

**ZEB-konferansen 2012**

**Energiforsyning og tekniske installasjoner – hva er  
valgmulighetene?**

# **Ventilasjon og energigjenvinning i kaldt klima**

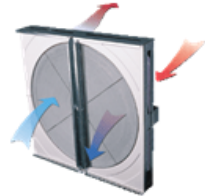
**Hans Martin Mathisen, NTNU**

2012-09-05

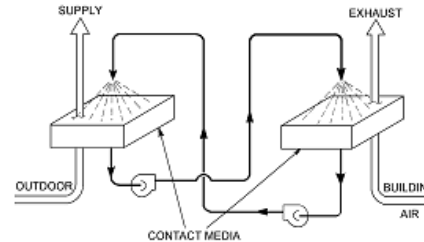
# Common heat exchangers



Flat Plate Exchanger  
(paper or membrane)



Energy (Enthalpy) Wheel



Twin-Tower Enthalpy Recovery Loop

2004 ASHRAE Handbook—HVAC systems and equipment handbook. © American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.

**Research Stage:**  
Run-around,  
Membrane  
Energy  
Exchanger  
(RAMEE)

## Energy Exchange – Adjacent Duct

## Energy Exchange – Non-adjacent Duct

### Heat Exchange – Adjacent Duct

### Heat Exchange – Non-adjacent Duct

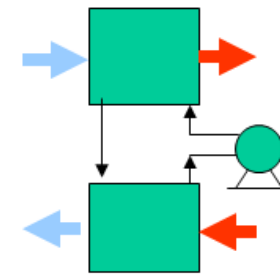


Heat Wheel

Heat Pipe

Flat Plate Exchanger  
(aluminum or solid plastic)

