

4A: Development and Assessment of Commercial Gas Absorption Heat Pump Water Heaters

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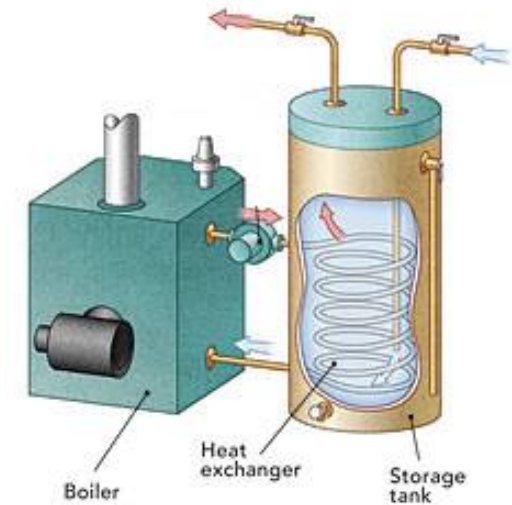
ACEEE Hot Water Forum

Portland, OR

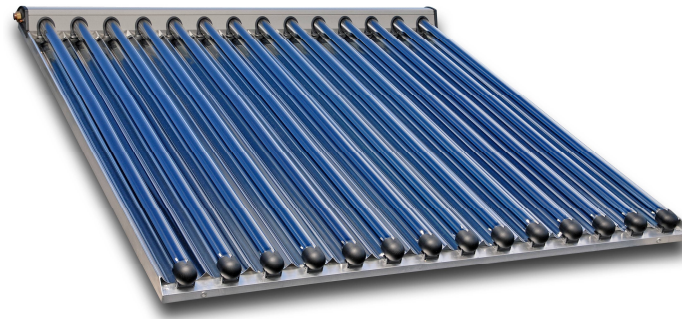
March, 2018



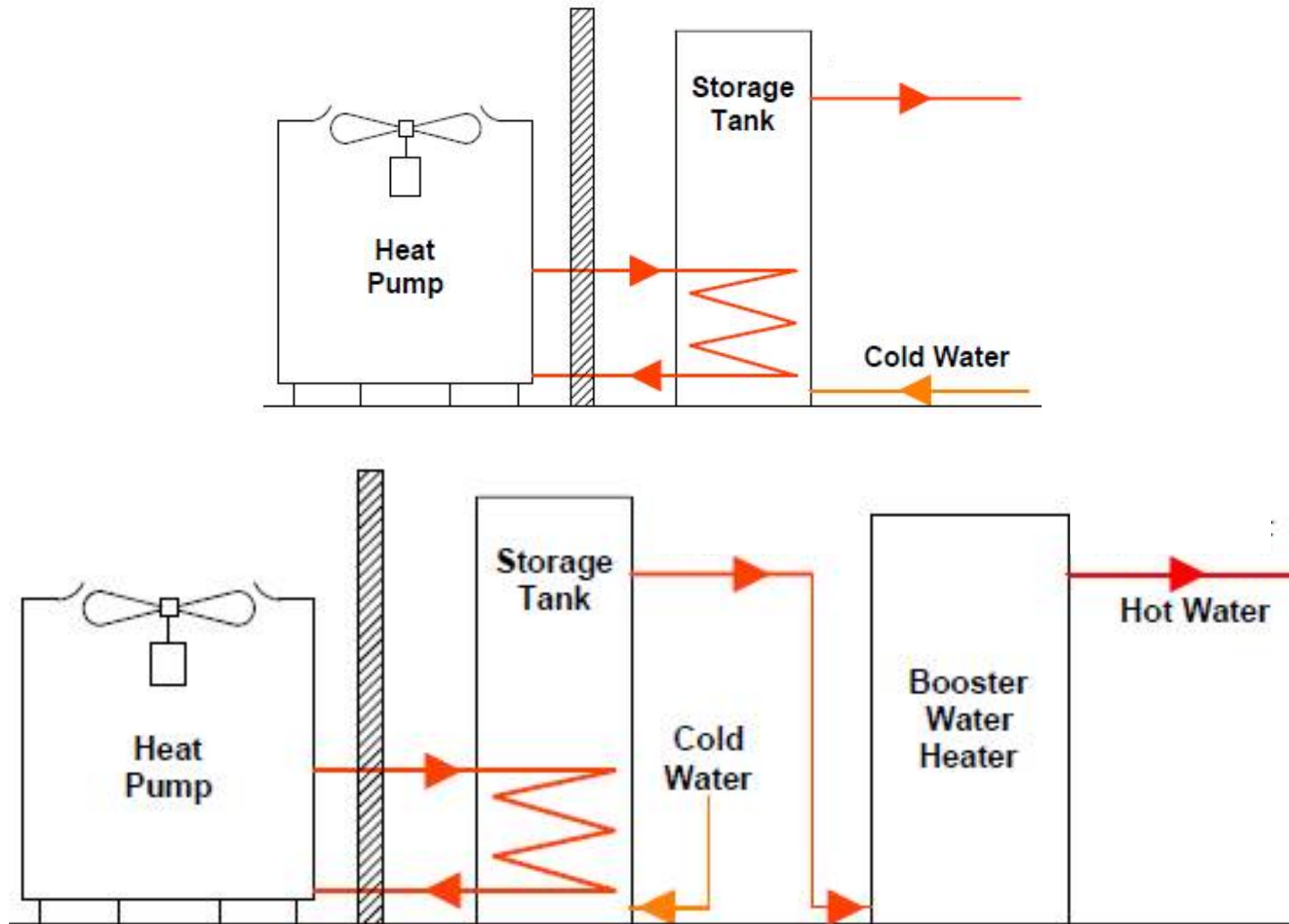
Commercial Water Heating Technologies



