



# Dedicated Outdoor Air Handling Units (DOAHUs)

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May 2022



- The role of dedicated outdoor air systems in maintaining acceptable indoor air quality
- Overview of dedicated outdoor air handling unit arrangements
- Methodology for assessing the energy efficiency of different dedicated outdoor air handling unit arrangements
- Assessment of dedicated outdoor air handling units' purchasing- and operating- costs
- Summary/Conclusions



# Introduction





Indoor air quality is determined by the concentration of contaminants in conditioned spaces

- Biological Contaminants
- Particle Pollutants
- Gaseous Pollutants
- Volatile Organic Compounds

## Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality



ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2019  
(Supersedes ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2016)  
Includes ANSI/ASHRAE addenda listed in Appendix O

### Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality

See Appendix O for approval dates by ASHRAE and the American National Standards Institute.

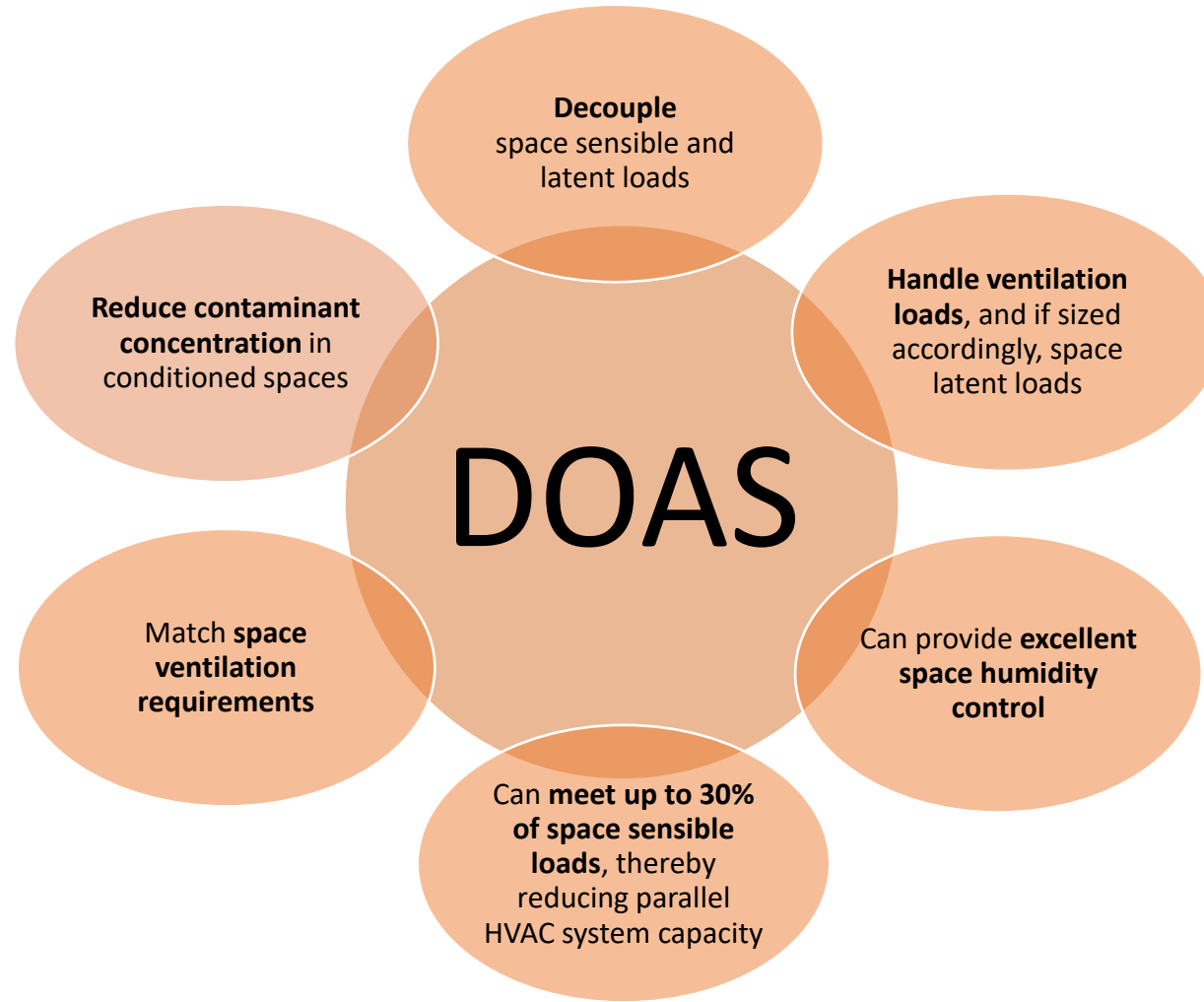
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- ☑ New method for assessing ventilation requirements for conditioned spaces
- ☑ Does not regard ventilation of conditioned spaces where smoking is allowed
- ☑ Stated outdoor air flow rates constitute minimum, not suggested, requirements for acceptable IAQ

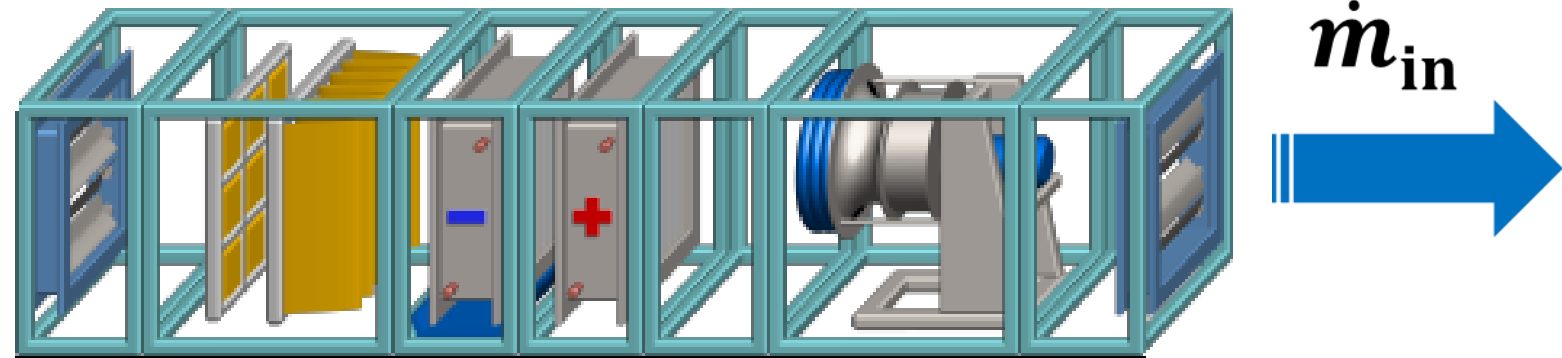




# Dedicated Outdoor Air Handling Unit Arrangements



The simplest DOAHU arrangement...





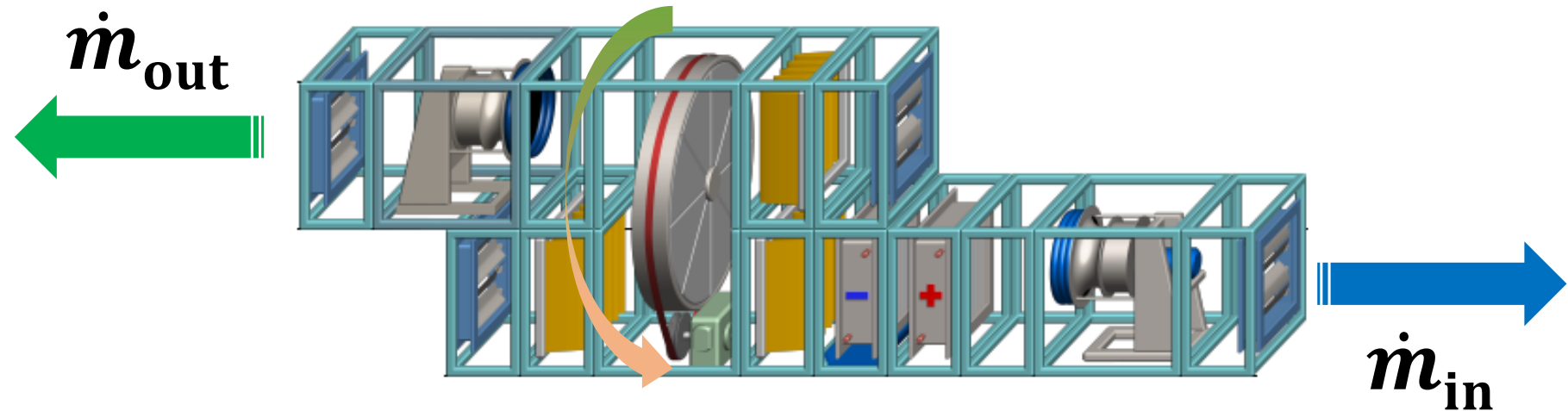
The simplest arrangement, for BVUs, as per EU Regulation 1253/2014

