OPTIMUM DRY COOLING TOWER-COOLING POND

COMBINATIONS FOR POWER PLANT HEAT REJECTIONS

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by

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NOMENCLATURE

Symbol	Significance	Units
Α	Pond area at any point	ft ²
Ab	Outside tube surface area of air heat exchanger	ft ²
A _d	Face area of air heat exchanger	ft ²
Ap	Area of the pond	ft ²
c c	Brunt's coefficient	dimensionless
c _d	Dry tower capital cost factor (w.r.t. face area)	\$/ft ²
C _p	Pond capital cost factor	\$/ft ²
C _{pa}	Specific heat of air at constant pressure	Btu/1bm-°F
C _{pf}	Fan and Pump power consumption cost factor	\$/KWh
C _{pw}	Specific heat of water at constant pressure	Btu/1bm-°F
c _T	Total costs	\$/day
C _w	Water cost factor	\$/1bm
D _i	Inside diameter of air heat exchanger tubes	ft
D _o	Outside diameter of air heat exchanger tubes	ft
E	Pond (water surface) equilibrium temperature	°F
e _{a1}	Air vapor pressure at temperature T _{al}	mmHg
es	Saturated water vapor pressure at temperature T_S	mmHg
Fs	Safety factor used in fan power calculations	dimensionless
g _c	Dimensional conversion factor	lbm-ft/lbf-sec ²
Ha	Longwave atmospheric radiation to the pond	Btu/ft ² -day
Har	H _a reflected back by the pond	Btu/ft ² -day

H _{br}	Long wave back radiation from pund water surface acting as a black body	Btu/ft ² -day
H _C	Heat loss or gain due to convection by pond	Btu/ft ² -day
H _e	Heat loss due to water evaporation from pond	Btu/ft ² -day
H _o	Clear sky solar radiation	Btu/ft ² -day
H _s	Shortwave radiation to the pond	Btu/ft ² -day
Hsr	H _s reflected back by the pond	Btu/ft ² -day
K	Heat exchange coefficient used in pond calculations	Btu/ft ² -day-°F
L	Length of air heat exchanger tubes	ft
M _e	Mass of water evaporated	1bm/day
m _a	Mass flow rate of air	1bm/day
m _w	Mass flow rate of water	1bm/day
N	Number of tubes per square foot of A _d	tubes/ft ²
Р	Atmospheric ambient pressure	mmHg
P _f	Power consumption by fan	KWh/day
Pp	Power consumption by pump	KWh/day
Q	Volumetric flow rate of water	ft ³ /day
Qa	Heat dissipated by air	Btu/day
Q _r	Total heat to be dissipated	Btu/day
R	Number (depth) of tube rows in the air heat exchanger	dimensionless
R _a	Ratio of outside diameter to inside diameter of heat exchanger tubes (D_0/D_1)	dimensionless
S	Fraction of possible sunshine	dimensionless
T _A	Temperature of pond water surface at any area A	°F
Tal	Ambient air dry bulb temperature	°F
T _{a2}	Temperature of (heated) air coming out of dry tower	°F

T _s	Average pond surface temperature	°F
T ₁	Temperature of water coming out of the condenser	°F
^T 2	Temperature of water coming out of dry tower (intermediate temperature)	°F
т ₃	Temperature of water going back to the power plant (after being cooled)	٥F
U	Overall heat transfer coefficient for air heat exchanger (referred to outside bare tube surface area ${\sf A}_{\sf b}$)	Btu/ft ² -day-°F
۷ _d	Air face velocity flowing across dry tower face area, $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{d}}$	ft/day
٧ _f	Air face velocity flowing across dry tower face area, $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{d}}$	ft/min
VP[T]	Notation to indicate calculation of saturated air vapor pressure at given temperature T	mmHg
V _m	Maximum air velocity at minimum cross-section in a tube row	ft/min
V _w	Velocity of water flow inside the tubes	ft/sec
W	Ambient wind velocity	mph
Greek Let	ters	
β	Slope of saturated vapor pressure curve at that temperature	mmHg/°F
βa	ratio of bare tube area to face area of the dry tower $\frac{A_b}{\overline{A_d}}$	dimensionless
Υ _W	Emmisitivity of water	dimensionless
ΔΗ	Net heat exchange rate between the pond and the the environment	Btu/ft ² -day

ΔΡ	Pressure difference	lb _f /ft ²
^ρ a	Density of air	1bm/ft ³
ρ _W	Density of water	1bm/ft ³
σ	Stephen-Boltzman Constant	Btu/ft ² -day-°R ⁴

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In response to the energy-environment crisis, local, state and national governments have come out with strict regulations regarding the indiscriminate use of land and water by industry. As a result the once almost unlimited source of natural river water to the power industry is no longer freely available for power plant cooling. Rising costs of land and water and the strict water temperature rise standards are forcing the utility companies to look at alternate methods of power plant cooling.

The alternatives are and have been:

- 1. Cooling by dry tower
- Cooling by wet tower
- Cooling by ponds

Wet towers and ponds for heat dissipation are not new to the power industry and dry tower cooling has been used by some European power producers. However, in the U.S.A. only the chemical and refinery process industries possess experience in the application of dry cooling equipment. They have also used combinations of dry and wet cooling towers (trim cooling), for better efficiency and economy [1]*.

For a reasonable approach to ambient air dry bulb temperature with dry cooling towers, large (and expensive) heat transfer surface area is required because of the small temperature difference between the condenser cooling water and air, particularly in the last stages of the heat transfer process.

^{*} Number in brackets designate references in the List of References.

A system combining a dry tower and an evaporative system such as a pond or a wet tower can possibly prove to be a more economical system. It takes advantage of relatively high initial water - air dry bulb temperature difference in the dry section; and as this difference diminishes, the cooling water is transferred to the evaporative section. In the evaporative section the driving temperature difference again increases, becoming essentially the difference between the water temperature and the air wet bulb temperature.

Engineers in the power industry compared to their counterparts in the process industries are inexperienced in the area of dry cooling. Rossie and Cecil [2] state that (as of 1970) there are only two (small) power plants in the U.S.A. using dry towers for cooling purposes. Combination cooling, a possible next step to the dry or wet cooling is sparingly mentioned in the literature. For instance Kolfat [3] mentions the use of a small dry tower as a solution to dissipate a fraction of heat load so as to help in satisfying the water rise temperature requirements, when rejecting heat in a stream in otherwise a once through system.