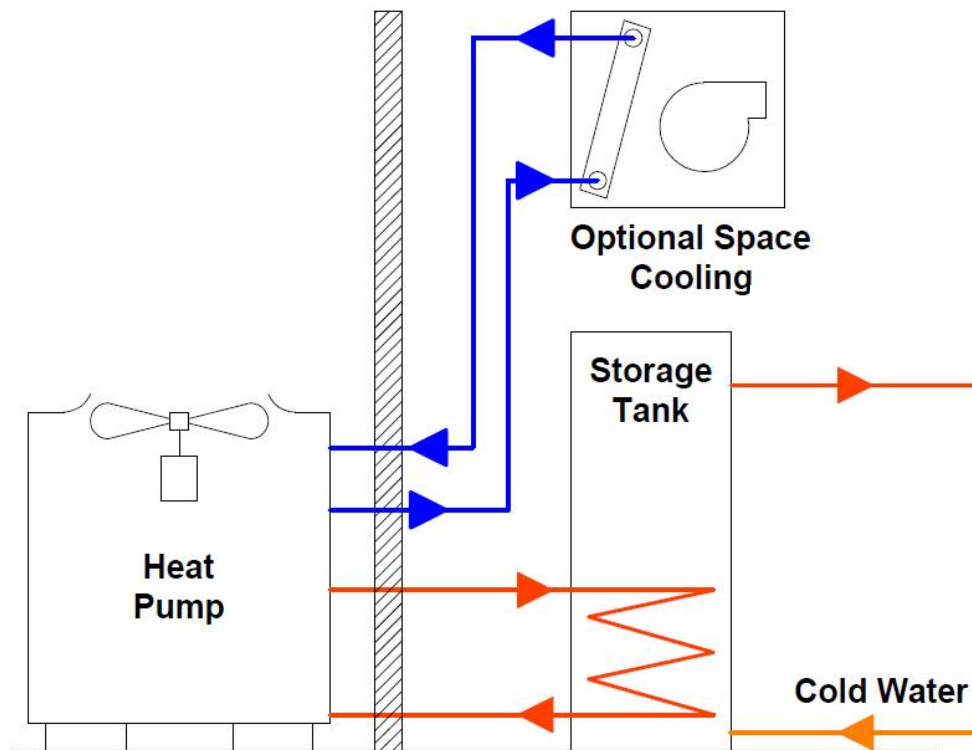
Commercial Water Heating Technologies



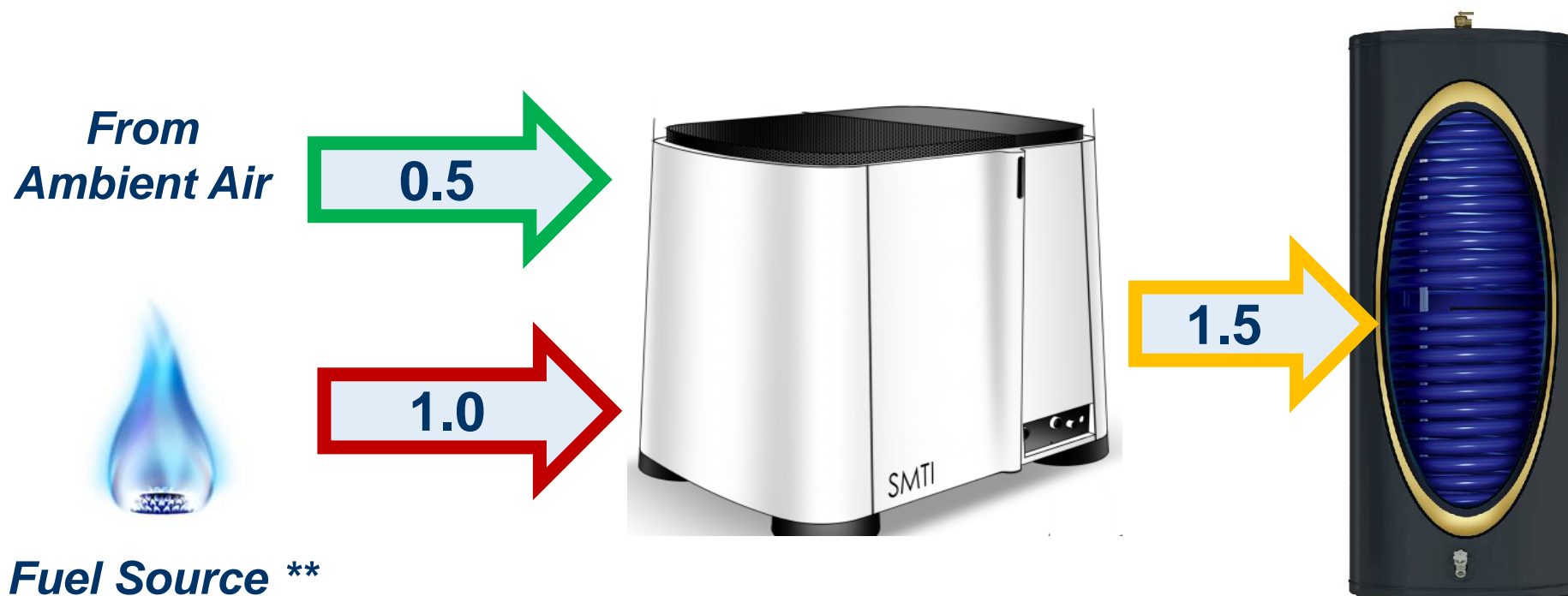
GAHP Commercial Water Heating



GAHP Commercial Water Heating

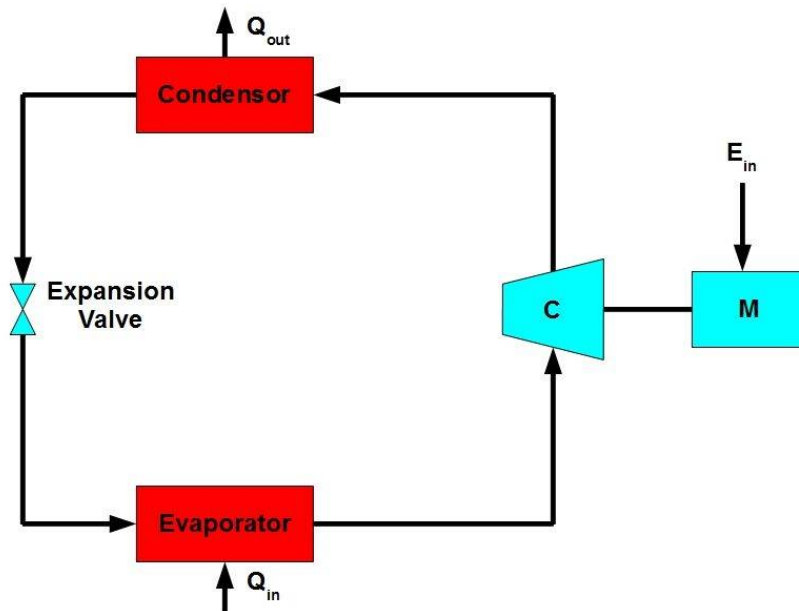


Gas-Fired Absorption Heat Pump



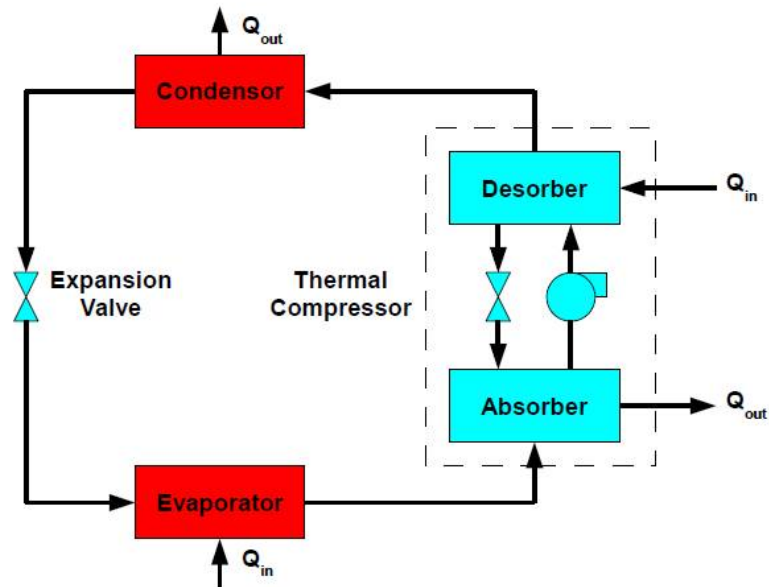
**** Natural Gas, Propane, Fuel Oil, BioDiesel, Renewable Gas, etc.**

How Does It Work?



$$\text{COP}_h = Q_{\text{cond}}/E_{\text{in}} = 3.0-4.0$$

$$Q_{\text{heat}} = \sim 1.1 \times Q_{\text{cooling}}$$



$$\text{COP}_h = (Q_{\text{cond}} + Q_{\text{abs}})/Q_{\text{in}} = 1.4-2.0$$

$$Q_{\text{heat}} = (Q_{\text{cond}} + Q_{\text{abs}}) \sim 2.5 \text{ times } Q_{\text{evap}}$$

Capacity & COP Remain High at Low Ambient Temperatures

SMTI Gas Absorption Heat Pumps

$$\text{COP}_{\text{HHV}} = 1.45 \text{ at } 47/120^{\circ}\text{F}$$

- ❖ Gas-Fired, Air to Water Heat Pump
- ❖ Condensing
- ❖ 4:1 Modulation

- ❖ 10,000 to 140,000 Bth Heating Output Models
- ❖ 20° F Hydronic Differential
- ❖ 160°F Maximum Hydronic Supply
- ❖ < -25°F Ambient