**ErP 2016**

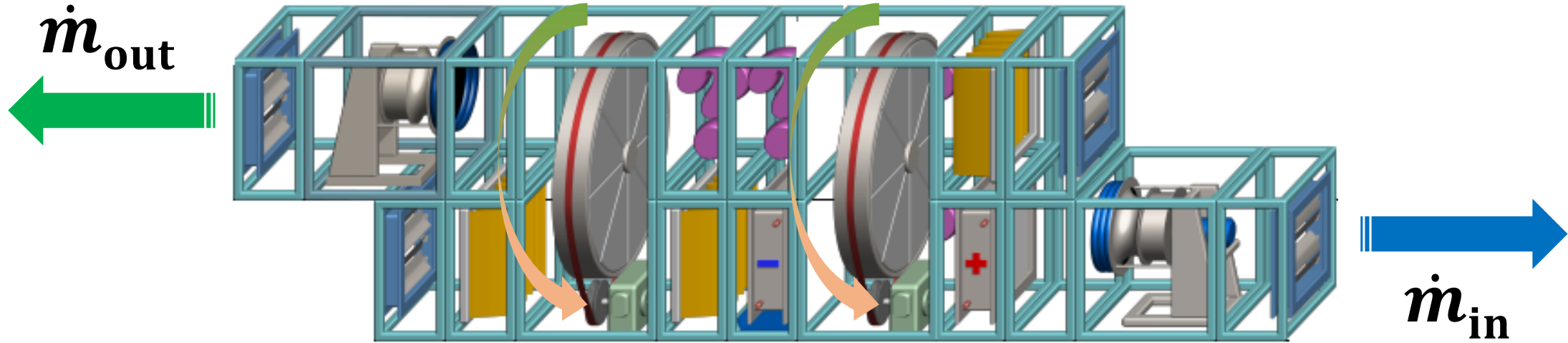
$$\eta_{min,wheel} = 67\%$$

**ErP 2018**

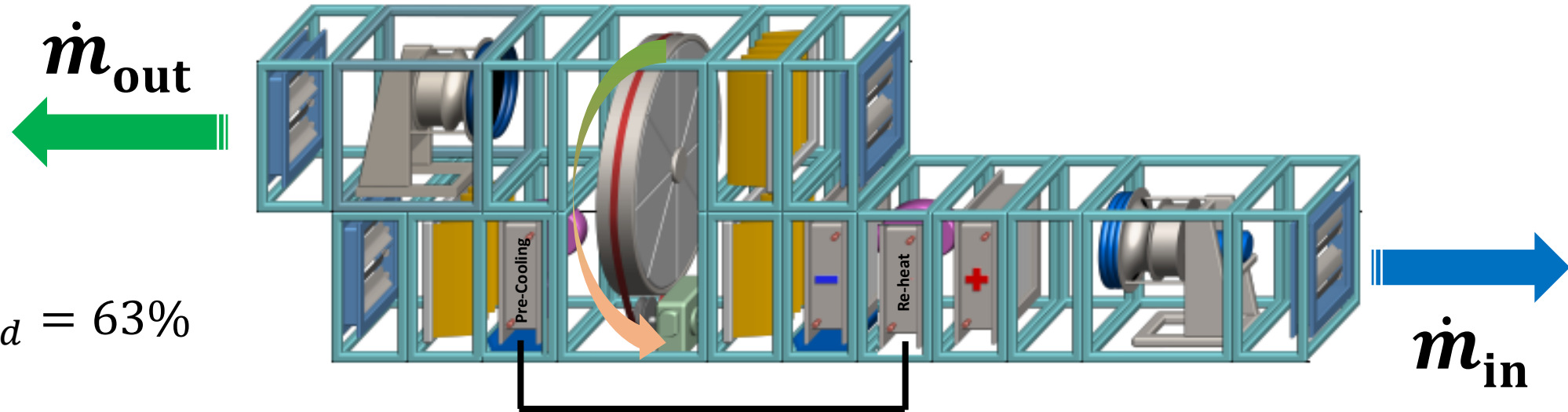
$$\eta_{min,wheel} = 73\%$$



An energy efficient alternative featuring 2 RHWs



## DOAHU with a Run-Around Coil Heat Exchanger and a Sorption RHW



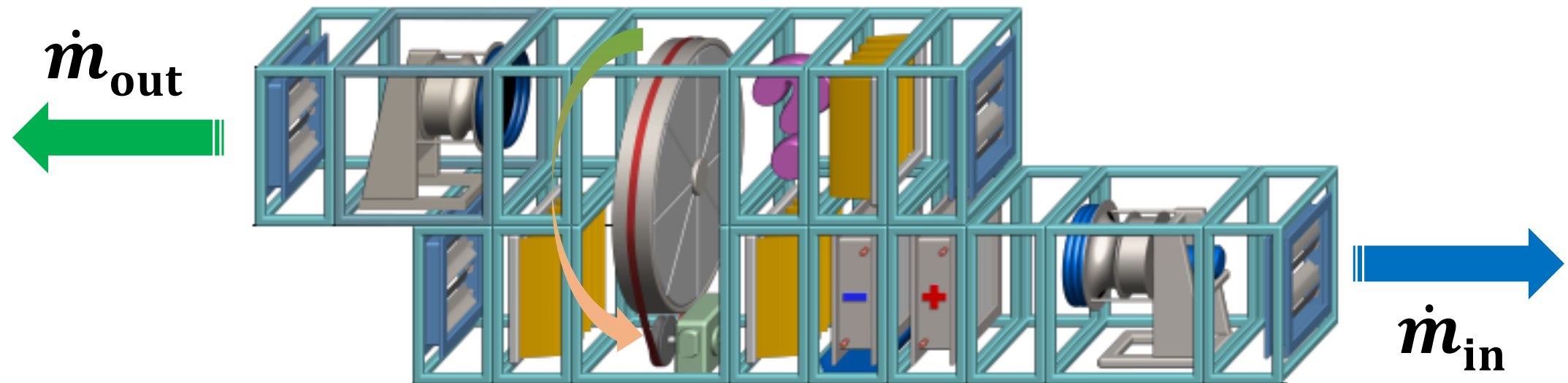
**ErP 2016**

$$\eta_{min,run-around} = 63\%$$

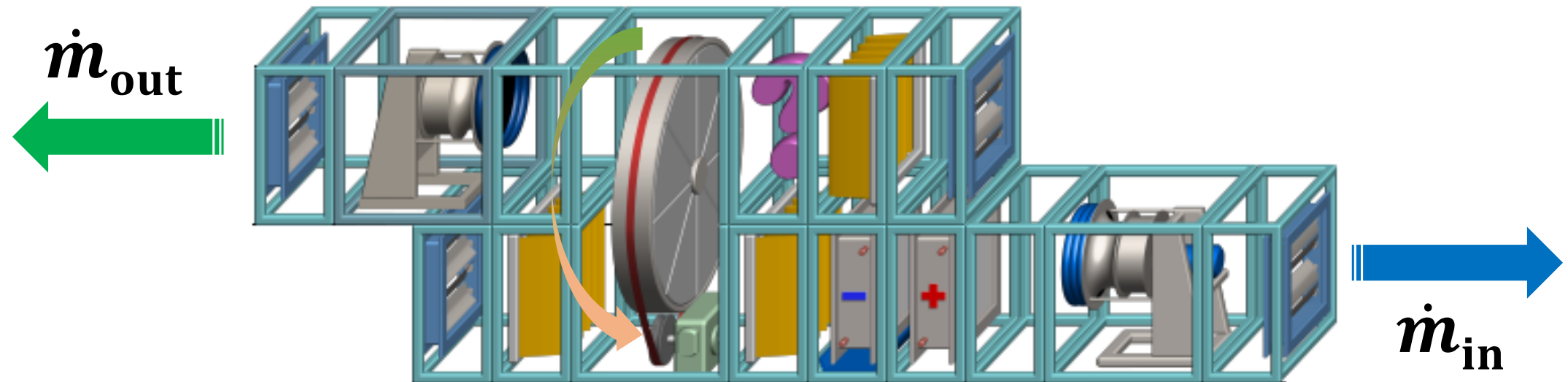
**ErP 2018**

$$\eta_{min,run-around} = 68\%$$

DOAHU with a Sorption RHW and Wet Cell Humidifier at Return Air- Side



## DOAHU with a Condensation RHW and Wet Cell Humidifier at Return Air- Side





# Model for Assessing DOAHUs' Operating Costs



Space Design Condition: **23 °C db/50% r.h.**  
Space Dew Point Temperature: **12.1 °C dp**

## Selection Data for Reference DOAHU

Supply Air Flow Rate

**10,000 m<sup>3</sup>/h**

Return Air Flow Rate\*

**10,000 m<sup>3</sup>/h**

Supply Fan External Static Pressure

**300 Pa**

Return Fan External Static Pressure\*

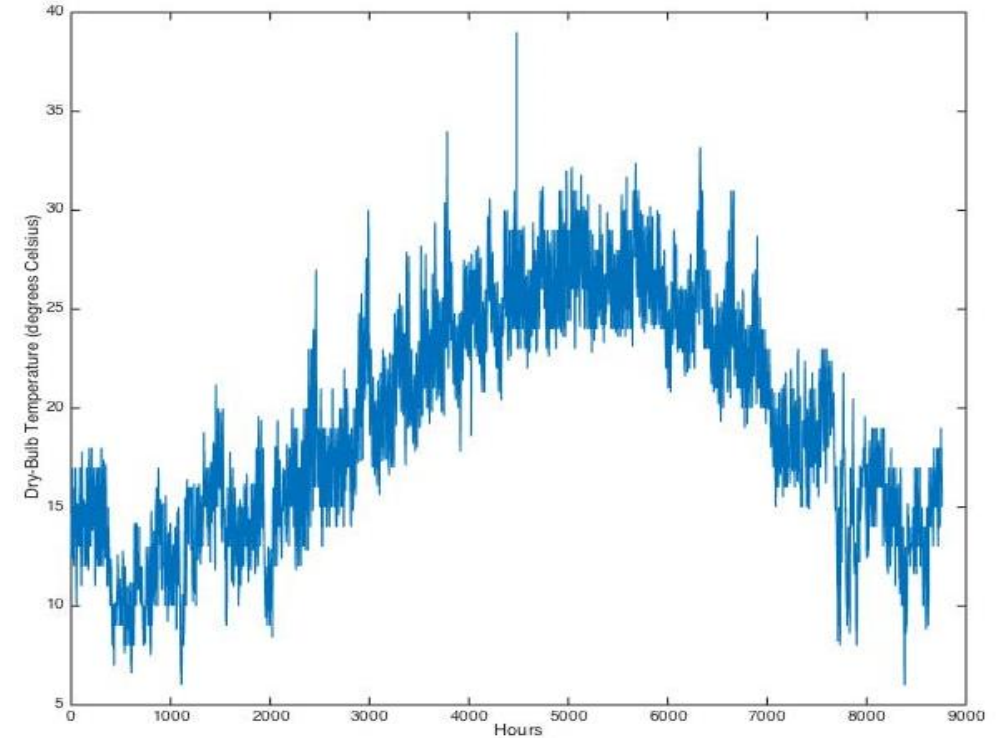
**250 Pa**

\* Variable that regards DOAHUs with return air fan section

Typical Meteorological Year (TMY) data was used (database: ASHRAE International Weather Files for Energy Calculations - IWEC2)