The main objective of this study was to determine an optimum least cost dry tower - cooling pond combination for power plant heat rejection. This was accomplished by showing that for a given thermal load, ambient air condiconditions, power plant characteristics and different capital and operational costs, an intermediate temperature T_2 , within the cooling range (T_1-T_3) can be found which determines the proportions of dry and wet cooling in the least cost combination. The study includes discussion of the influence of the several variables on the results to illustrate the effects of local environmental conditions, costs and power plant economics. Comparison of the combined system to total dry and total pond systems is also provided.

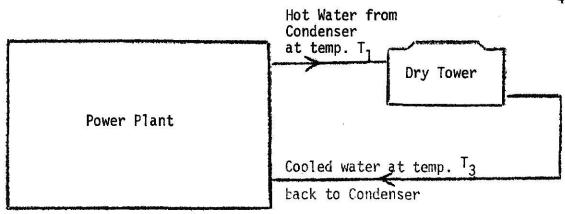
The heat rejection and the subsequent dissipation is not a simple and independent process in a power plant. The temperature at which the heat is rejected in the condenser along with the cooling range, determines not only the overall thermal efficiency of the power plant but also influences its economy. For example, the size of the condenser, pumps, the boiler feed-water heaters etc. are all interrelated to the cooling process. Thus optimizing the cooling process also involves all the above mentioned variables, step by step and for the power plant as a whole. As much as the author would have wished, optimizing the entire power plant and its sections with regards to the most efficient cooling process was beyond the scope of this study. Hence a number of variables were made constant and many constraints in the plant and in the method of solving the problem had to be introduced.

The conditions in the entire power plant from the boiler to the steam condenser were assumed to be fixed, i.e. everything about the plant was known and the heat rejection load kept constant. From this system a known amount of heated water at a given temperature T_1 comes out to be cooled by a cooling process and then returns back to the plant at a given temperature T_3 . With these assumptions, the heat load was considered to be dissipated by three different cooling processes:

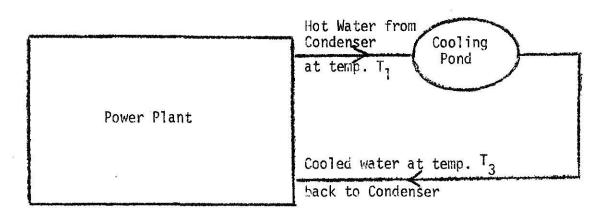
- 1. By a dry tower alone
- 2. By a cooling pond alone
- By a combination of the above two.

The three systems are indicated in Figures 1a, b and c. Modeling equations for these systems were written and were used to determine total costs resulting from specification of different sets of environmental conditions, capital and operational costs. Additionally, for the combined system, T₂ was varied to determine its influence on total cost.

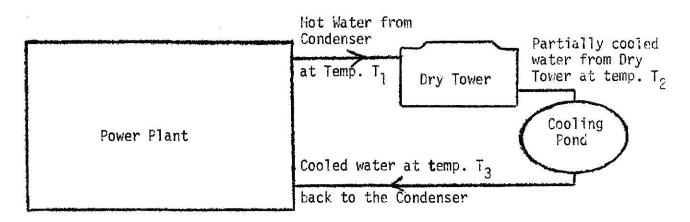
THIS BOOK CONTAINS NUMEROUS PAGES WITH DIAGRAMS THAT ARE CROOKED COMPARED TO THE REST OF THE INFORMATION ON THE PAGE. THIS IS AS RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMER.



a) Cooling by a Dry Tower



b) Cooling by a Pond



c) Cooling by a Combination of a Dry Tower and a Pond

Figure 1. Schematic Diagrams of Three Different Cooling Processes.

CHAPTER 2

SPECIFICATION OF STANDARD PLANT SIZE AND OPERATING CONDITIONS Specification of Plant Size

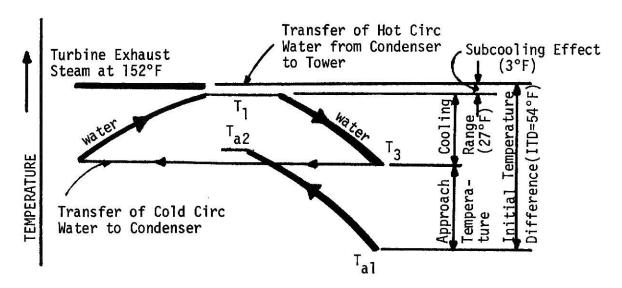
Out of 292 fossil fueled power plants in the 500 MW to 4000 MW range tentatively planned for the year 1990, Rossie and Cecil [2] estimate that 244 will be in 500-2000 MW range. Most of them seem to be around 1000 MW. Hence, a 1000 MW plant output was chosen for this study. Based on the figures given by Cootner and Lof [4] an overall plant efficiency of 40.0 percent, a heat loss of 10.0 percent in the boiler furnace and a generator efficiency of 97.5 percent was assumed. A cooling range of 27°F was selected, the rationale for this selection will be developed later.

Specification of Environmental Conditions

For reference temperatures, 98°F air dry bulb and 50°F dew point temperatures were picked. These temperatures were obtained after averaging one percent summer design temperatures given in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [5] for parts of the states of Wyoming, Utah, South Dakota, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Because of water shortages, these areas are representative of areas where dry cooling may be planned. Also, being some of the hottest parts of the country, dry cooling may not be very attractive (thus hopefully giving equal disadvantages to both dry and wet cooling). Sunny day conditions (0.1 cloud cover) and a wind velocity of ten miles per hour were specified.

Because of high condenser cooling water temperatures resulting from dry

cooling tower use in hot environments, a high back pressure turbine is required. An eight inch back pressure turbine was selected as reasonable. Conventional turbines can be operated at this back pressure if modified [2]. For this back pressure the exhaust steam temperature is 152°F; consequently, the difference between the exhaust steam temperature and the air dry bulb (initial temperature difference ITD) is 54°F. Graphs plotted in reference [2] suggest a cooling range of 27°F for these conditions. A 3°F subcooling effect was assumed in the condenser. Thus water at 149°F was cooled to 122°F (see Figure 2).



Note: The above sketch does not imply flow relationships.

Figure 2. Temperature Diagram of Indirect Dry Cooling Tower Heat Transfer System.

The intital temperature difference of 54°F fits within the optimum ITD range suggested by Rossie and Cecil [2]. These conditions also give an approach of 24°F to the air dry bulb temperature.

