

Paper 154

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Abstract

This paper investigates the energy performance of a novel dew point evaporative cooler (DPEC) with a new shell and tube design heat and mass exchanger. The shell is assigned as a wet channel, and the tubes are assigned as dry channels. The results obtained from the numerical simulation have been validated against the experimental data and compared to the conventional DPEC, namely, flat-plate type DPEC, under a wide range of operational and geometrical conditions. The obtained results revealed that, when compared to the conventional flat-plate type, the energy efficiency has significantly improved (as high as 35%) due to a significant decrease in pressure drop, which eventually led to lower power consumption for the same amount of air flowrate alongside with the increase in heat and mass transfer potential. In addition, it was found that the new cooler recorded the best performance when the channel diameter was smallest (about 3.9 mm); meanwhile, the channel length of 1.3 m, air velocity of 1.7 m/s, and air ratio of 0.3 are found to be the optimum values which resulted in the best energy performance for the proposed cooler.