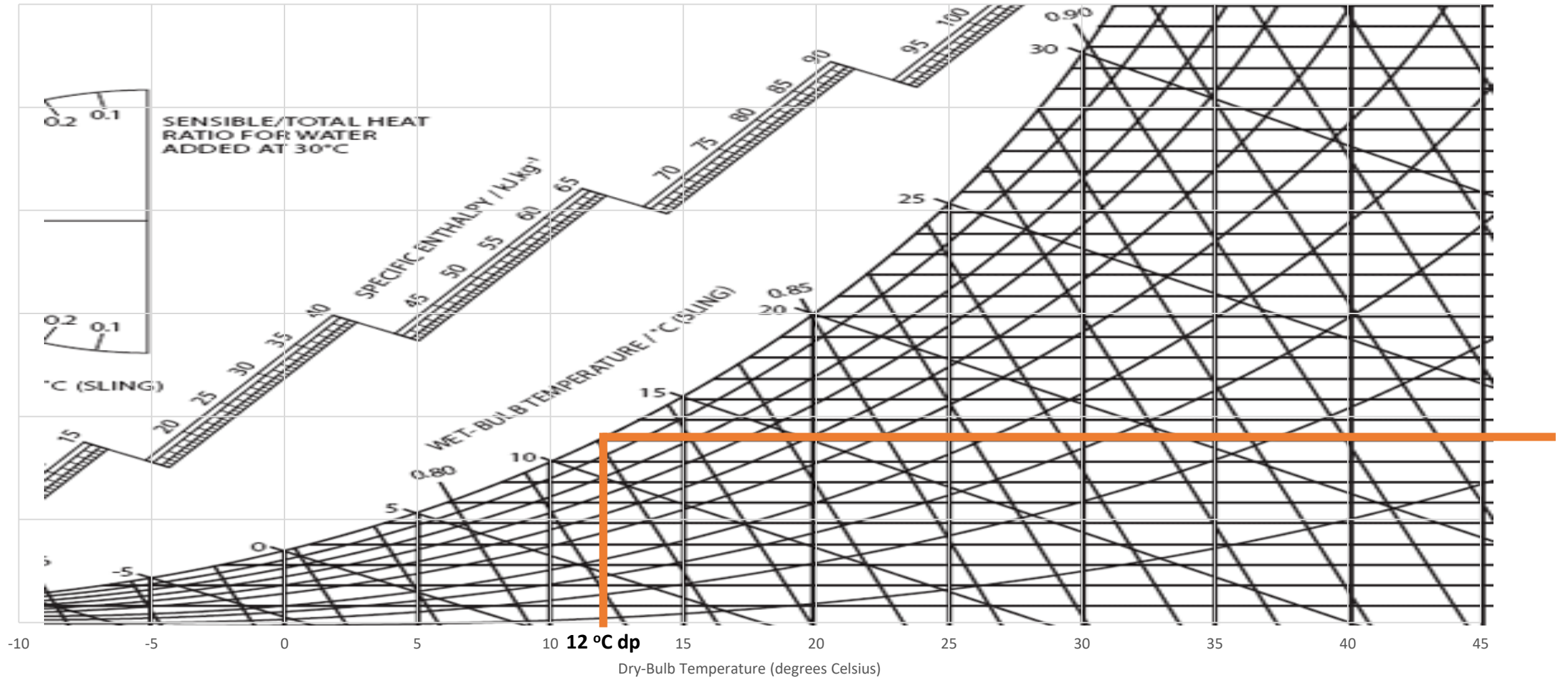
TMY data was of 4 major cities in Greece and was collected between 1985 and 2007

- Athens
- Thessaloniki
- Heraklion
- Rhodes



**Annual Variation of Outdoor Air  
Dry Bulb Temperature for the city of Rhodes**





- Athens
- Heraklion
- Rhodes
- Thessaloniki

Maximum load at cooling coil occurs at  
**highest coil air-in wet bulb temperature**

Coil Load at Max. Coil Air-In DB Temp.

$$T_{db} = 39^{\circ}\text{C}, T_{wb} = 24.7^{\circ}\text{C}, \Delta h = 40.01 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$$

$$\dot{Q}_t = \rho \times q \times \Delta h \Rightarrow$$

$$\dot{Q}_t = 1.225 \left( \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \right) \times 2.78 \left( \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{s}} \right) \times 40.01 \left( \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} \right) \Rightarrow$$

$$\dot{Q}_t = \mathbf{136.25 \text{ kW}}$$

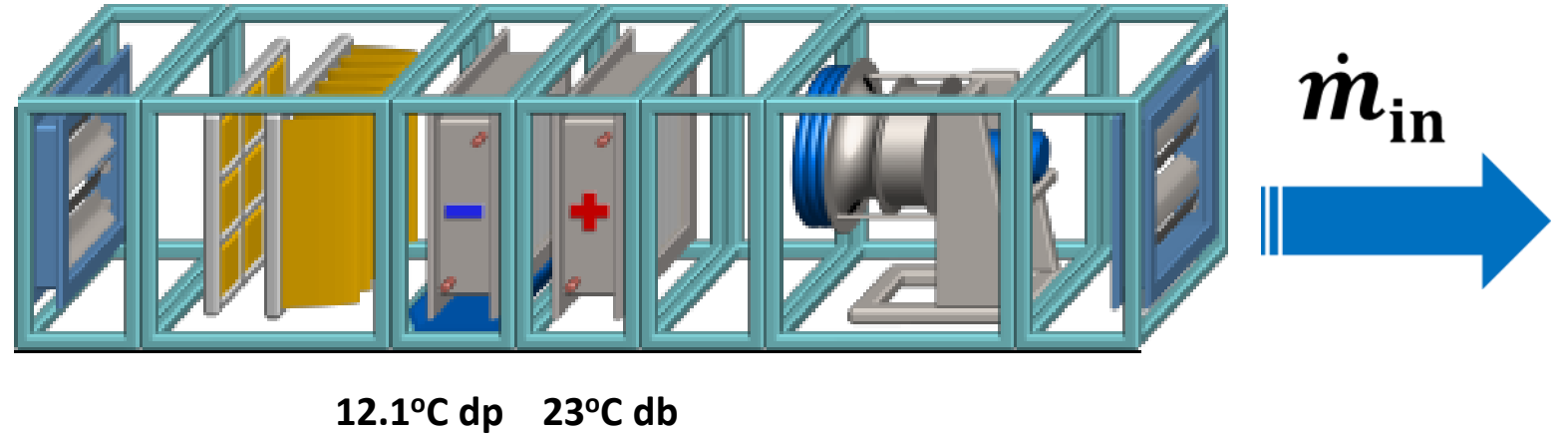
Coil Load at Max. Coil Air-In WB Temp.

$$T_{db} = 27.8^{\circ}\text{C}, T_{wb} = 25.7^{\circ}\text{C}, \Delta h = 45.12 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$$

$$\dot{Q}_t = \rho \times q \times \Delta h \Rightarrow$$

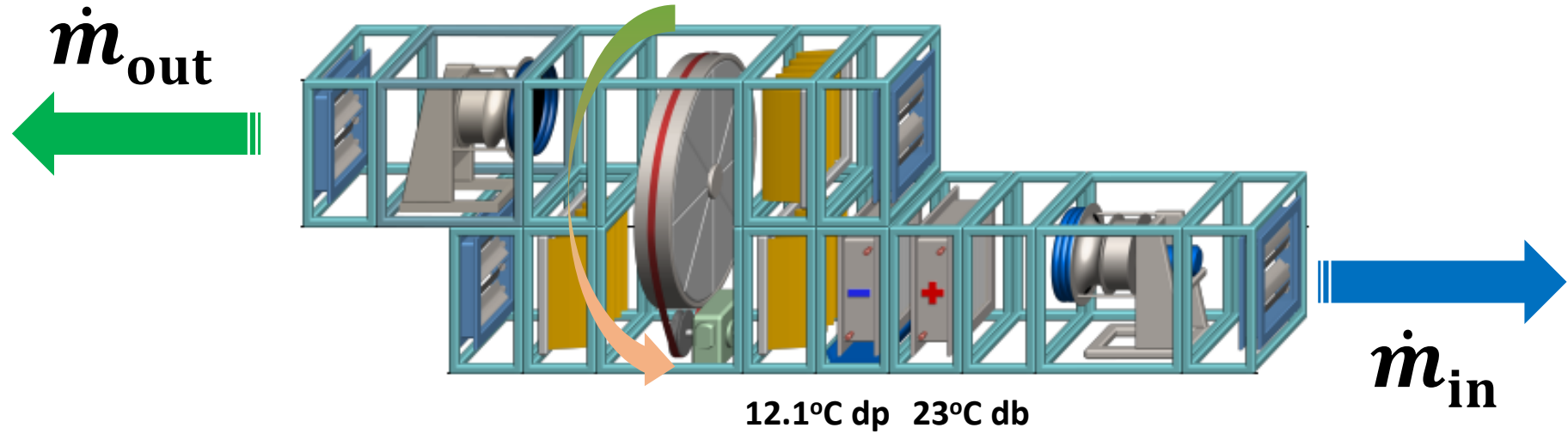
$$\dot{Q}_t = 1.225 \left( \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \right) \times 2.78 \left( \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{s}} \right) \times 45.12 \left( \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} \right) \Rightarrow$$