Specifications of Dry Tower and Pond Types

Dry tower specifications were taken from a brochure published by the Hudson Products Corporation [6]. The values were assumed to be typical of dry tower specifications. An air heat exchanger having an overall heat transfer coefficient U (referred to the bare tube outside surface) of 2880 Btu/day-ft²-°F, tube size of one inch 0.D. and 0.782 inside diameter (0.762 sq. ft./lineal ft.) was chosen. Fins are 5/8" high, spaced 8 per inch with a surface ratio of 16.9. Ratio of bare tube area to face area of 5.04 and air face velocity V_f of 595 ft./min. was assumed. The depth of the tube rows, R, was four. On the water side of the exchanger, the water velocity V_w inside the tubes was fixed as 10 ft./sec.

A flow-through pond with an average depth of five feet was chosen. Edinger and Geyer [7] point out that a shallow pond dissipates much more heat than a deep pond. They also show that a flow-through pond requires less area than a completely mixed pond for the same amount of heat dissipation.

CHAPTER 3

THEORY AND MODELING EQUATIONS

Heat Balance and Transfer Equations

The heat transfer and balance equations for the combined cooling process were written as:

$$Q_r = m_w C_{pw} (T_1 - T_3)$$
 (1)

$$m_w^{C_{pw}}(T_1-T_3) = m_a^{C_{pa}}(T_{a1}-T_{a2}) + KA_p^{(T_s-E)}$$
 (2)

$$m_a C_{pa} (T_{a1} - T_{a2}) = \frac{UA_b}{2} [(T_1 - T_{a2}) + (T_2 - T_{a1})]$$
 (3)

$$m_{a} = \frac{\rho_{a} V_{d}^{A} b}{\beta_{a}} \tag{4}$$

$$KA_p(T_s-E) = m_w C_{pw}(T_2-T_3)$$
 (5)

Equations for dry tower cooling only can be obtained by substituting $A_p=0$ and $T_2=T_3$ in the above equations. Similarly if $A_b=0$ and $T_2=T_1$ are substituted, equations for pond cooling only can be obtained.

The theory presented for the heat exchange between the pond and the environment is that developed by Edinger and Geyer [7]. In equation (2), the equilibrium temperature E is the same as that given by Edinger and Geyer [7]. They define it as the water surface temperature T_s =E, for which there is no net heat exchange between the water and the environment. E (calculated for no heat load from the power plant to the pond), is dependent on the meterological conditions including radiation, dry and wet bulb temperatures and the wind velocity. Details of determination of E are given in Appendix A.

In equation (3), it would be more exact to use a log mean temperature difference. However, for the conditions being considered, the change in water temperature in the dry tower is relatively small, making it acceptable to use the arithmetic mean temperature. The approximation allowed for algebraic simplicity in determination of T_{a2} from equations 2, 3 and 4.

The Cost Equation

To determine the cooling system costs the following equation was used:

$$C_T = C_d A_d + C_p A_p + C_w M_e + C_{pf} (P_f + P_p)$$
 (6)

The areas $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{d}}$ and $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{p}}\text{,}$ the evaporated water mass $\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{e}}$ and the fan and pump power requirements P_f and P_p were determined in terms of T_2 so that T_2 could be varied to study its influence on total cost. Detailed derivations of A_d , A_p , M_e , P_f and $P_{\rm p}$ in terms of T_2 are shown in Appendix A. In the final form the derived relationships are as follows:

By the use of equations (1, 2, 3 and 4),
$$A_d$$
 can be expressed as
$$A_d = \frac{{}^{m}_{w}{}^{C}_{pw}(T_1 - T_2)(1 + \frac{{}^{\beta}_{a}{}^{U}}{2{}^{\rho}_{a}{}^{V}_{d}{}^{C}_{pa}})}{0.5 \; {}^{\beta}_{a}{}^{U}(T_1 + T_2 - 2Ta_1)}$$
(7)

 $A_{\rm p}$ was obtained by Edinger and Geyer [7] theory.

$$A_{p} = \frac{\rho_{w}C_{pw}Q}{K} \times \log_{e} \left(\frac{T_{2}-E}{T_{3}-E}\right)$$
 (8)

 M_e was determined as a function of A_p and T_2

$$M_{e} = \frac{A_{p}(73 + 7.3W)}{971.0} \{ VP[(T_{2} - T_{3}) \log_{e}(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E}) + E] - VP(T_{dp}) \}$$
 (9)

 $P_{\mbox{f}}$ was determined from the expression given by Cook [8]

$$P_{f} = \frac{A_{d}F_{s}RV_{f}}{10^{8}\rho_{a}} (1.945V_{f})^{1.725} \times 3.24 \times 60 \times 24 \times 5.20218 \times 3.766 \times 10^{-7}$$
(10)

Using friction factors and formula outlined in Kreith's heat transfer text [9]

$$P_{p} = \frac{0.184R_{e}^{-0.2}}{2x4xR_{a}g_{c}} \rho_{w}V_{w}^{3}\beta_{a}A_{d} \times 3600 \times 24 \times 3.766 \times 10^{-7}$$
 (11)

It may be noted that for the sake of calculational simplicity and uniformity, all the dry tower bare tube surface areas $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{b}}$ were converted to equivalent face areas, A_d.

Estimation of Cost Factors

Referring back to equation (6), the cost factors to be estimated were C_d , C_p , C_w and C_{pf} . Since the costs vary from location to location, a range had to be estimated in which these factors could vary. Most of the values were taken directly as quoted in the various literature sources. Different authors have given different costs which were of great help in determining the range of variation.

Determination of C_{pf} . Leung and Moore [10] and Larinoff [11] quote unit power costs of 1.7 cents per KWh to the consumer. Reistad et.al. [12] give a range of 0.75 cents to 1.75 cents per KWh. From these values a range from 1 cent to 2 cents per KWh was established as reasonable for this study.

Determination of C_{W} . Smith and Larinoff [13] quote present day water costs of 30 cents per 1000 gallons which may go up to 50 cents per 1000 gallons in the future. Several other sources agree with the above figures. Hence the range was taken to be 30 cents to 50 cents per 1000 gallons.

Determination of C_p . Estimation of pond capital costs involved mainly three individual costs, namely: the cost of the land, the cost of excavation, and the cost of land improvement and initial water fill up. Eicher [14] indicates land costs between \$500 to \$2000 per acre which is again confirmed by other sources. Excavation costs were estimated from some examples given by Peurifoy [15] to be from 60 cents to 90 cents per cubic yard. Land improvement and water fill up costs were taken between \$500 to \$2000 per acre. A similar range is given by Szego [16]. Adding all these costs, the range of C_p for a five foot deep pond was from 38 cents to 60 cents per square foot.

Determination of C_d . Price estimates in reference [6] suggest a range of \$7 to \$10 per square foot of bare tube surface area. In terms of face area, after lowering the lower end of the range and adding approximately \$5 as costs for transportation, steel structures etc., the estimated range selected was \$30 to \$54 per square foot of face area.

