

Waterless Air Cooler

Ms. Sakshi D. Chikate¹, Ms. Poonam S. Dhoke², Mr. Durgesh S. Marathe³, Mr. Nikhil A. Borade⁴, Prof. Pawan S. Thakare⁵

^{1,2,3,4}Student of Electrical Engineering, Padm. Dr. V. B. Kolte College of Engineering, Malkapur, MH, India

⁵Prof. of Electrical Engineering, Padm. Dr. V. B. Kolte College of Engineering, Malkapur, MH, India

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ABSTRACT

Rapid urbanization, rising global temperatures, and increasing water scarcity have intensified the demand for efficient and sustainable cooling solutions. Conventional evaporative air coolers consume a significant amount of water and exhibit reduced performance under humid climatic conditions, making them unsuitable for water-scarce regions. On the other hand, conventional air conditioning systems provide effective cooling but require high electrical energy, resulting in increased operational costs. To overcome these limitations, this paper presents the design and development of a water-less air cooler using a 1 HP air conditioner compressor. The proposed system operates on the vapor compression refrigeration cycle, completely eliminating the use of water in the cooling process. Major system components include a compressor, air-cooled condenser, expansion device, evaporator coil, and blower fan. Special emphasis is given to electrical design considerations, such as power consumption analysis, selection of protective devices, and operational safety. The system is designed to operate on a single-phase 230 V AC supply with an estimated power consumption of 0.8–0.9 kW. The expected performance of the system indicates a temperature reduction of 8–12°C in small indoor environments with zero water consumption. The proposed water-less air cooler offers a balanced solution between traditional air coolers and air conditioners by providing effective cooling with moderate power usage. This system is suitable for residential rooms, offices, and institutional applications, particularly in regions facing water scarcity, and contributes toward sustainable and energy-efficient cooling practices.

Keywords : - Water-less air cooler, Vapor compression refrigeration, AC compressor, Electrical system design, Sustainable cooling

1. INTRODUCTION

The rapid increase in global temperature and urbanization has led to a growing demand for efficient cooling systems. Traditional evaporative air coolers depend on water evaporation, resulting in excessive water consumption and reduced cooling efficiency in humid environments. In contrast, conventional air conditioners provide effective cooling but require high electrical power and involve higher operational costs.

To overcome these limitations, a water-less air cooling system based on the vapor compression refrigeration principle is proposed. The system aims to provide reliable cooling performance without water usage while ensuring electrical safety and moderate energy consumption. This project focuses on the development of a compact, water-less air cooler using a 1 HP AC compressor.

1.1 Need of the Project

The increasing demand for cooling systems and the growing scarcity of water have created a need for alternative cooling solutions. Conventional air coolers consume a large amount of water and are ineffective in humid conditions, while air conditioners require high electrical energy and operating costs. Therefore, a water-less cooling system that provides effective cooling with moderate power consumption is required. The proposed project addresses this need by developing a water-less air cooler using a 1 HP air conditioner compressor, making it suitable for small indoor spaces and water-scarce regions.

1.2 Objectives of the Project

The main objectives of the proposed project are:

- To design and develop a water-less air cooling system using a 1 HP air conditioner compressor.
- To eliminate the use of water in the cooling process and promote water conservation.
- To analyze and optimize the electrical power consumption of the system.
- To ensure safe and reliable operation through proper electrical protection and wiring.
- To develop an energy-efficient, economical, and eco-friendly cooling solution suitable for small indoor applications.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Several studies have been conducted on alternative cooling technologies to reduce water consumption and energy usage. Traditional evaporative cooling systems rely on the principle of water evaporation; however, their efficiency significantly decreases in humid environments. Researchers have reported that evaporative coolers consume approximately 20–30 liters of water per day for domestic applications, making them unsuitable for water-scarce regions.

Vapor compression refrigeration systems are widely used in air conditioning due to their higher cooling efficiency and reliability. Previous research indicates that compressor-based cooling systems provide stable temperature control irrespective of ambient humidity. However, most air conditioning systems are designed for large-scale cooling and involve higher installation and maintenance costs.

Recent studies have focused on compact refrigeration-based cooling systems with reduced power consumption. Electrical safety, motor protection, and efficient power utilization have been identified as critical factors influencing system performance and lifespan. The literature review highlights the need for a compact, water-less cooling system with optimized electrical design, which forms the basis of the proposed work.