$$\dot{Q}_t = \mathbf{153.66 \text{ kW}}$$



Coil Cooling Capacity: **163.82 kW**

Coil Heating Capacity : **75.37 kW**



Coil Cooling Capacity: **85.66 kW**

Coil Heating Capacity: **37.48 kW**

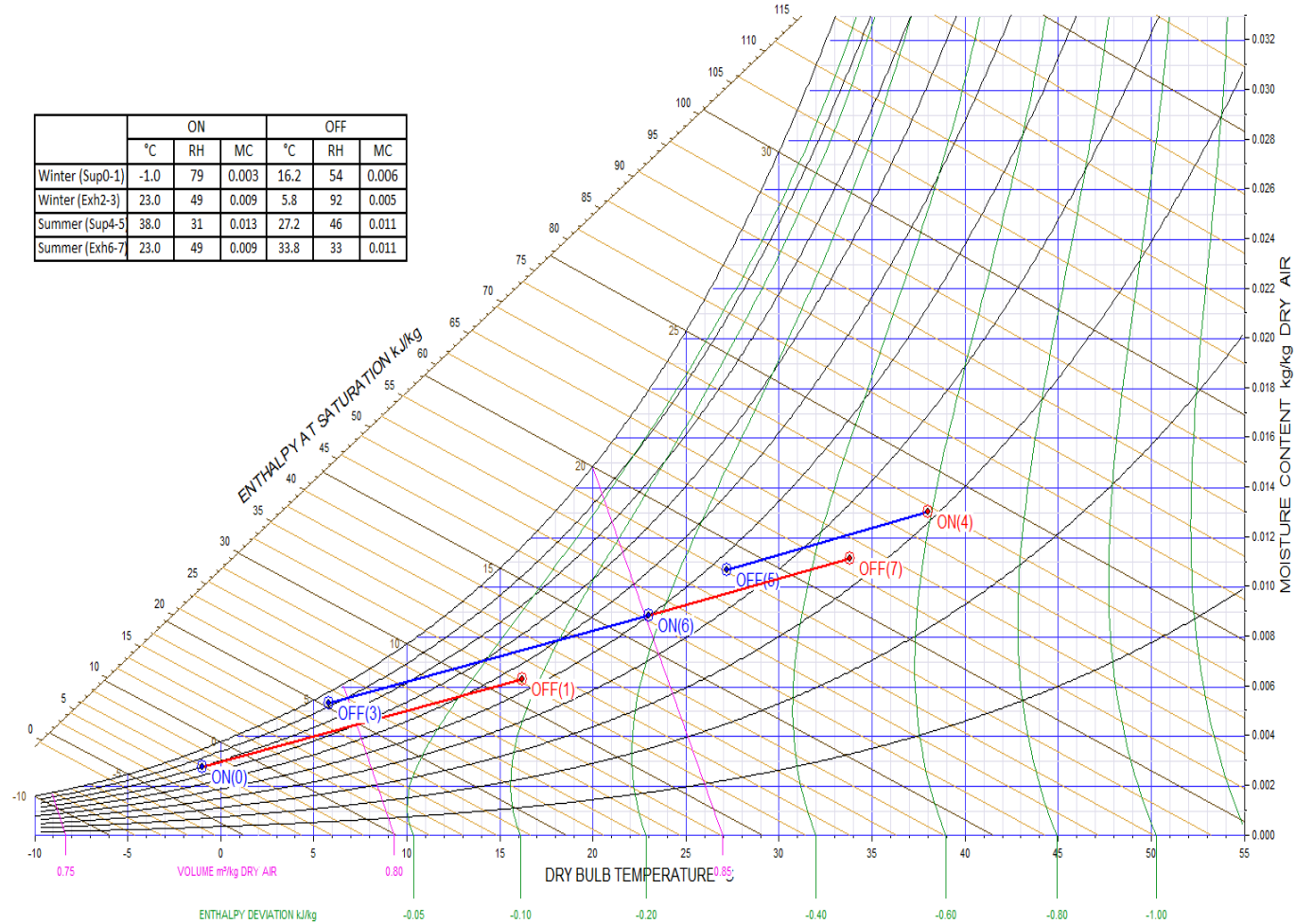
Sorption RHW:

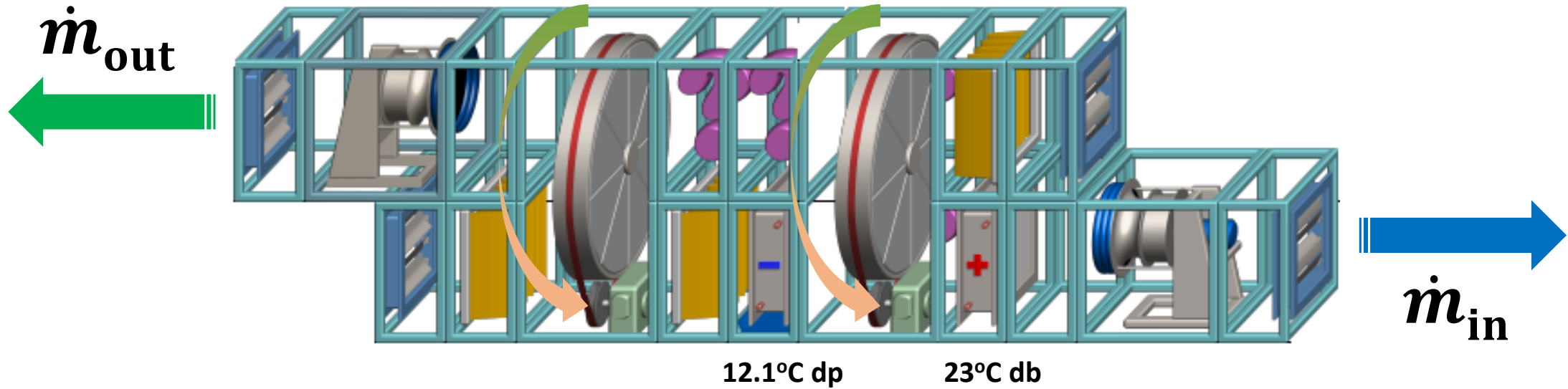
**SH1-NL-WV-1600-CS-K2-A1**

Heat Exchanger Sensible Efficiency  
(at chosen conditions): 73%

Heat Exchanger Latent Efficiency  
(at chosen conditions): 58%

	ON			OFF		
	°C	RH	MC	°C	RH	MC
Winter (Sup0-1)	-1.0	79	0.003	16.2	54	0.006
Winter (Exh2-3)	23.0	49	0.009	5.8	92	0.005
Summer (Sup4-5)	38.0	31	0.013	27.2	46	0.011
Summer (Exh6-7)	23.0	49	0.009	33.8	33	0.011





Coil Cooling Capacity: **65.97 kW**

Coil Heating Capacity: **9.27 kW**



# BVU DOAHU with 2 Sorption RHWs

## Sorption RHW

### SH1-NL-WV-1600-CS-K2-A1

Heat Exchanger Sensible Efficiency  
(at chosen conditions): 73%

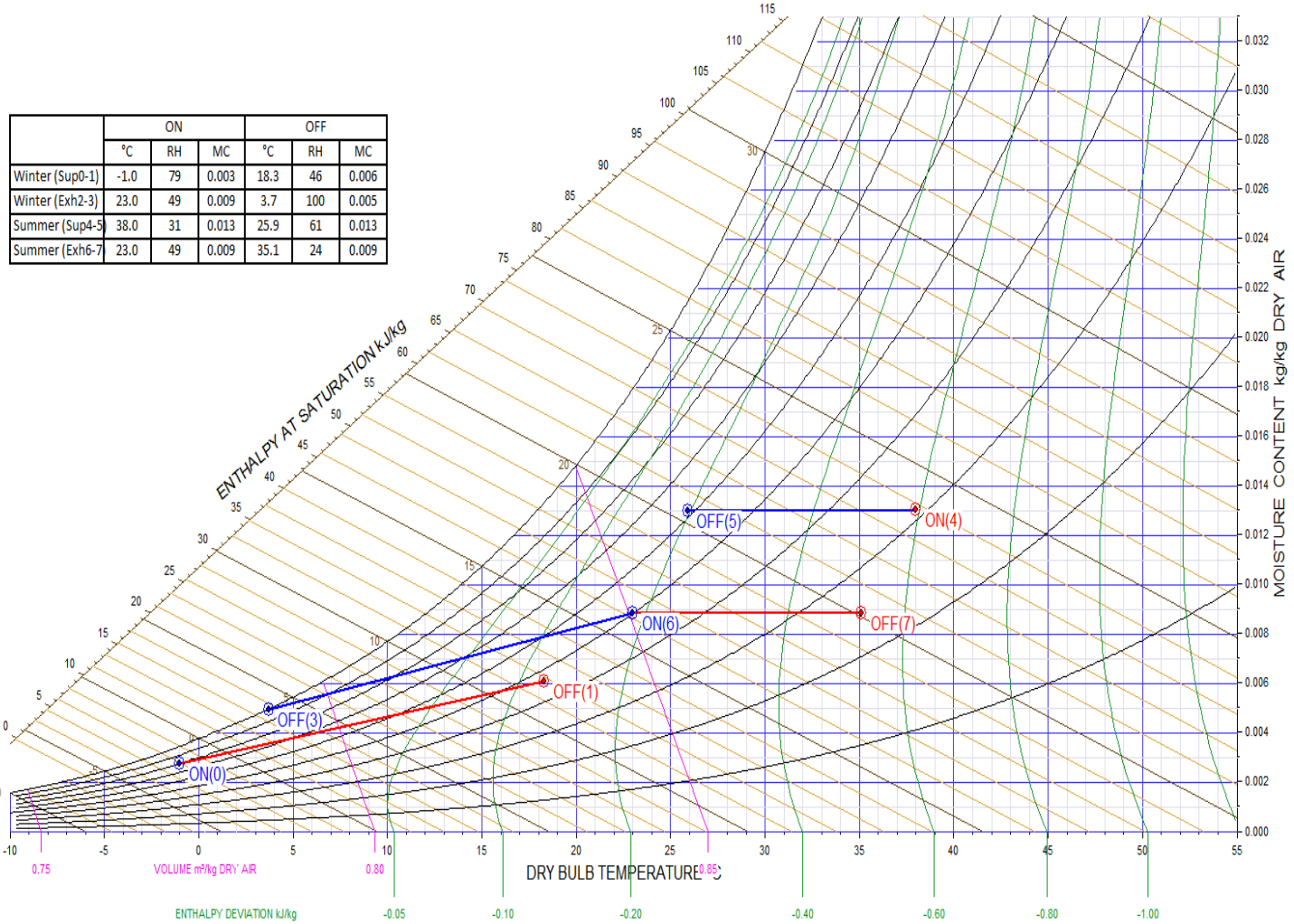
Heat Exchanger Latent Efficiency  
(at chosen conditions): 58%