### Exhaust Exchanger



Glycol Run-Around System

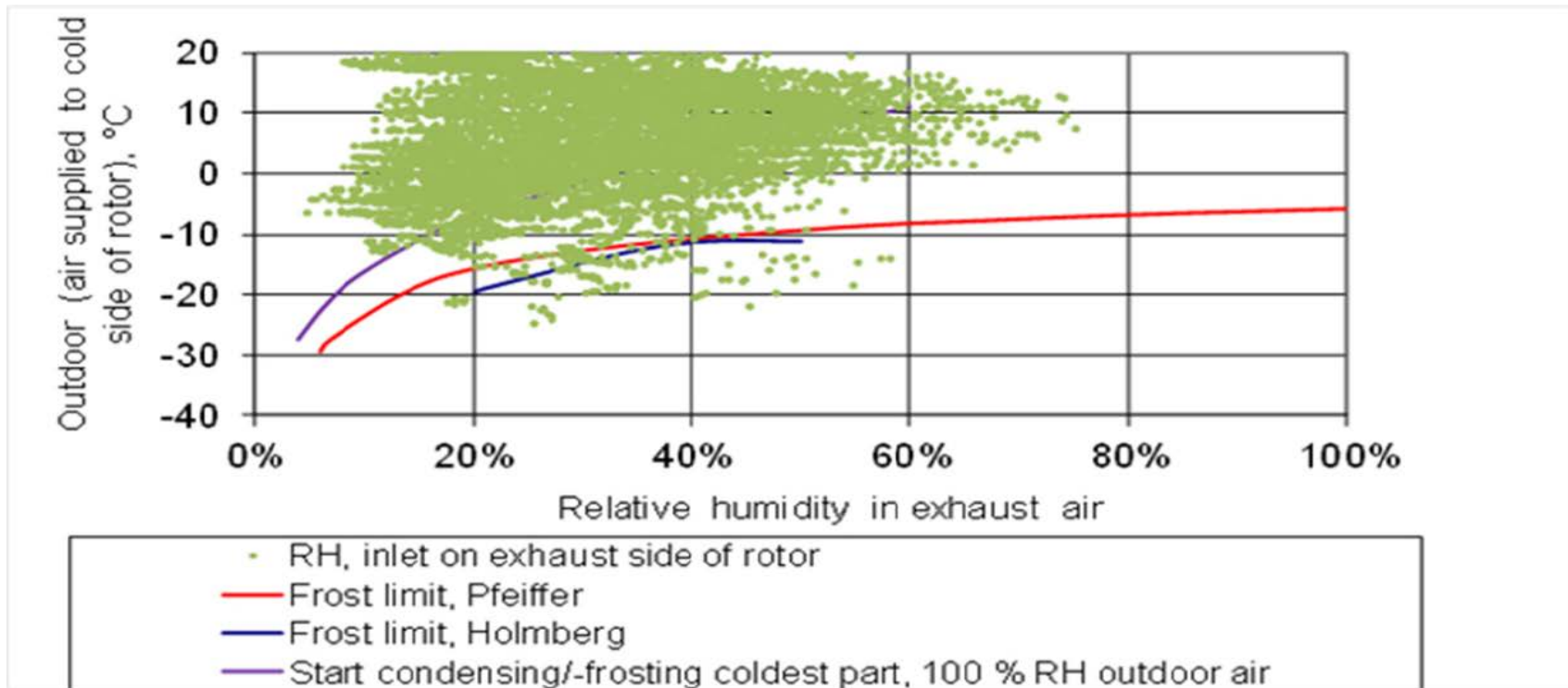
### Supply Exchanger

Most common types for residential ventilation

# Heat Wheel

- Heat wheels extensively used in Nordic climates.
- Main drawback is the transmission of odours.
- Frosting when excess water condensed in a zone where mean temperature of rotor in one revolution is lower than 0 °C.
- In (Holmberg 1989) practical limits: “Calculations and laboratory tests show that the supply air limiting temperature ... can be assumed to be approximately -10 °C (14°F)”.
- Frosting is not a usual problem since frosting is very slow and indoor humidity conditions usually change before this becomes a problem.

# Frosting - Heat Wheel



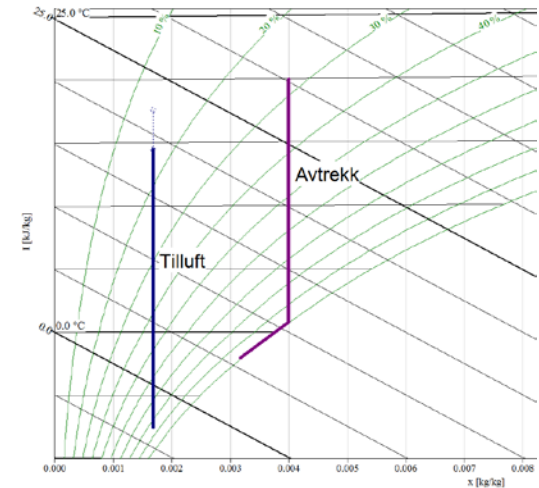
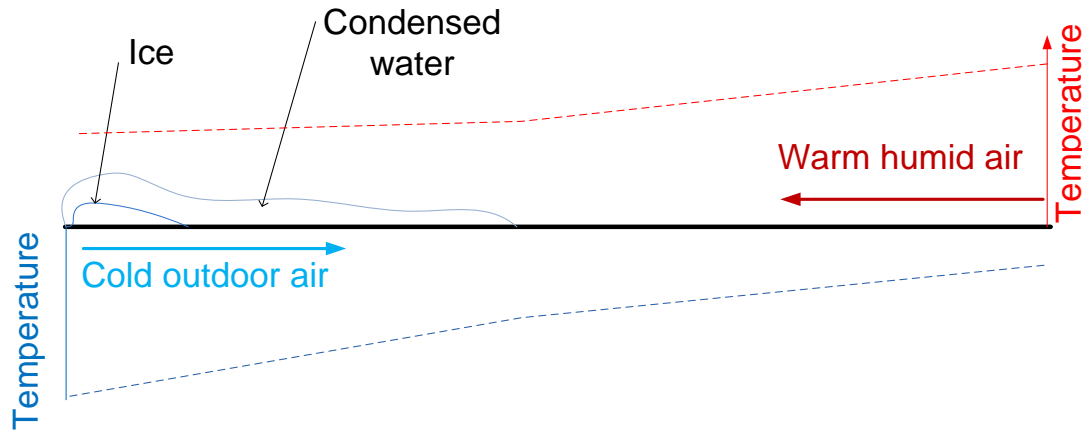
*Frost threshold vs ([Pfeiffer 1987](#)) and ([Holmberg 1989](#)) limits over RH given constant temperature 21° C indoors temperatures and normal year outdoors conditions in Oslo and humidity production from a family with school children and non-home job parents. No humidity absorption in interior materials of the house.*