Calculational Scheme

A computer program (shown in Appendix B) was written which, for specified values of T_2 , determined values for the terms of equation (6). After calculating the heat load from the power plant, the program calculates E and K for specified T_{al} and T_{dp} . With E and K known, the program then through a set of do-loops, determines A_d , A_p , M_e , P_f and P_p and then computes various subcosts and total costs. 720 data sets were generated by varying environmental and cost parameters, T_{al} , T_{dp} , C_p , C_w and C_{pf} , over the ranges specified above.

Several things must be noted at this point. To keep the generated data to a managable amount, $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{p}}$ was not varied. Instead an average value of 50 cents per square foot was assumed. All the costs were determined on daily basis

and included daily capital costs and operational costs, which consisted of the cost of water evaporated and power costs to run the fan and the pumps. In the dry tower and pond capital costs a capital recovery factor of 0.0937 was used (based on a life period of 25 years and an interest rate of eight percent).

The program was arranged to determine minimum total costs and the corresponding T_2 by a search routine. Since this study was concerned with illustrating the relative effect of each of the variables, complete information for each value of T_2 was computed and the minimum cost was easily selected.

If only the minimum cost conditions are desired, a preferred method would be to determine T_2 from solution of the equation obtained by differentiating equation (6) the cost equation, with respect to T_2 and setting it equal to zero. This development is presented in Appendix A. The solution by this method is not simple. The problem arises in getting an exact derivative of the evaporation term in the equation.

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As mentioned in the introduction, a reference set of environmental conditions and costs was assumed. Results for the reference case were established for comparison to results obtained when the various parameters were varied over their allowable ranges. The reference case used was:

$$T_{a1} = 98^{\circ}F$$
, $T_{dp} = 50^{\circ}F$

with cost factors C_d = \$38.0/sq.ft., C_p = \$0.5/sq.ft., C_w = \$0.000044/1bm and C_{pf} = \$0.015/KWh.

For this reference case the results are shown in Figure 3. The top curve in the figure is a plot of equation (6) giving the total costs as a function of T₂, the temperature at which water is taken from the dry tower and introduced into the pond. A distinct minimum is obtained at 135°F. The water coming out of the condenser at 149°F is first cooled in the dry tower to 135°F, then transferred to the pond for cooling to 122°F. From Table 1, it can be seen that this combination results in a net saving of 9.5 percent compared to all-dry cooling costs and a net daily saving of 8.2 percent compared to total-pond cooling system costs. In Figure 3, the breakdown of various costs shows that the pond and dry tower capital costs are small compared to evaporation and power costs on a daily basis. These proportions will change, of course, with capital costs, depreciation schedule, power and water costs.

The effects of various parameters on the reference case are shown in Figures 4, 5, 6 and 7. Figure 4 shows the effect of variation of the dry bulb

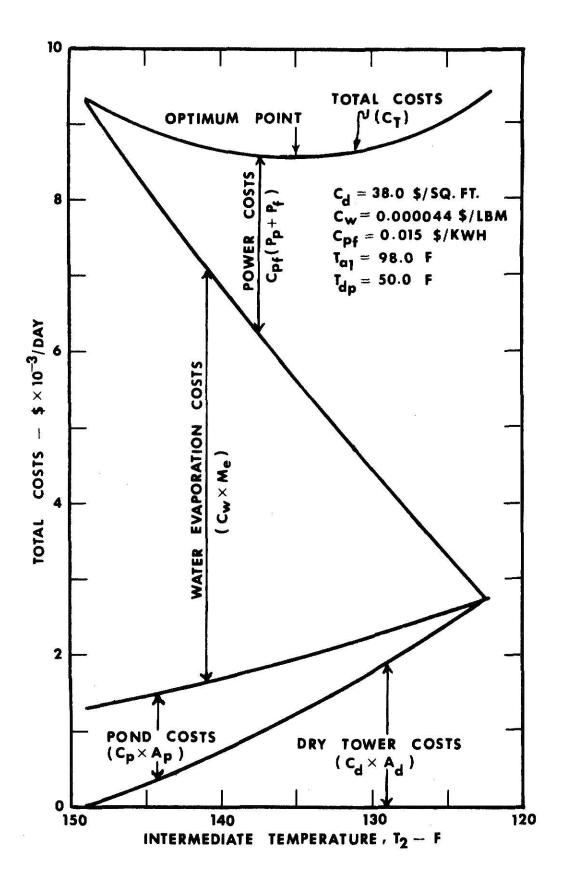


Figure 3. Breakdown of Various Costs for the Reference Case

Table 1 of Tvoical Results

	of												1.	5
	Combined d instead pond		13.89	14.40	11.45		8.19	6.64	eapest		heapest	0.84	5.93	
	% Saving if Combined Cooling used instead dry tower pond		3.57	3.07	3.03		9.54	11.45	dry cooling cheapest		pond cooling cheapest	26.41	14.21	
	Only Pond Cooling \$/day		10790	9333	8269		9284	11600	9578 d		7829 p	8891	10970	
	Only Dry Tower Cooling \$/day		9635	8242	6373	J.	9423	12230	6199	rč.	13390	11980	12030	
Summary of Typical Results	Combined System costs \$/day	= 90°F, C _p = \$0.5	9291	7989	6180	$= 98^{\circ}F, C_p = 0.5	8524	10830		$T_{a1} = 106^{\circ}F$, $C_{p} = 0.5		8816	10320	
Summary o	75°	Tal	130	132	131	_ La_	135	137		Tal "		145	138	
	Tdp °F		20	65	80		20	65	80		20	65	80	
	C _{pf} \$/day		0.0175	0.0150	0.0125		0.015	0.020	0.010		0.0175	0.0150	0.0125	
	C _d C _{pf} \$/day \$/day		54.0	46.0	30.0		38.0	46.0	30.0		38.0	38.0	54.0	
	c _w \$/day		0.000052	0.000044	0.000036		0.000044	09000000	0.000052		0.000036	0.000044	0,000060	