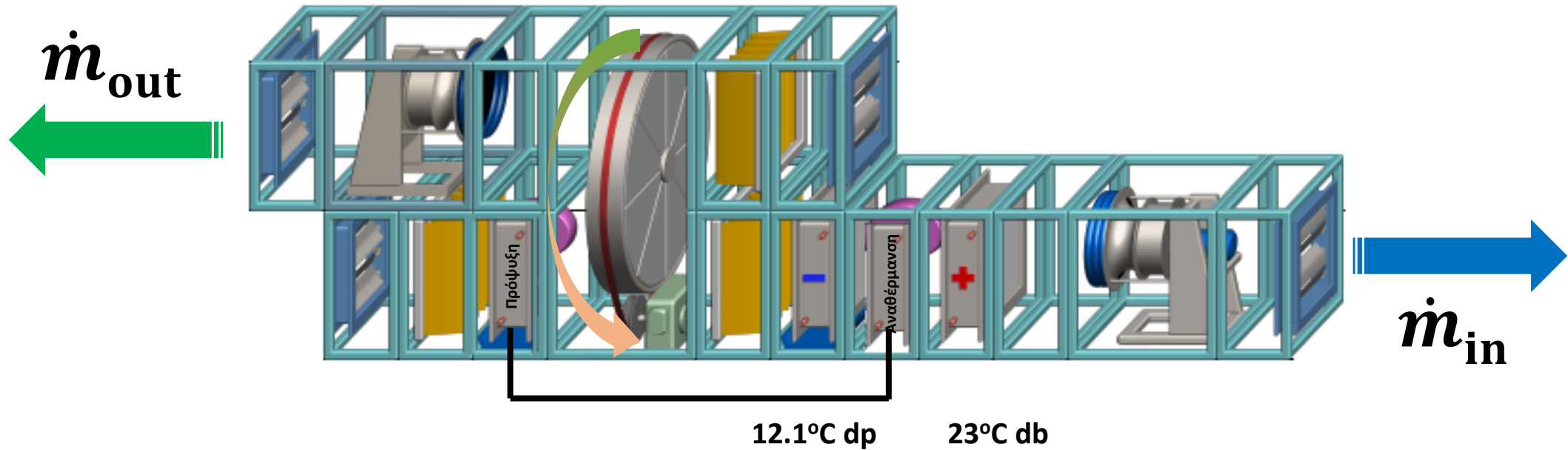
## Condensation RHW

### ST1L-XL-WV-1900-CS-K2-A1

Heat Exchanger Sensible Efficiency  
(at chosen conditions): 81%

Heat Exchanger Latent Efficiency  
(at chosen conditions): 0%

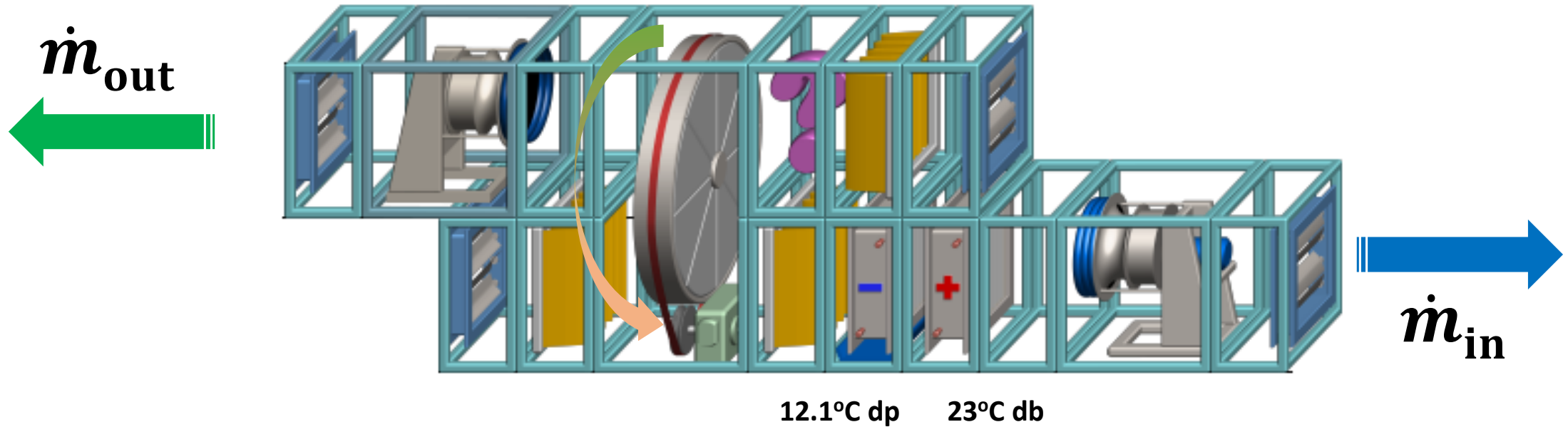




Coil Cooling Capacity: **70.25 kW**

Coil Heating Capacity: **37.48 kW**





Coil Cooling Capacity: **86.53 kW**

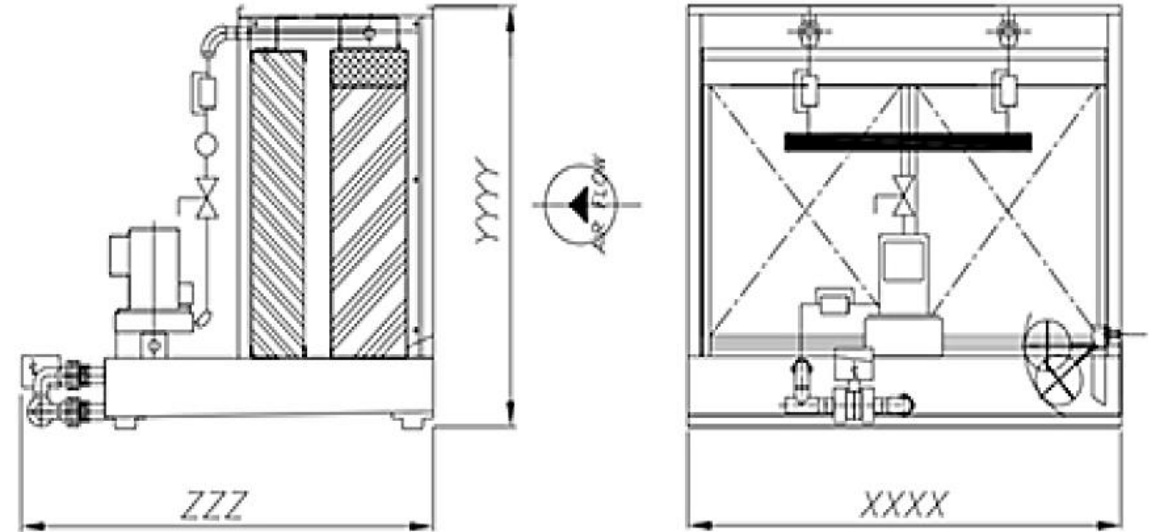
Coil Heating Capacity: **37.48 kW**

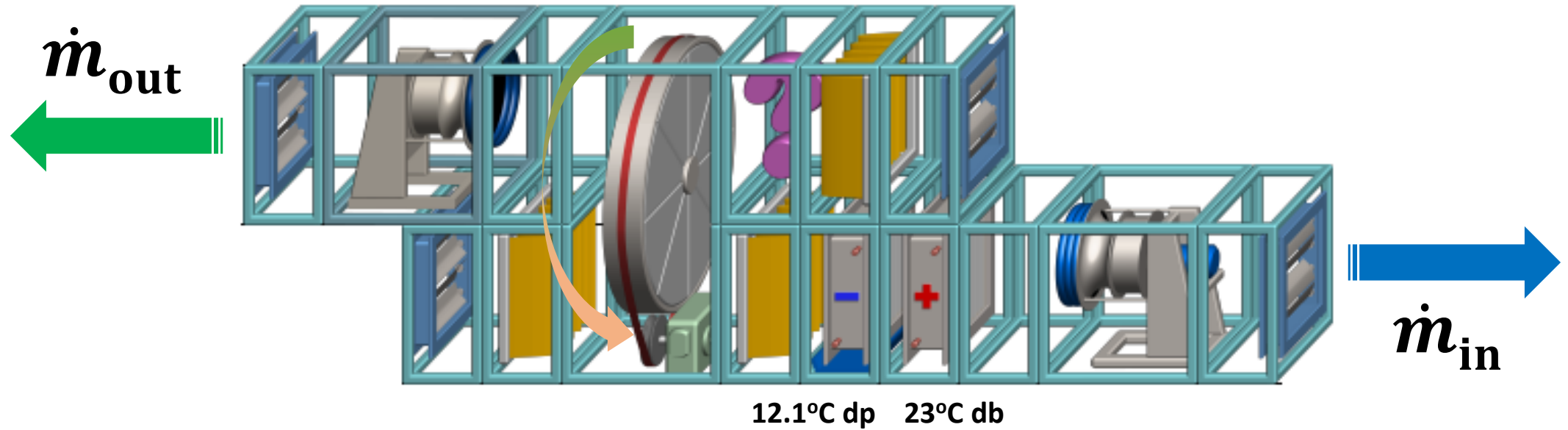
Saturation Efficiency: **70.7%**

Water Consumption: **0.69 l/min**

Absorbed Electric Power of Water Circulation Pump: **60 W**

Humidifier Air Pressure Drop: **59 Pa**





Coil Cooling Capacity: **122.79 kW**

Coil Heating Capacity: **37.48 kW**



# Data Analysis Methodology



$$\eta(\text{Amb. Temp}, \text{Amb. R. H. \%}) = \eta(x, y)$$

$$\eta = p_{00} + p_{10}x + p_{01}y + p_{20}x^2 + p_{11}xy + p_{02}y^2 + p_{30}x^3 + p_{21}x^2y + p_{12}xy^2 + p_{03}y^3 + p_{40}x^4 + p_{31}x^3y + p_{22}x^2y^2 + p_{13}xy^3$$

