphere to secondary air in the desired heat exchanger channel. All this concepts are taken in concern for the easiness, zero pollution with the energy efficiency of the cooling technology. From domestic purpose up to large industrial applications this evaporative cooling technology has been regularly used on large scale. In this review paper we have tried to explain the present the experimental work and research on the direct and evaporative cooling technology on the basis of their design, modelling and application by the details of studies in the terms of various performance tests and optimisation taking concern of heat and optimisation taking concern of heat and mass transfer also.

Index Terms—Evaporative cooling, heat exchanger, zero pollution.

I. INTRODUCTION

Evaporative cooling technology is the more sufficient and eco-friendly technology which are mainly depends on the two criteria i.e. decrease in humidity and increase in temperature of surrounding. Therefore, in the hot and dry tropical regions the evaporative cooling technology can be used for saving large amount of the energy with air cooling. There are two main evaporative cooling systems where in the direct evaporative cooling system uses a cellulose media with the water contact surface where air is passed through it at a uniform rate. But, in this process humidity increases which is not desirable. Whereas in the direct evaporative cooling system the primary air is cooled by the passive cooling without making the direct contact with the water media. Where in such a case the temperature is maintained lower by the contact with the heat exchanger surface or channels separated by the flow of water and air. In this air is sensibly

cooled without affecting the humidity. In both the system air is maintained to lower temperature is the wet bulb

Manuscript received January 11, 2015.

Dr.U.V.Kongre, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jawaharlal Darda Institute of Engineering and Technology, Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India

N.T.Neware, Student, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jawaharlal Darda Institute of Engineering and Technology, Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India

P.A.Bagade, Student, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jawaharlal Darda Institute of Engineering and Technology, Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India

N.P.Ingale, Student, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jawaharlal Darda Institute of Engineering and Technology, Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India

temperature (WBT). To avoid the various effects of direct evaporative cooler and by considering the low efficiency of indirect evaporative cooler the combined system of both this system is called indirect direct two stage evaporative cooler, for improved performance of a whole equipment.

II. EVAPORATIVE COOLING SYSTEMS

A. Direct evaporative system

In this direct evaporative cooler the air is exposed to water directly which allows it to cool and then air gets moist by losing its sensible heat to latent heat of vaporisation of water. With the heat and mass transfer phenomena in the process there is some sensible heat gain from the exhaust fan, which helps to perform isenthalpic cooling by means of achieving the constant wet bulb temperature (WBT). The main disadvantage of the direct evaporative cooler is that by means of increase in humidity the Legionella disease can occur by the small droplets of some moist water through the air flow.

Advantages and Disadvantages:

Based on available information of direct evaporative cooling system different advantages and disadvantages can be summarized as follows:

Advantages:

1. Evaporative coolers are economical and gives high effectiveness.
2. Applicable in domestic as well as industrial application in a wide scale.
3. No specialised or skilled workers are required.
4. Mostly applicable for rural regions.
5. Components are available in the local market.
6. Highly efficient evaporative cooling systems that can reduce energy consumption.
7. Its installation and operation is easy.
8. It can be easily maintained in easy way.

Disadvantages:

1. In the dry and hot tropical region water resource is one of the critical issues.
2. Evaporative cooling pads require a continuous water supply.
3. Mineral contained water may damage the evaporative cooling pads and its design from inside.
4. They are only suitable for dry and hot climates.
5. Relative humidity increase which may cause Legionella disease when coming in direct exposure to human.

B. Indirect evaporative system

In the indirect evaporative system cooling effect by means of water evaporation without making any direct contact with the air flow, but through the channel or media of a nonporous wall. In this process there is only heat transfer between the air

and water in a cooling tower. This system overcomes the drawback of humidity and Legionella in the air flow. But, this system may not be effective compared to direct evaporative system.

Advantage:

1. Indirect evaporative cooler are introduced because they are of low cost and relatively less expensive to conventional AC.

Limitations:

1. Power consumption is more and results less effective due to which it has found limited applications in industries.

C. Direct/Indirect or two stage evaporative system

To avoid the various effects of direct evaporative cooler and by considering the low efficiency of indirect evaporative cooler the combined system of both this system is called indirect direct two stage evaporative cooler, for improved performance of a whole equipment.

III. PRACTICAL STUDIES ON EVAPORATIVE AIR COOLERS

A. Study on direct evaporative cooler

Many researchers performed work on direct evaporative cooler (DEC) successfully. Dowdy and Karbash used cellulose media of surface area of $360\text{m}^2/\text{m}^3$ with thickness 310 mm practically to calculate heat and mass transfer coefficients for evaporative cooling process and obtained efficiency from 88 to 93% [1]. El-Dessouky precooled the incoming air before cooler not using cooling tower. He used packing of structured natural fibre as evaporating media with various thickness for high effectiveness and flow of water and determined that effectiveness varied with thickness of evaporating pad and flow rate of water in cooler [2]. Camargo showed experimental of using rigid cellulose media with wetted surface area of $375\text{m}^2/\text{m}^3$ and derived effectiveness in terms of various factors like mass flow rate of air, heat transfer coefficient, wetted surface area and specific heat for predicting the performance of different evaporating materials and come to conclusion that the effectiveness is increased when DBT is more [3].