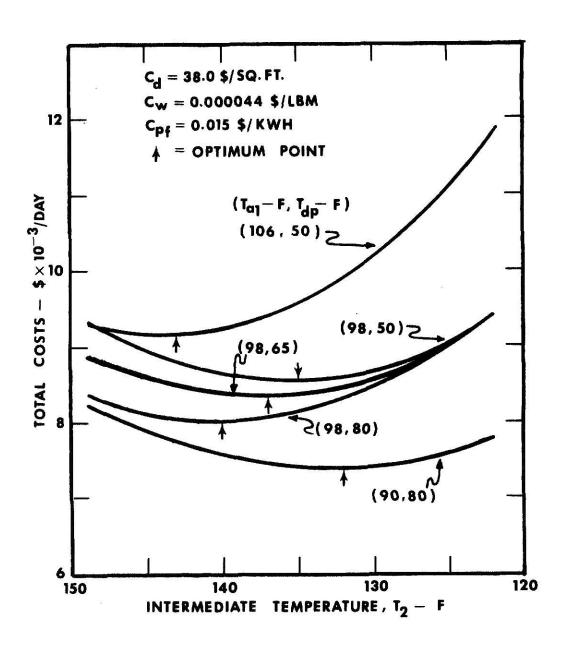


Figure 4. Effects of Dry Bulb and Dew Point Temperatures on the Optimum T_2 .

and dew point temperatures. The dry bulb was varied from 98°F to 90°F and $106^{\circ}F$. As the dry bulb temperature goes up, the curves suggest that more and more pond cooling should be used. For instance the optimum point for the condition $T_{al} = 98^{\circ}F$ and $T_{dp} = 50^{\circ}F$, occurs at $135^{\circ}F$ while for the condition $T_{al} = 106^{\circ}F$ and $T_{dp} = 50^{\circ}F$ it occurs at $143^{\circ}F$. The dew point was varied from $50^{\circ}F$ to $80^{\circ}F$ in increments of $15^{\circ}F$. For a fixed dry bulb temperature, the change in dew point temperatures suggest that lower the dewpoint, the greater is the proportion of dry cooling in a combined system. This stems from the fact that a lower dew point means more water evaporation which means higher water costs. In Figure 4 with T_{al} of $98^{\circ}F$, for a T_{dp} of $80^{\circ}F$, the minimum point is at $140^{\circ}F$ while at T_{dp} of $50^{\circ}F$ the minimum shifts to $135^{\circ}F$.

Figure 5 shows the effects of variation of dry tower costs, C_{d} . At low dry tower costs, dry cooling definitely is more attractive and the optimum T_2 shifts towards a greater percent of dry cooling in the combined system. As C_{d} increases, the minimum moves towards all pond cooling. Effects of dry tower costs with changing dry bulb are also shown in Figure 5. Combination of both high dry bulb and high dry tower costs can drive the optimum point to nearly all pond cooling as shown in the topmost curve of Figure 5. The lowermost curve shows the other extreme of almost all dry cooling for low dry bulbs and low dry tower costs.

The effects of the water costs, C_W , variations are shown in Figure 6. The results support the obvious. The higher the water costs, the greater is the shift of optimum T_2 towards $122^{\circ}F$, implying total dry system. It can also be deduced by comparing Figure 6 and Figure 4 that high water costs and high dew point tend to act against each other i.e. the high costs would try to shift the minimum towards dry cooling while high dew point would try to shift it in the other direction; towards wet cooling.

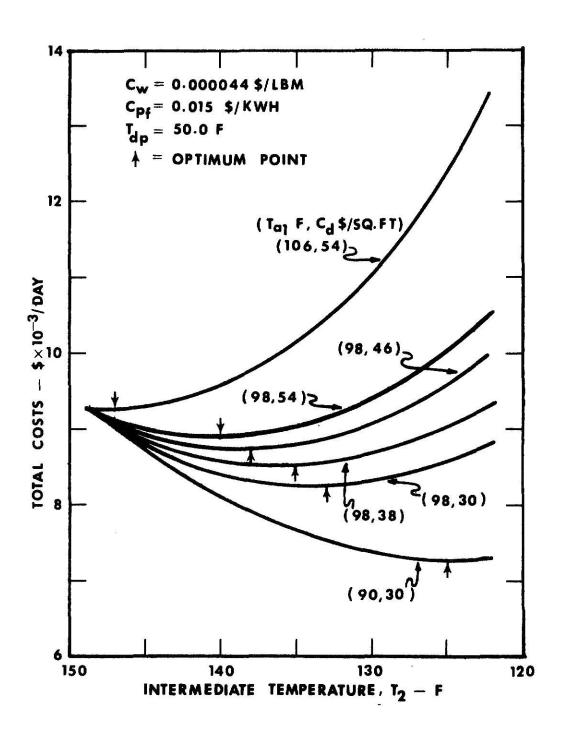


Figure 5. Effects of Dry Tower Costs on the Optimum $\ensuremath{\mathsf{T}}_2$.

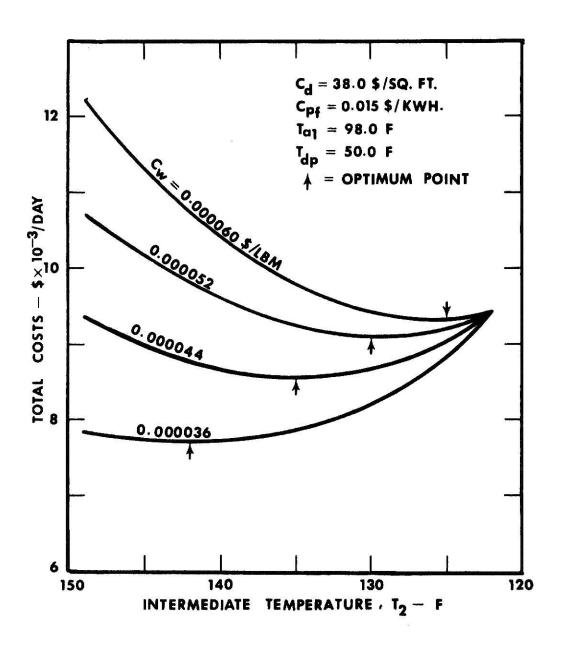


Figure 6. Effects of Water Costs on the Optimum T_2 .

The set of curves shown in Figure 7 are for different power costs.

These illustrate the extreme importance of power costs in the total daily cooling costs in a power plant. An increase of one cent in power costs from one cent per KWh to two cents per KWh results in almost fifty percent increase in cooling costs, and the minimum cost shifts from (almost all dry cooling at) 125°F to 144°F (almost all pond cooling).

In Table 1, are shown nine different cases selected to illustrate that depending on the local environmental and cost factors, savings up to 26 percent can be made by using a combined system. Out of 720 different sets of conditions generated by the computer program, 80 showed that all dry cooling was cheapest. These were mainly for conditions where dry tower and power costs were low and dry bulb temperature was low. 105 sets showed that all pond cooling was cheapest. These cases were again for the extreme cases where water costs and the dew point temperature were low. However for average conditions and cost factors, distinct optimum temperatures (T2's) were obtained.