$$p_{00} = 15.02$$

$$p_{10} = 2.194$$

$$p_{01} = 2.018$$

$$p_{20} = 0.01248$$

$$p_{11} = -0.1039$$

$$p_{02} = -0.02866$$

$$p_{30} = -0.001668$$

$$p_{21} = 0.0007618$$

$$p_{12} = 0.001291$$

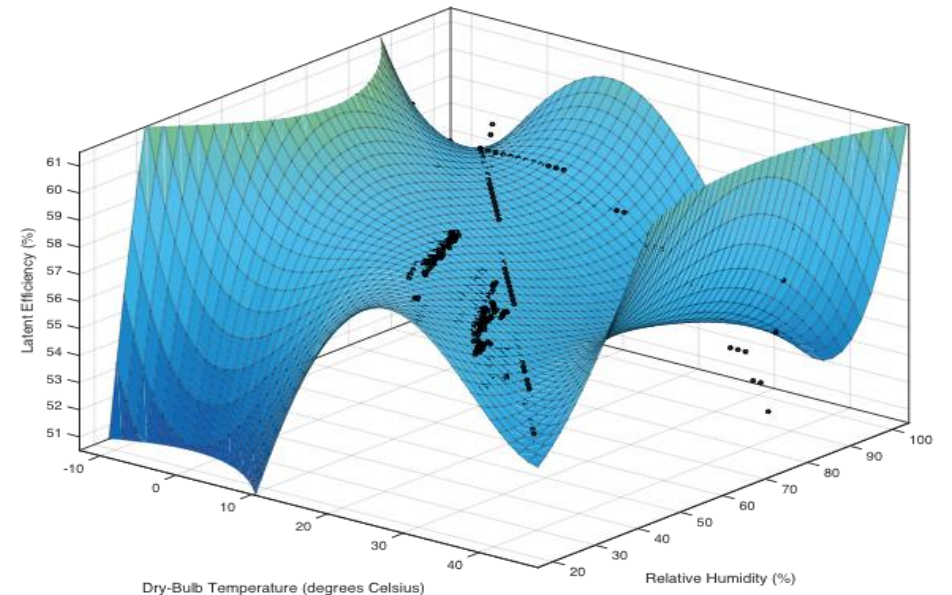
$$p_{03} = 0.0001282$$

$$p_{40} = 1.68E - 05$$

$$p_{31} = 9.70E - 06$$

$$p_{22} = -9.57E - 06$$

$$p_{13} = -4.50E - 06$$



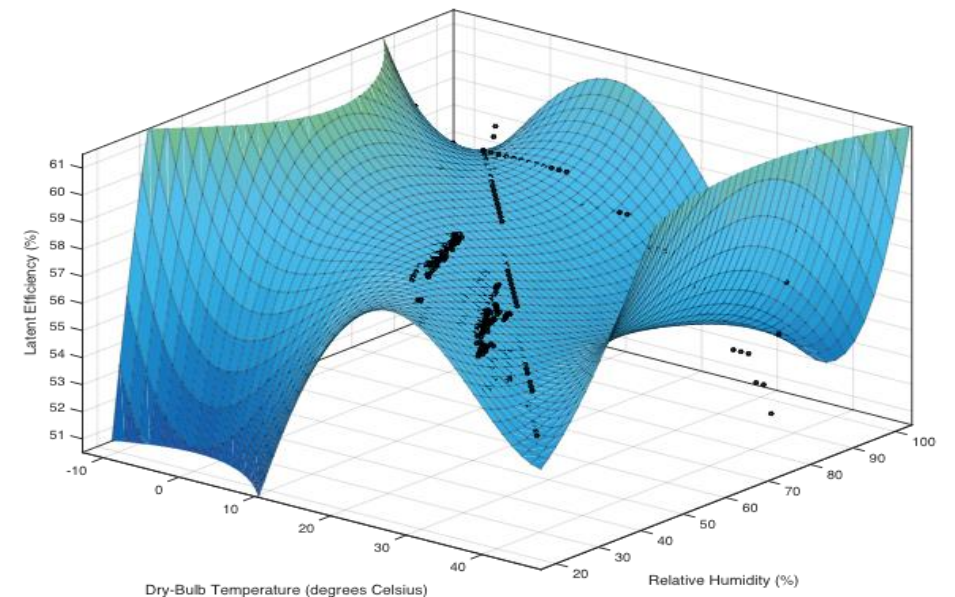
## Statistical Parameters

$$SSE = 21.2$$

$$R^2 = 0.9503$$

$$Adj. R^2 = 0.9486$$

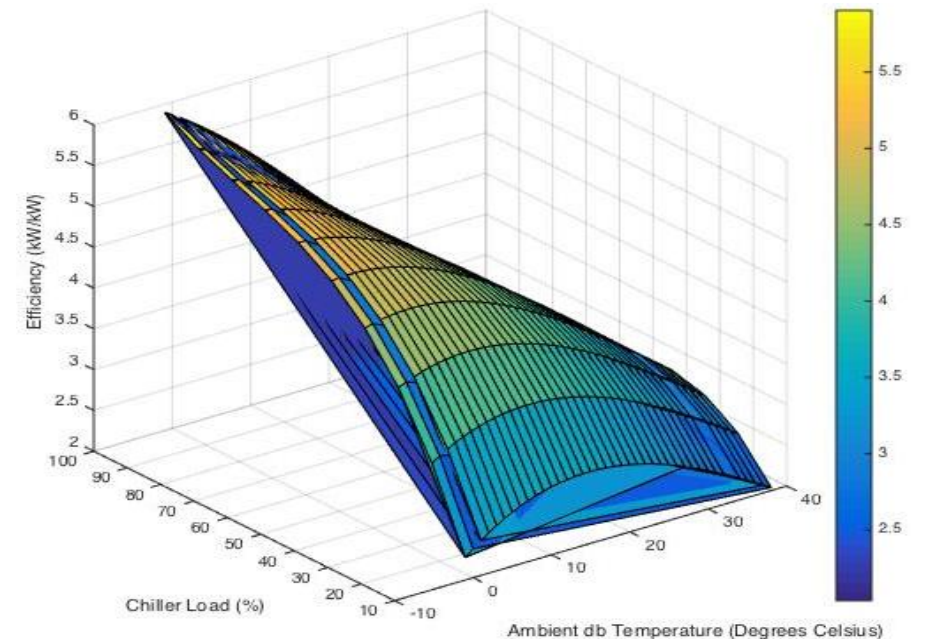
$$RMSE = 0.2384$$



$$\eta(\text{Amb. Temp, Chiller Load}) = \eta(x, y)$$

$$\eta = p_{00} + p_{10}x + p_{01}y + p_{20}x^2 + p_{11}xy + p_{02}y^2 + p_{30}x^3 + p_{21}x^2y + p_{12}xy^2 + p_{03}y^3$$

$p_{00} = 1.147$	$p_{21} = 1.705E - 05$
$p_{10} = 0.09668$	$p_{12} = 4.365E - 06$
$p_{01} = 0.136$	$p_{03} = 6.858E - 06$
$p_{20} = -0.003331$	
$p_{11} = -0.002015$	
$p_{02} = -0.001576$	
$p_{30} = 2.406E - 05$	



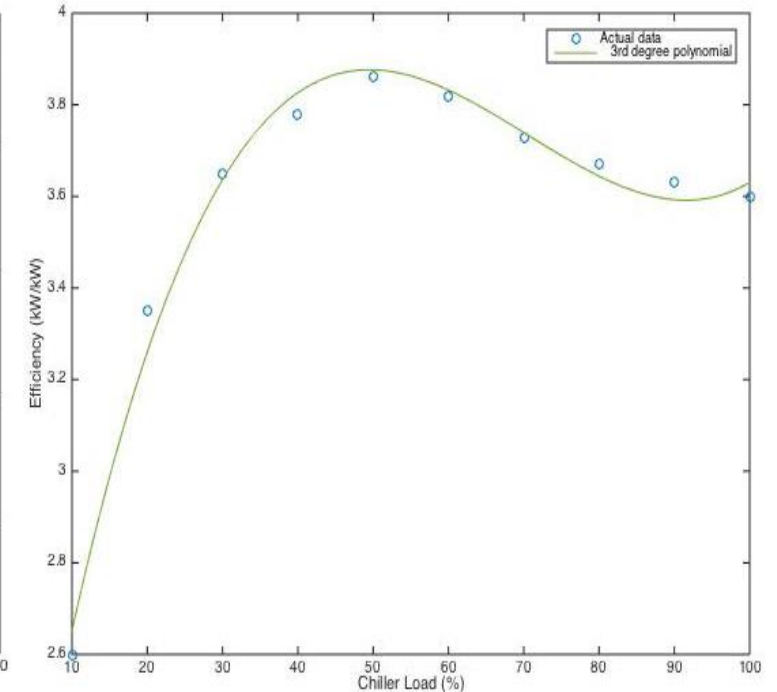
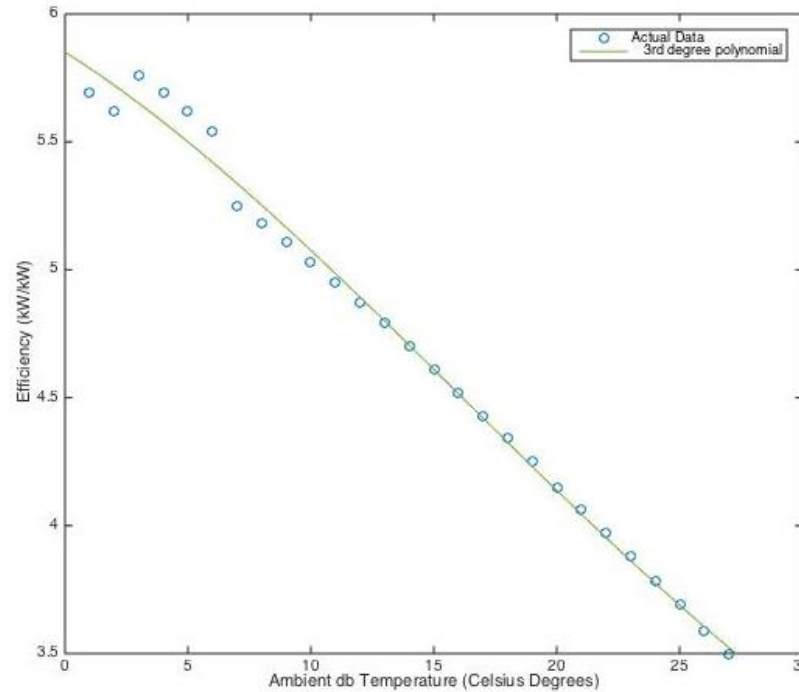
## Statistical Parameters