# Frosting – Flat plate

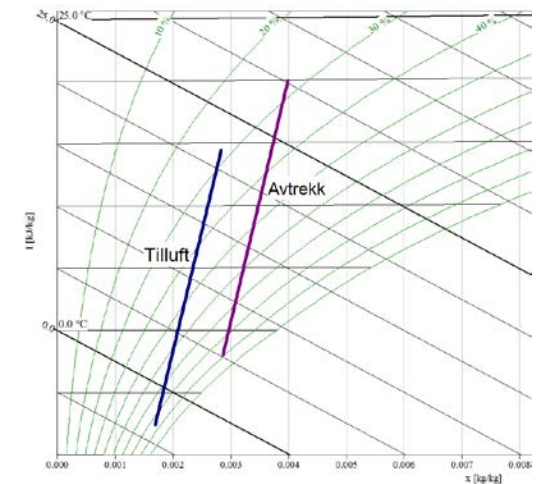
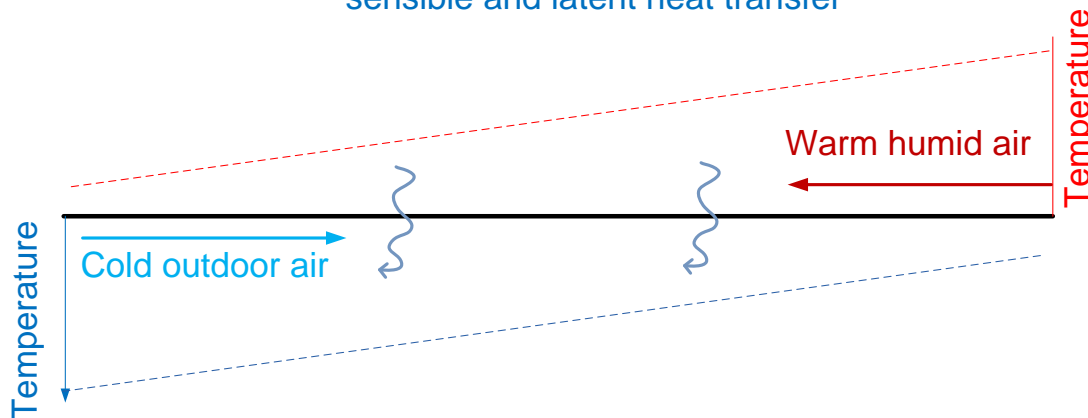
- Flat plate heat exchanger, need of defrosting in cold climates.
- Using a membrane reduce the condensation and freezing problems.
- In Oslo 70 % moisture efficiency to avoid freezing
- Design requires knowledge of the membrane properties
  - to ensure membrane deflections not increasing pressure drops;
  - and knowledge of moisture and heat transfer properties to ensure adequate transfers

# Flat plate exchangers

Conventional heat exchanger with heat transfer through aluminium exchanger surface



New energy exchanger with membrane exchanger surface with sensible and latent heat transfer



# Membrane transport

- Polar characteristics of water ; a unique penetrant.
- Moisture transfer .
  - water from the "wet" air stream is absorbed on the membrane surface.
  - moisture diffuses through the material from higher to lower humidity concentration
  - Water is desorbed on the dry side .
- Very thin layer of water permeable polymer coatings acts as selective barrier to air and contaminants but allows water vapor passage
- Coatings should be as thin as possible, since they represent another layer to be diffused by the water vapor.

# Research issues

- **Membrane for flat plate must be hydrophilic and selective to air and contaminants**
- **It remains to be seen if the structural characteristics will change during longer term testing.**
- **Also it is important to test if membranes that are saturated in humidity have any effect in fungus or bacteria formation.**
- **Maximum rate of humidity transfer to avoid freezing has to be thoroughly studied**



**Takk for  
oppmerksomheten!!**

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