The Entropy Police

Geothermal heat pump design program

Contact: engr-entropy@uidaho.edu

Colin Ryan
Mitchel Gogert
Samuel Qualls
Desiree Reed

Lead Instructor: Dr. Tao Xing

Problem Statement

Geothermal heat pumps are a complex systems that are difficult to design, analyze and optimize. The use of thermal analysis programs can ease this design process.

An application for this process is not currently available.

Objectives

To design a program in Engineering Equation Solver (EES) that:

- Analyzes a geothermal system
- Utilizes engineering economics to optimize pipe dimensions and flow
- Has a simple user interface to allow easy design modifications

Heating Load

 $\Delta T = 69 \, ^{\circ}F$

Wall area = $35,018 \text{ ft}^2$

Roof area = $18,880 \text{ ft}^2$

Window area = 4700 ft²

To find the heat loss the following equation was used for each unique portion of the building.

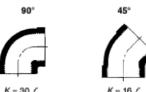
Heat loss = $(U)(A)(\Delta T)$

where U is the overall heat transfer coefficient, A is the surface area, and T is the difference in temperature.

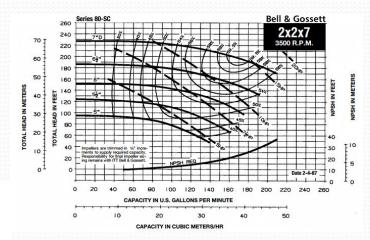
Max heating load_{hand calc} = 594 kBtu/hr

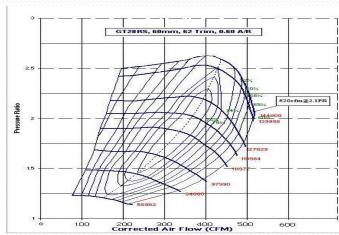
Pump/Compressor

• Needs to overcome system losses (pipe flow, standard elbows bends, valves)

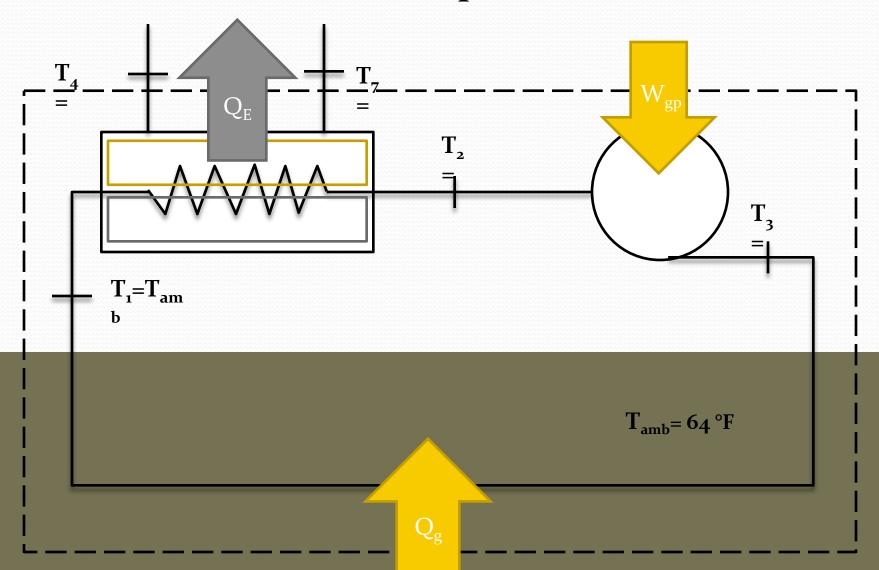


- Pump curves
 - Operating level of pump
- System curve
 - Operating level of system





Ground-Loop Model



Heat Exchanger Model