$$SSE = 0.169$$

$$R^2 = 0.9978$$

$$Adj. R^2 = 0.9975$$

$$RMSE = 0.05022$$







# DOAHUs' Fan Sections

DOAHU Arrangements	Total Static Pressure (Pa)		Installed Motor Power (kW)		
	Supply Fan	Return Fan	Supply Fan	Return Fan	Sum
UVU	848	-	5.5	-	<b>5.5</b>
BVU with Sorption RHW	887	524	5.5	4	<b>9.5</b>
BVU with 2 Sorption RHWs	880	682	5.5	4	<b>9.5</b>
BVU with Sorption RHW & Run-Around Coil Heat Exchanger	1166	524	5.5	4	<b>9.5</b>
BVU with Sorption RHW & Wet Cell Humidifier at Return Air- Side	887	588	5.5	4	<b>9.5</b>
BVU with Condensation RHW & Wet Cell Humidifier at Return Air- Side	823	561	5.5	4	<b>9.5</b>





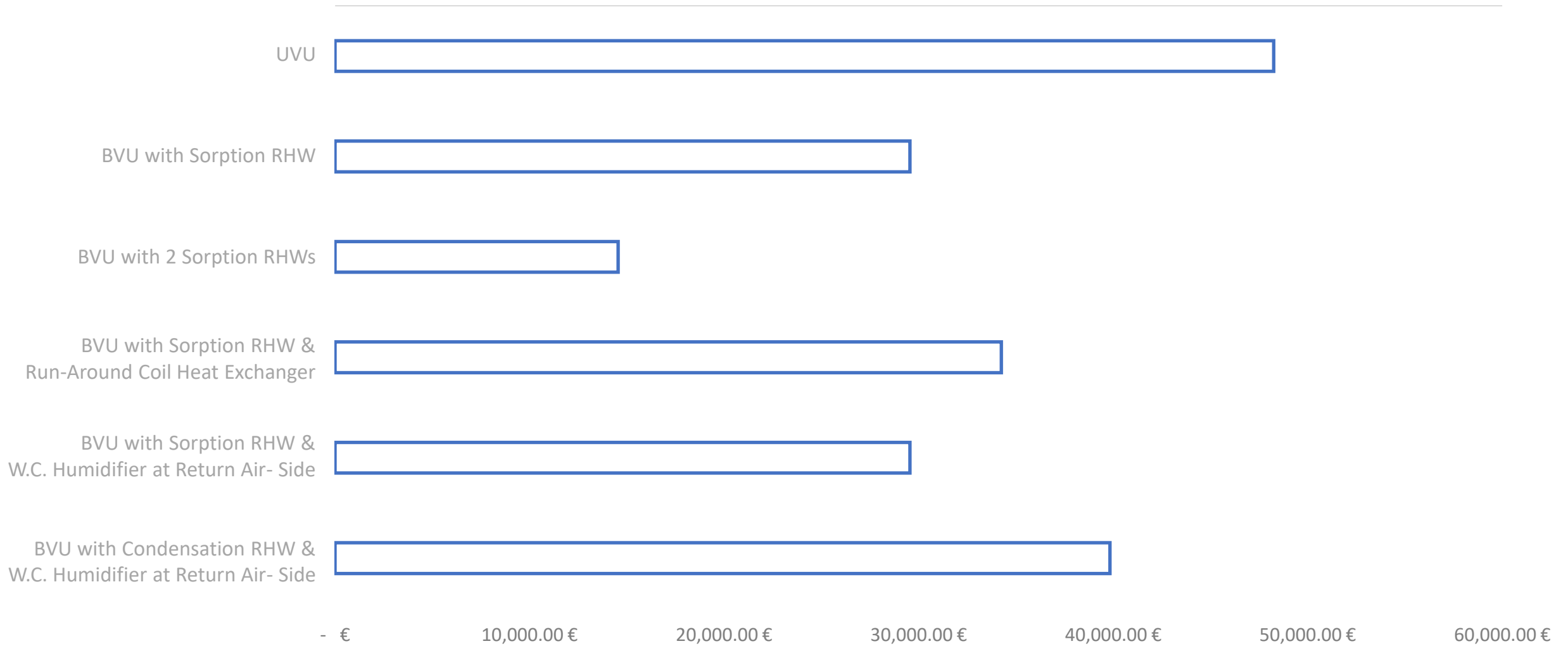
# Simulation Results



DOAHU Arrangements	Purchasing Cost (€)
UVU	9,000
BVU with Sorption RHW	18,600
BVU with 2 Sorption RHWs	23,500
BVU with Sorption RHW & Run-Around Coil Heat Exchanger	19,000
BVU with Sorption RHW & Wet Cell Humidifier at Return Air- Side	20,800
BVU with Condensation RHW & Wet Cell Humidifier at Return Air- Side	21,250