Table 3.1.1. Study on effect of various parameters of DEC

Sr. No.	Researcher	Objective	Outputs
1.	Dowdy and Karbash (1987)	Heat and mass transfer coefficients, efficiency	Obtained efficiency from 88 to 93%
2.	El-Dessouky (1996)	Effectiveness	Effectiveness varied with thickness of evaporating pad and flow rate of water in cooler
3.	Camargo (2005)	Mass flow rate of air, heat transfer coefficient, wetted surface area and specific heat	Effectiveness is increased when DBT is more

B. Study on indirect evaporative cooler

Many researchers performed work on indirect evaporative cooler (IEC) successfully. Chen performed thermal calculations for tube and plate-type heat exchanger channel using available air as secondary air and found COP and capacity of performance is much higher when room air is used

as secondary air [4]. Peterson also developed modest indirect evaporative cooler to determine heat and mass transfer process occurring within IEC and theoretical performance. His practical work stated single algebraic equation that can be solved in less iterations to calculate effectiveness of equipment [5]. Maheshwari compared the power consumption of indirect evaporative cooler with conventional AC. He found that effectiveness of IEC increases with the duration of maximum cooling capacity and power requirement of equipment and facilitates reduction in same [6].

Table 3.2.1. Study on effect of various parameters of IEC

Sr. No.	Researcher	Objective	Outputs
1.	Chen (1991)	Thermal calculations for tube and plate-type heat exchanger channel, COP and capacity of performance	COP and capacity of performance is much higher when room air is used as secondary air
2.	Peterson (1993)	Determine heat and mass transfer coefficients, theoretical performance	Stated single algebraic equation that can be solved in less iterations to calculate effectiveness of equipment
3.	Maheshwari (2001)	Power consumption, effectiveness	Effectiveness of IEC increases with the duration of maximum cooling capacity and power requirement of equipment and facilitates reduction in same

C. Study on direct/indirect or two stage evaporative cooler

El-Dessouky performed work on combination of DEC and IEC, a small evaporative cooler of structured packing material of high-density polythene with wetted surface area of $430\text{m}^2/\text{m}^3$ and come to conclusion that efficiency is less than direct evaporative cooler but a combination of both may decrease the temperature of incoming air below its wet bulb temperature [7]. Jain also developed two stage evaporative cooler to improve efficiency by using wooden shave as the evaporative material and returned air was successfully cooled used in heat exchanger channel with dry air and effectiveness varied from 110% to 120% and attained favourable temperature and relative humidity conditions for storing of tomatoes less than 14 days [8]. Heidarinejad G. calculated performance of two stage evaporative cooler in various regions of Iran in which he used plastic wet surface heat exchanger channel of 18 cm thick cellulose evaporative pad in the direct evaporative cooling and found effectiveness of indirect evaporative cooler unit varied from 56-60% and of two stage unit varied from 107-110% and he come to conclusion that there is more water consumption than direct evaporative cooler and power demand of mechanical cooling systems [9].

Table 3.3.1. Study on effect of various parameters of DEC/IEC or Two stage cooling unit

Sr. No.	Researcher	Objective	Outputs
1.	El-Dessouky (2004)	Efficiency, DBT	Efficiency is less than direct evaporative cooler
2.	Jain (2007)	Efficiency, effectiveness	Effectiveness varied from 110% to 120%
3.	Heidarinejad G (2009)	Performance, effectiveness	Effectiveness of IEC unit varied from 56-60% and of two stage unit varied from 107-110%.

[9] Heidarinejad G., Bozorgmehr M., Delfani S., Esmaelian J. (2009). "Experimental investigation of two stage indirect/direct evaporative cooling system in various climatic conditions". Building and Environment, 44(10), pp2073-2079

IV. CONCLUSION

From the whole review paper above we come to conclusion:

1. Due to various constraints like energy depletion and pollution evaporative cooling technology can be more useful.
2. Difference between DBT and WBT determines the effectiveness of evaporative coolers.
3. Evaporative cooling can reduce primary air temperature to the room considerably.
4. It is low cost and energy efficient.
5. Precooling of water could facilitate DEC to lower its WBT.
6. Different factors like evaporative pad material and thickness, air velocity, water circulation factors are found to affect the effectiveness of evaporative coolers.
7. More work to study the various parameters on the evaporative cooler performance for varying air flow.
8. Pad thickness should be considered of prime importance for balancing the evaporation rate and pressure drop.
9. Study shows that excessive water flow does not increase effectiveness of cooling so the energy consumption should be given of prime importance.
10. For hot and humid regions two stage coolers are used for energy saving rather than conventional AC.

REFERENCES

- [1] Dowdy J.A. and Karbash N.S. (1987). "Experimental determination of heat and mass transfer coefficients in rigid impregnated cellulose evaporative media", ASHRAE Transactions, 93, Part 2, pp382-395.
- [2] El-Dessouky H., Ettouey H., Al-Zeefari A. (2004). "Performance analysis of two stage evaporative coolers", Chemical Engineering Journal 102(3), pp255-266.
- [3] Camrargo J.R., Ebinuma C.D., Silveria J.L. (2005). "Experimental performance of a direct evaporative cooler operating during summer in Brazilian city", International Journal of Refrigeration, 28(7), pp1124-1132.
- [4] Chen P.L., Qin H.M., Huang Y.J., Wu H.F. (1991). "A heat and mass transfer model for thermal and hydraulic calculations of indirect evaporative cooler performance", ASHRAE Transactions, 97, Part 2, pp852-865.
- [5] Peterson J.L. (1993). "An effectiveness model for indirect evaporative coolers", ASHRAE Transactions, 99, Part 1, pp 392-399.
- [6] Maheshwari G.P., Al-Ragom F., Suri R.K. (2001). "Energy saving potential of an indirect evaporative cooler", Applied Energy, 69(1), pp69-76.
- [7] Jain D., (2007). "Development and testing of two stage evaporative cooler", Building and Environment, 42(7), pp2549-2554.
- [8] El-Dessouky H., Ettouey H., Al-Zeefari A. (2004). "Performance analysis of two stage evaporative coolers", Chemical Engineering Journal 102(3), pp255-266.