The results for the reference case of Figure 3 also show (see sample results in Appendix B) that while 232 acres of land area would be required for all pond cooling, only 130 acres are required with the optimum combination. Land area of 232 acres for all pond cooling for a 1000 MW plant seems small compared to the areas of at least 1000 acres generally noted in the literature. The difference in the two figures is due to two facts. First, the cooling range used typically for all pond cooling is 15 to 20°F. The range for the system under study is 27°F. For the same thermal load and for low cooling range, this implies greater cooling water rate and larger ponds for total pond systems. Secondly, the water approach temperature is usually very close to the equilibrium temperature, thus decreasing the temperature

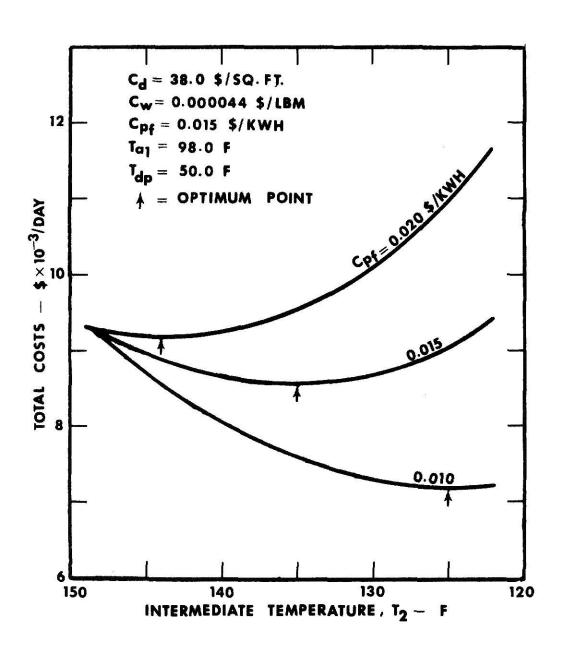


Figure 7. Effects of Power Costs on the Optimum T_2 .

Table 2

Summary of Heat Exchanges between the Pond and the Environment

T _a 1	Тф	ĺШ	× ·	±e Te	Hbr	±°	πo
ا	ب	<u>ц</u>	Btu/ft ² day°F	Btu/ft ² day	Btu/ft ² day	Btu/ft ² day	Btu/ft ² day
06	50	69.62	181.63	3157.78	3404.93	2438.49	-388.80
06	65	85.11	202.64	3268.04	3543.89	2202.96	-184.40
06	80	95.46	235.47	3402.28	3739.07	1860.44	92.76
86	20	82.22	191.40	3345.69	3469.28	2763.05	-595.07
86	92	87.41	212.20	3462.52	3604.13	2545.31	-399.35
8	80	94.49	245.27	3604.74	3794.38	2228.24	-132.37
90	20	84.67	200.86	3541.86	3532.45	3100.16	-804.36
90	65	89.65	221.90	3665.54	3663.53	2900.22	-616.57
90	80	96.46	255.27	3816.10	3848.62	2604.69	-359.76

and the heat transfer takes place at the expense of greater required pond area. In the present case under study the approach is large. Table 2 shows a minimum approach (122°F - E) of at least 25.5°F.

One more point needs to be discussed. For the same heat load to be dissipated at a low dew point temperature the water evaporation costs are high compared to the evaporation costs at a high dew point. However a question may arise as to how the extra heat formerly dissipated (at low dew points) by evaporation is dissipated and how much does it cost to dissipate this extra heat. Table 2 shows the heat exchanges taking place between the environment and the pond water surface for different dry bulb and dew point temperatures. As the dew point goes up, E and K also go up. All this results in less heat dissipation by evaporation and increased dissipation by conduction and back radiation. Thus more sensible heat dissipation takes place (at no cost for water replacement) resulting in total savings.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the study show that optimum dry tower - cooling pond combinations can be found which are more economical than either all dry or all wet systems. The combinations are dependent on the local meterological conditions and cost factors.

Low dry bulb and dew point temperatures suggest greater proportions of dry cooling. High dry bulb and high dew point imply greater proportions of wet cooling. The various cost factors alone can influence the optimum combination. Operational power costs and water evaporation costs are the critical factors in determination of the optimum system. The various cost factors combined with different environmental conditions can either negate or enhance the effects of each other.

Dry tower and cooling ponds both have their advantages and disadvantages. The combined system, while retaining all the advantages of the individual systems, will minimize the disadvantages of each. In the case of all pond cooling, the two main disadvantages are the high land usages and water loss due to evaporation. The optimum combination can greatly reduce the land area and water loss. An all dry cooling system involves loss of generating capacity with increasing dry bulb temperatures. Thus the additional benefits (though not studied in this report) of the combined system can be the minimization of this loss, since a pond is less sensitive to ambient conditions and has a stabilizing effect. With proper design a combined system can result in no loss of generating capacity in a power plant.

The addition of a small pond to a dry system as a result of a combination may also mean better public relations for the power plant in the community.

It can provide an excellent public recreational area. It will also give a more neat look to the plant by reducing the area of heat exchangers to be installed.

This study just scratches the surface of a highly complicated and interesting problem. As pointed out in the introduction, this study was very limited in scope. The problem can be advanced in several different directions. The effects of seasonal variations were not studied. Cold weather favors dry cooling while hot weather favors pond cooling, thus from seasonal variation point of view the combined system should prove even more advantageous. Another area of study can be normalizing and combining of different variables thus making it easier for the designers to pick the right system. It is felt that true equilibrium temperature E may be modified to be used as the only meterological parameter by combining all the other ambient conditions. The ultimate step from this study is to study the optimum cooling process considering the whole plant and its various components such as the condenser size, turbine design etc. as variables.