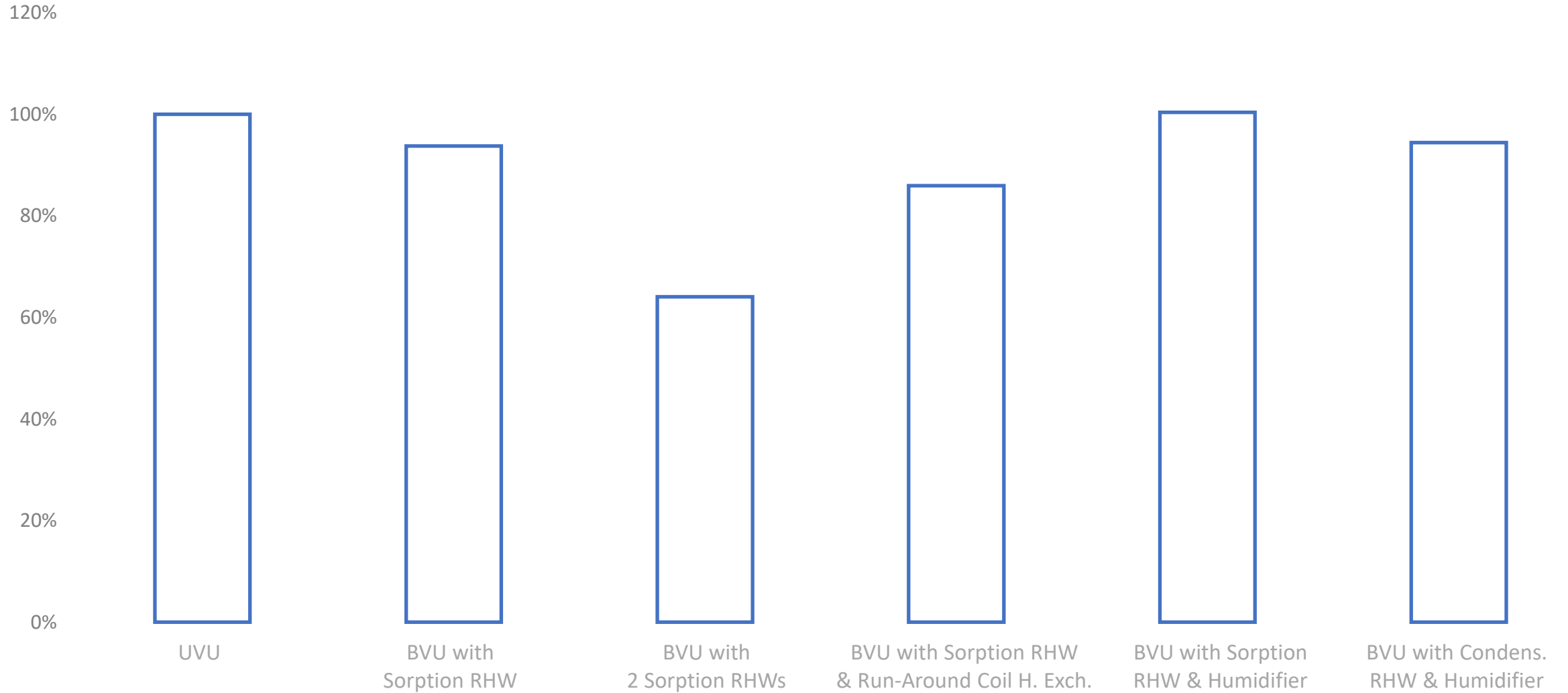


# Chiller/Heat Pump Purchasing Costs



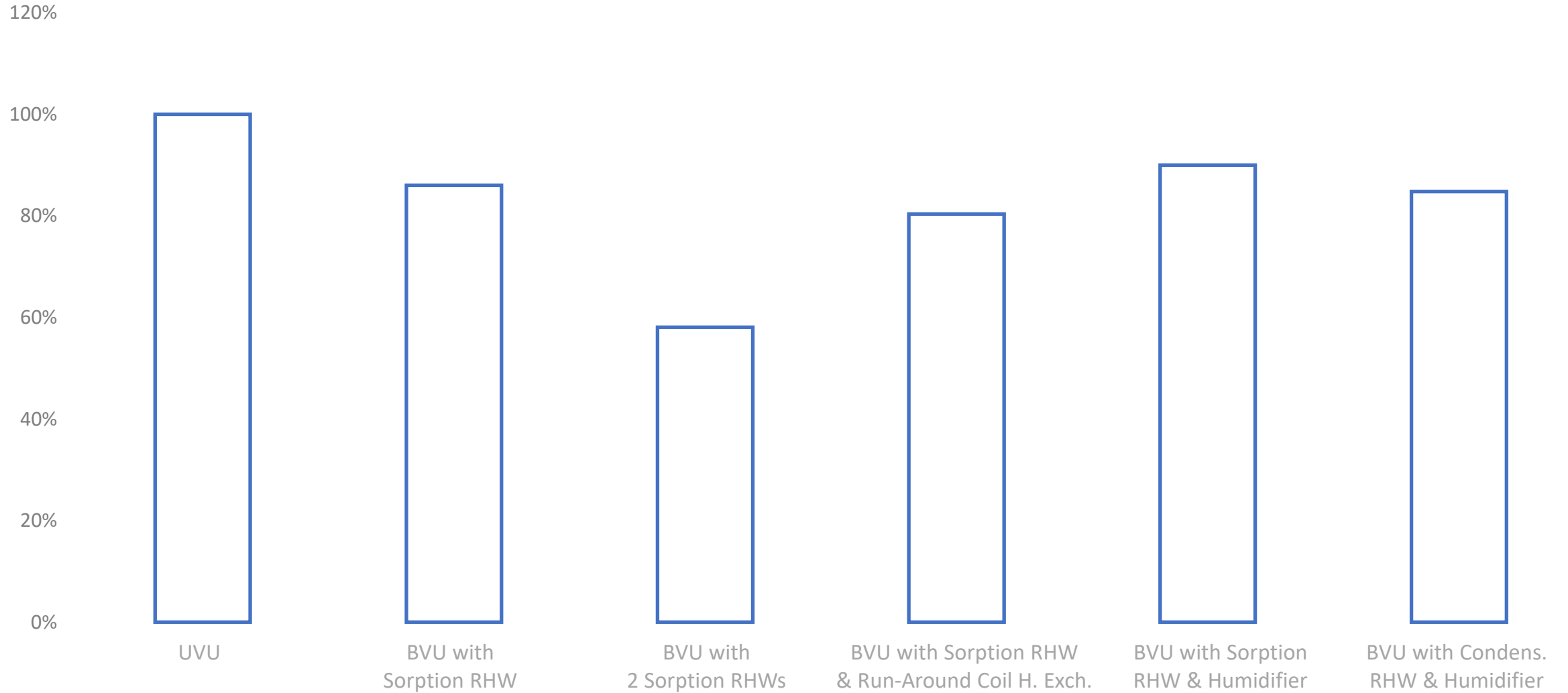


# Athens: DOAHUs' Operating Costs



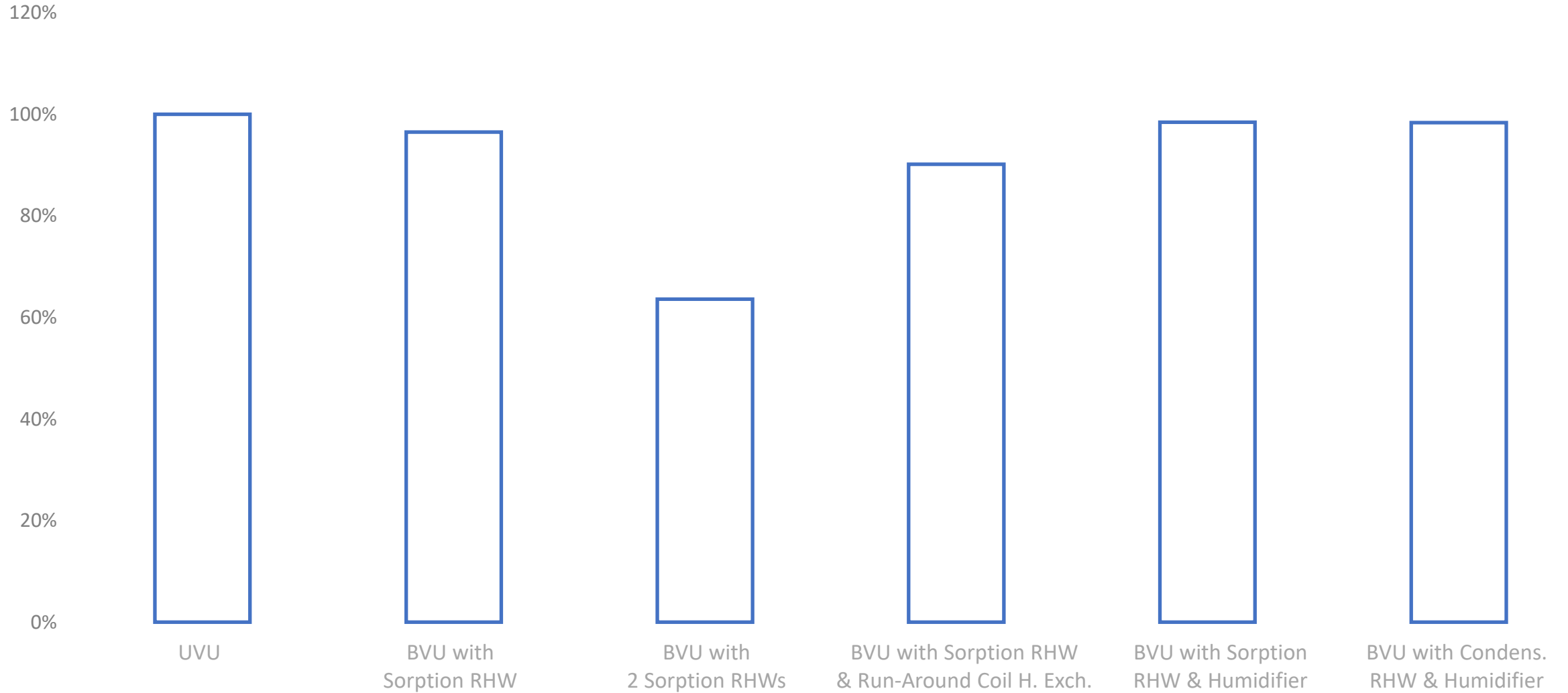


# Thessaloniki: DOAHUs' Operating Costs



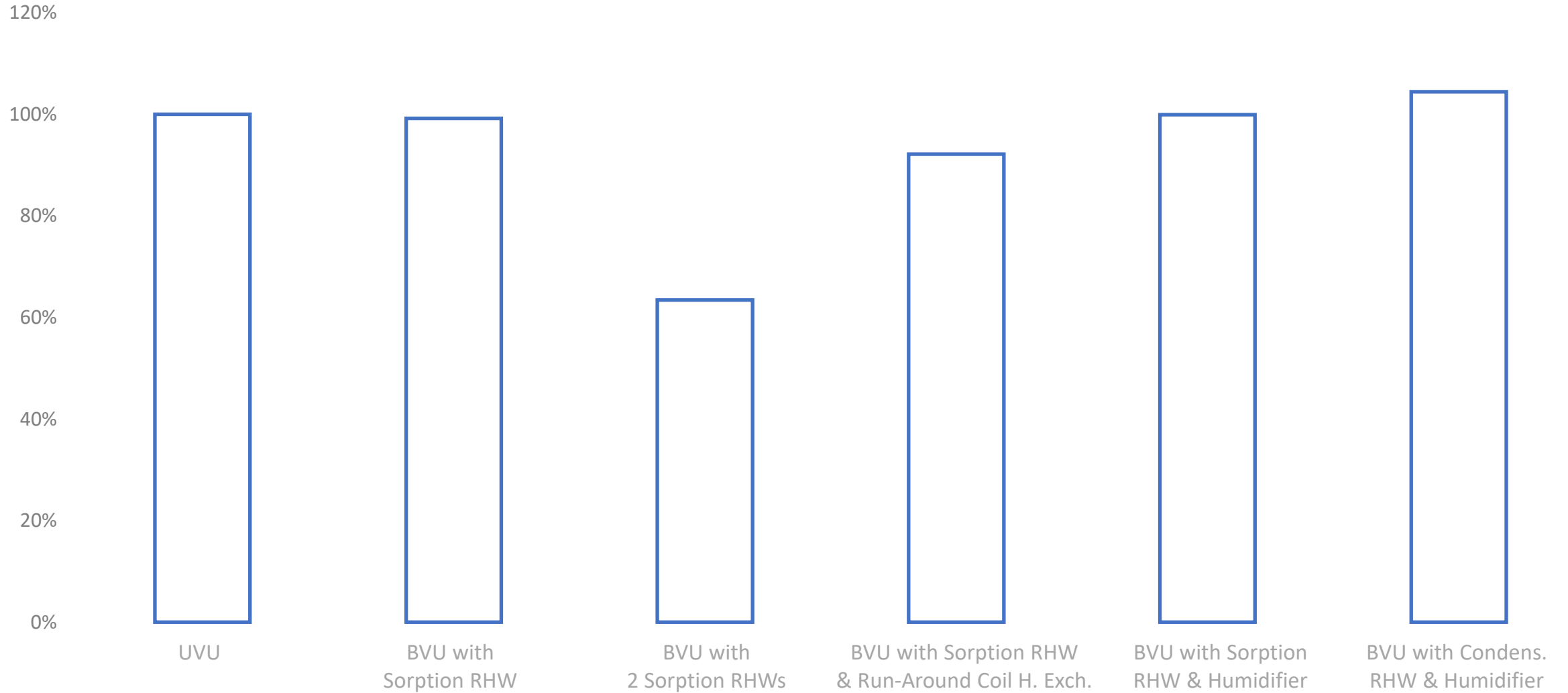


# Heraklion: DOAHUs' Operating Costs





# Rhodes: DOAHUs' Operating Costs





# Simple Payback Period (in Years)



- Choosing the best, in terms of simple payback period, DOAHU arrangement depends on regional climatic conditions.
- DOAHUs with 2 Sorption RHWs and units with a Sorption RHW and Run-Around Coil Heat Exchanger, amongst considered arrangements, offer the most attractive simple payback periods for all 4 Greek cities considered.
- Typically, when compared with UVU DOAHUs, units with 2 Sorption RHWs have lower operating costs by **36-42%**.



Thank you!  
Questions?



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