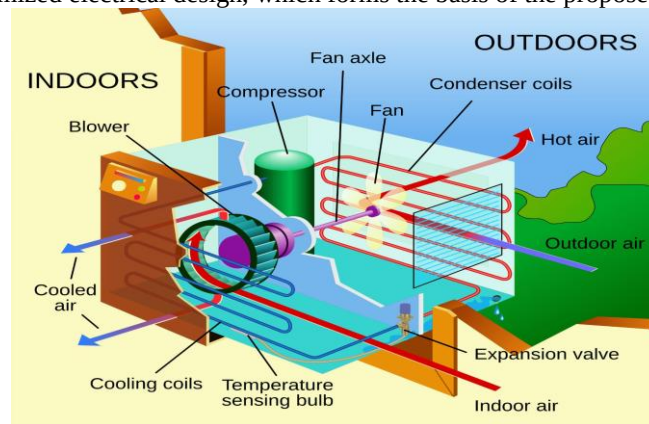


Fig -1

2.1 Evaporative Air Cooling Systems

Previous studies show that conventional evaporative air coolers operate on the principle of water evaporation. Although these systems consume low electrical power, they require a continuous water supply and show poor cooling performance in humid environments. Researchers have reported high water consumption, making such systems unsuitable for water-scarce regions.

2.2 Electrical Energy Consumption and Efficiency

Several researchers have focused on reducing electrical power consumption in cooling systems. Proper selection of compressor capacity, use of efficient motors, and electrical protection devices such as MCBs and overload relays have been identified as critical factors in improving system efficiency and safety.

2.3 Research Gap Identification

From the literature review, it is observed that while evaporative coolers waste water and air conditioners consume high power, there is limited research on compact, water-less cooling systems with optimized electrical design for small indoor applications. This research addresses this gap by developing a water-less air cooler using a 1 HP AC compressor with emphasis on electrical safety and efficiency.

3. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND WORKING PRINCIPLE

The proposed system operates on the **vapor compression refrigeration cycle**, which consists of four main processes: compression, condensation, expansion, and evaporation. The major components of the system include a compressor, air-cooled condenser, expansion valve, evaporator coil, and blower fan.

The compressor compresses the refrigerant to a high pressure and temperature. The high-pressure refrigerant then flows through the condenser, where heat is rejected to the surrounding atmosphere. The refrigerant passes through an expansion valve, reducing its pressure and temperature. In the evaporator coil, the low-temperature refrigerant absorbs heat from the surrounding air. A blower fan circulates air over the evaporator coil, delivering cool air to the room without using water.

3.1 Electrical Design Considerations

The compressor operates on a 230 V, single-phase AC supply with an electrical input of approximately 0.8–0.9 kW. Electrical protection is provided using a Miniature Circuit Breaker (MCB) for short-circuit protection and a thermal overload relay to prevent motor overheating. Proper earthing and wiring are implemented to ensure operational safety and reliability.

4. CONCLUSIONS

This research work successfully presents the design and development of a **water-less air cooler using a 1 HP air conditioner compressor**, addressing the growing concerns of water scarcity and increasing demand for efficient cooling systems. The proposed system operates on the **vapor compression refrigeration cycle**, enabling effective cooling without the use of water, unlike conventional evaporative air coolers.

The study highlights that the integration of proper **electrical design and safety measures**, such as MCB protection, thermal overload relay, and appropriate wiring, ensures reliable and safe system operation. With a moderate electrical power consumption of approximately **0.8–0.9 kW**, the system offers a balance between energy efficiency and cooling performance. The expected temperature reduction of **8–12°C** makes the system suitable for small indoor environments such as residential rooms, offices, and institutional spaces.

The comparative analysis with conventional air coolers and air conditioners demonstrates that the proposed system effectively bridges the gap between water-dependent cooling systems and high-power air conditioning units. By completely eliminating water usage, the system contributes to environmental sustainability and promotes water conservation, especially in water-scarce regions.

Overall, the developed water-less air cooler provides a **practical, economical, and eco-friendly cooling solution**. The results of this work indicate that the proposed system has significant potential for further development and real-world application, making it a viable alternative to conventional cooling technologies.

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