It can be recommended from the results of this study that the power plant designers should not make arbitrary decisions to go either all pond (wet) or all dry cooling. Careful study of all processes and local conditions is required which may lead to a more economically optimum combination system.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

Derivation of Equilibrium Temperature E

The natural heat exchanges taking place between the pond and environment are shown schematically in Figure 8. The corresponding heat balance equation is

$$\Delta H = H_s + H_a - H_{sr} - H_{ar} - H_{br} \pm H_c + H_e$$
 (12)

The individual terms are given below as developed by Patterson et.al. [17] from Edinger and Geyer's [7] theory

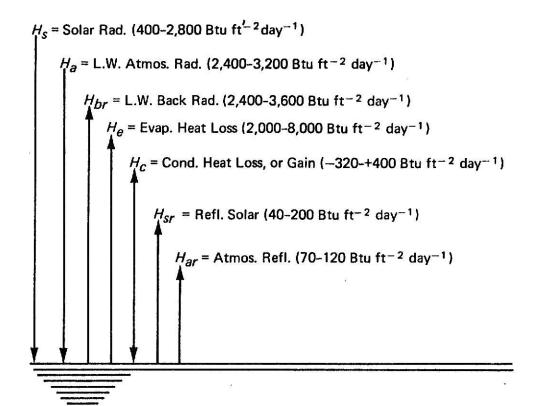
$$H_s = H_o(0.615S + 0.35)$$
 $H_a = 4.15 \times 10^{-8} (T_{al} + 460)^4 (C + 0.031 \sqrt{e_{al}})$

where C, the Brunt's coefficient is determined from the air temperature and ratio of the measured solar radiation to the clear sky solar radiation

$$H_{br} = \gamma_{w}\sigma (T_{s} + 460)^{4}$$
 $H_{e} = (73 + 7.3W)(e_{s} - e_{al})$
 $H_{sr} = 0.05 H_{s} \text{ and } H_{ar} = 0.03 H_{a}$
 $H_{c} = 0.26 (73 + 7.3W)(T_{s} - T_{al})(P/760)$

For $\Delta H = 0$, $E = T_{s}$.

E is calculated as a function of environmental variables T_{al} and T_{dp} by a trial and error iteration method in the computer program subroutine EQT (see Appendix B).



NET RATE AT WHICH HEAT CROSSES WATER SURFACE

$$\Delta H = (H_S + H_a - H_{Sr} - H_{ar}) - (H_{br} \pm H_c + H_e) \text{ Btu ft}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$$

$$H_R \qquad \qquad \text{Temp. Dependent Terms}$$
 Absorbed Radiation
$$H_{br} \sim (T_S + 460)^4$$

$$H_c \sim (T_S - T_a)$$

$$H_e \sim W(e_S - e_a)$$

Figure 8. Mechanisms of Heat Transfer Exchanger
Between the Pond Water Surface and
the Environment.

(taken from reference [18])

Derivation of A_p as a Function of T_2

The heat transfer equation for the pond can be written as

$${}^{m}_{W}C_{pW}(T_2 - T_3) = \int_0^{A_p} K(T_A - E) dA_p$$
 (13)

where K is defined in $\Delta H = K(T_s - E)$

Also

$$- \rho_{W}^{C} C_{pW}^{Q} \frac{dT}{dA_{p}} = K(T_{A} - E)$$
 (14)

which has as a solution, when $T_A = T_2$ for A = 0 and T_3 for $A = A_p$:

$$(T_3 - E) = (T_2 - E) e^{-r}$$
 (15)

where $r = K A_p/\rho_w C_{pw} Q$

or

$$e^{-r} = (\frac{T_3 - E}{T_2 - E})$$

which gives

$$A_{p} = \frac{\rho_{w}C_{pw}Q}{K} \log_{e} \left(\frac{T_{2}-E}{T_{3}-E}\right)$$
 (8)

Derivation of an Equation of ${\rm M_{\mbox{\footnotesize e}}}$

The expression given for M_e (1bm/ft²day) in this appendix is simply the same as used that for $H_e(Btu/ft^2day)$ after dividing it by latent heat of evaporation 971 Btu/1bm. Rewriting the expression

$$M_e = (73 + 7.3W)(e_s - e_{a1})/971.0$$

The unknown parameter in the above equation is $\mathbf{e_s}$ since $\mathbf{T_s}$ is not known in the problem. Hence an expression for $\mathbf{T_s}$ was derived in terms of $\mathbf{T_2}$.

Average value of T_s can be written, from equation (15), as

$$T_s = \frac{1}{A_p} \int_0^{A_p} [(T_2 - E)e^{-r} + E] dA$$

where $r = KA/\rho_W C_{pW}Q$

which on integration and substitution of limits gives

$$T_s = (T_2 - T_3) / \log_e (\frac{T_2 - E}{T_3 - E}) + E$$
 (9a)

hence

$$M_{e} = A_{p} (73 + 7.3W) \{ VP[(T_{2} - T_{3}) \log_{e}(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E}) + E] - VP(T_{a1}) \}$$
 (9)

where VP is the vapor pressure (of the temperature inside the brackets) calculated in function program VPP in the computer program (see Appendix B).

Derivation of A_d as a Function of T_2

Rewriting equations (1), (2), (3) and (4) after substituting $A_p = 0$

$$Q_a = m_W C_{DW} (T_1 - T_2)$$
 (1a)

$$Q_{a} = m_{a}C_{pa}(T_{a2} - T_{a1})$$
 (2a)

$$Q_{a} = \frac{UA_{b}}{2} [(T_{1} - T_{a2}) + (T_{2} - T_{a1})]$$
 (3a)

$$m_{a} = \frac{\rho_{a}}{\beta_{a}} V_{d} A_{b}$$
 (4)

Eliminating Q_a from equations (la) and (2a) and eliminating Q_a , m_a and T_{a2} from equations (la), (3a) and (4) A_d is obtained as

$$A_{d} = \frac{m_{w}^{C} C_{pw} (T_{1} - T_{2}) (1 + \frac{\beta_{a} U}{2 \rho_{a} V_{d} C_{pa}})}{0.5 \beta_{a} U (T_{1} + T_{2} - 2 T_{a1})}$$
(7)

Derivation of Fan and Pump Power Comsumption Terms $P_{\mathbf{f}}$ and $P_{\mathbf{p}}$

Fan Power
$$P_f = A_d V_f \Delta P$$

$$\Delta P = f(V_m)$$

From the expression given by Cook [8]

$$\Delta P = \frac{3.24}{10^8 \rho_a} RF_s V_m^{1.725}$$

Cook uses a value of 1.1 for F_s , a safety factor.

Then

$$P_{f} = (A_{d}V_{f})(\frac{3.24}{10^{8}\rho_{a}})^{RF}s^{V_{m}}^{1.725}$$
(16)

For a triangular tube spacing of 2-3/8" fin height of 5/8" and 8 fins per inch with a thickness of 0.014"

$$\frac{V_m}{V_f}$$
 = (flow area fraction between tubes) x (fraction flow between fins)

$$\frac{V_{\rm m}}{V_{\rm f}} = \frac{1.375}{2.375} \times \frac{0.111}{0.125}$$

$$V_{\rm m} = 1.945 V_{\rm f}$$

Substituting the above value of V_m in equation (17)

$$P_{f} = \frac{A_{d}F_{s}RV_{f}}{10^{8}\rho_{a}} (1.945V_{f})^{1.725} \times 3.24 \times 60 \times 24 \times 5.20218 \times 3.66 \times 10^{-7}$$
(10)

Power for the Pump, $P_p = \Delta P \times Q$

From Kreith [9]
2

$$\Delta P = f \frac{L}{D_{i}} \frac{\rho_{w} V_{w}}{2g_{c}}$$

$$= 0.184 R_{e}^{-0.2} \times \frac{L}{D_{i}} \frac{\rho_{w} V_{w}}{2g_{c}}$$

Also
$$Q = \frac{N\pi D_i^2 V_w}{4}$$

then

$$P_{p} = \frac{0.184R_{e}^{-0.2}V_{w}^{3} N_{\pi}D_{i}L}{2g_{c} \times 4}$$

Since

$$R_a \times N\pi D_i L = A_b$$
, and $A_b = \beta_a A_d$

where
$$R_a = D_o/D_i$$

$$P_{p} = \frac{0.184 R_{e}^{-0.2} \rho_{w} V_{w}^{3} \beta_{a} A_{d} \times 3600 \times 24 \times 3.766 \times 10^{-7}}{2 \times 4 \times R_{a} g_{c}}$$
(11)

Derivative of the Cost Equation

Differentiating with respect to T_2 equation (6) becomes:

$$\frac{dC_{T}}{dT_{2}} = \frac{C_{d}A_{d}}{dT_{2}} + C_{p}\frac{dA_{p}}{dT_{2}} + C_{w}\frac{dM_{e}}{dT_{2}} + C_{pf}\frac{d(P_{f}+P_{p})}{dT_{2}}$$
 (6a)

The individual terms differentiated are as follows:

$$\frac{dA_{d}}{dT_{2}} = \frac{2m_{w}C_{pw}(1 + \frac{\beta_{a}U}{2\rho_{a}V_{d}C_{pa}})}{\beta_{a} \times 0.5U(T_{1} + T_{2} - 2T_{a1})^{2}}$$
 (from equation 7)

$$\frac{dA_p}{dT_2} = \frac{\rho_w C_{pw} Q}{K(T_2 - E)}$$
 (from equation 8)

$$M_{e} = \frac{A_{p}(73 + 7.3W)}{971.0} \{ VP[(T_{2} - T_{3}) \log_{e}(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E}) + E] - VP(T_{dp}) \}$$
 (9)

In the above equation it was assumed that the vapor pressure terms could be written as β (T_s - T_{a1}) where β was the slope of the saturated vapor pressure curve (w.r.t. temperature) and for small ranges of temperatures β was assumed constant. The value of T_s in terms of T_2 is given in equation (9a).

Thus

$$\frac{dT_{s}}{dT_{2}} = \frac{d}{dT_{2}} [(T_{2} - T_{3}) / \log_{e}(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E}) + E]$$

$$= \frac{\log_{e}(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E}) - (\frac{T_{2} - T_{3}}{T_{2} - E})}{[\log_{e}(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E})]^{2}}$$

and

$$\frac{dM_{e}}{dT_{2}} = \frac{73 + 7.3W}{971.0} \quad {}^{\beta} \left\{ \frac{dA_{p}}{dT_{2}} \left[(T_{2} - T_{3}) \middle/ \log_{e} \left(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E} \right) + E - T_{a1} \right] \right.$$

$$+ A_{p} \left[\log_{e} \left(\frac{T_{3} - E}{T_{2} - E} \right) - \left(\frac{T_{2} - T_{3}}{T_{2} - E} \right) \right] \right\} = 0 \qquad (17)$$

$$= \frac{\left[\log_{e} \left(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E} \right) \right]^{2}}{\left[\log_{e} \left(\frac{T_{2} - E}{T_{3} - E} \right) \right]^{2}}$$
From equations (10) and (11) it can be seen that $\frac{dP_{f}}{dT_{2}}$ and $\frac{dP_{p}}{dT_{2}}$ are equal

to the constant terms in those equations times $\frac{dA}{dT_2}$.

The solution of equation (6a) is not simple. The problem lies in finding a representative temperature from among the several possible $(T_2, T_3,$ E) for evaluation of β in equation (17).

THIS BOOK CONTAINS NUMEROUS PAGES THAT WERE BOUND WITHOUT PAGE NUMBERS.

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APPENDIX B

145 pages of (results) output data was obtained through the computer program. The two pages of the sample results included here following the program show the general format of the output and also include the values obtained for the reference case.

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OPTIMUM DRY COOLING TOWER-COOLING POND COMBINATIONS FOR POWER PLANT HEAT REJECTIONS

by

ARUN KUMAR GUPTA

B.S., Kansas State University, 1970

AN ABSTRACT OF A MASTER'S THESIS submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree

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Manhattan, Kansas

1973

ABSTRACT

Due to recent environmental concerns, limitations on unrestricted use of water for cooling purposes, siting flexibility and water costs, dry cooling towers are receiving increased attention for power plant heat rejections.

For reasonable approach to ambient air dry bulb temperature with dry cooling towers, large (expensive) heat transfer surface area is required because of the low temperature difference between the condenser cooling water and the air.

A system combining a dry tower and a cooling pond, can possibly provide a more economical attainment of the same heat load rejection with only minimal water use. In such a system, condenser cooling water would be received by a dry tower first and cooled to an intermediate temperature, and then transferred to the pond to dissipate the remaining heat load. The system takes the advantages of the relatively high initial water-air dry bulb temperature difference in the dry section. As this difference diminishes, the water is transferred to the pond where the driving temperature difference again increases, becoming essentially that between the water and the air wet bulb.

Optimum dry tower-cooling pond combinations were found for different sets of environmental conditions and cost factors. Effects of different air dry bulb and dew point temperatures, dry tower and cooling pond capital costs, water (evaporation) costs and power consumption (to run the fan and the pumps) costs on the optimum combination were studied.

It was found that on a daily cost basis water and power costs (i.e. operational costs) far exceed the capital costs. Water costs and power costs could

drastically shift the proportions of dry and wet cooling in the optimum combination.

Low dry bulb and dew point temperatures implied greater proportions of dry cooling and high temperatures suggested greater proportions of pond cooling. Depending on the combination of extreme ambient temperatures and various costs, some cases showed that either all dry or all wet cooling was more economical then a combined system.

Summary of results showed that depending on local conditions and cost factors net monetary savings in cooling costs of up to 26 percent and significant amount of land area savings can result by the use of a combination system rather than an all dry or all wet cooling system.