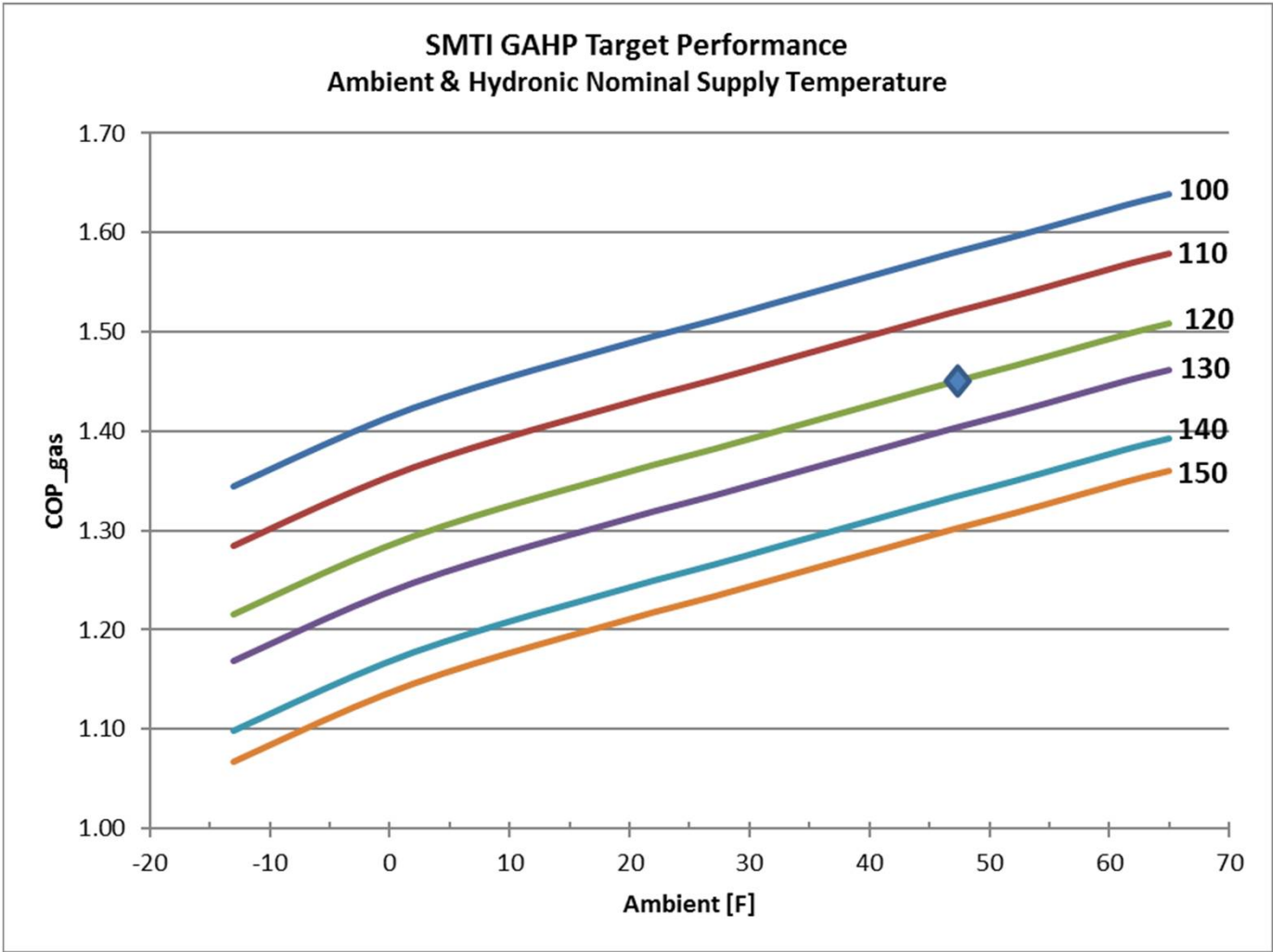
- ❖ Outdoor Installation (no venting)
- ❖ SCAQMD NOx Compliant
- ❖ GWP = 0



Patents Pending

SMTI GAHP Target Performance

Nominal 20F Rise



Family of GAHP Models

10 kBth



20 kBth



80 kBth



140 kBth



Anything In-Between



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



Most Recent GAHP Prototypes

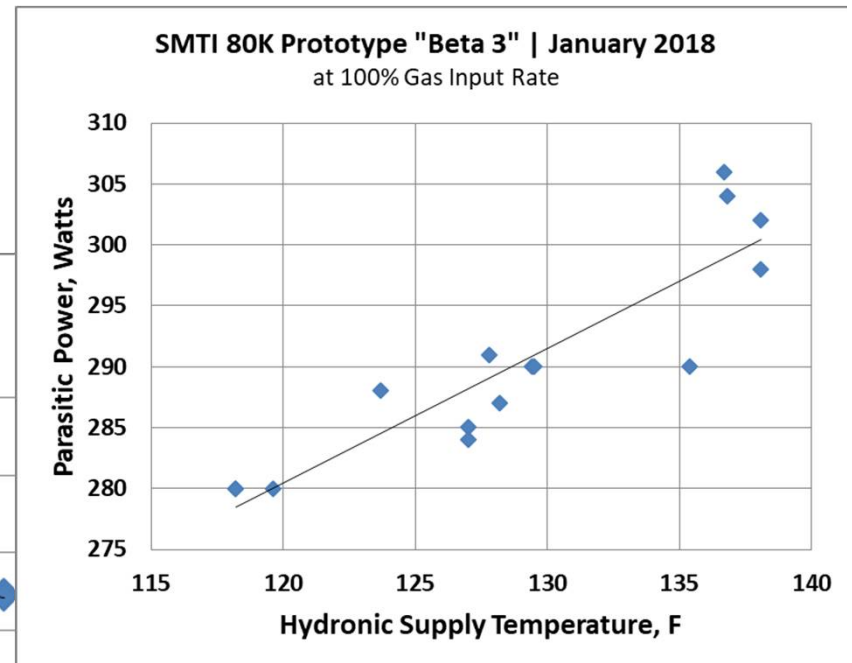
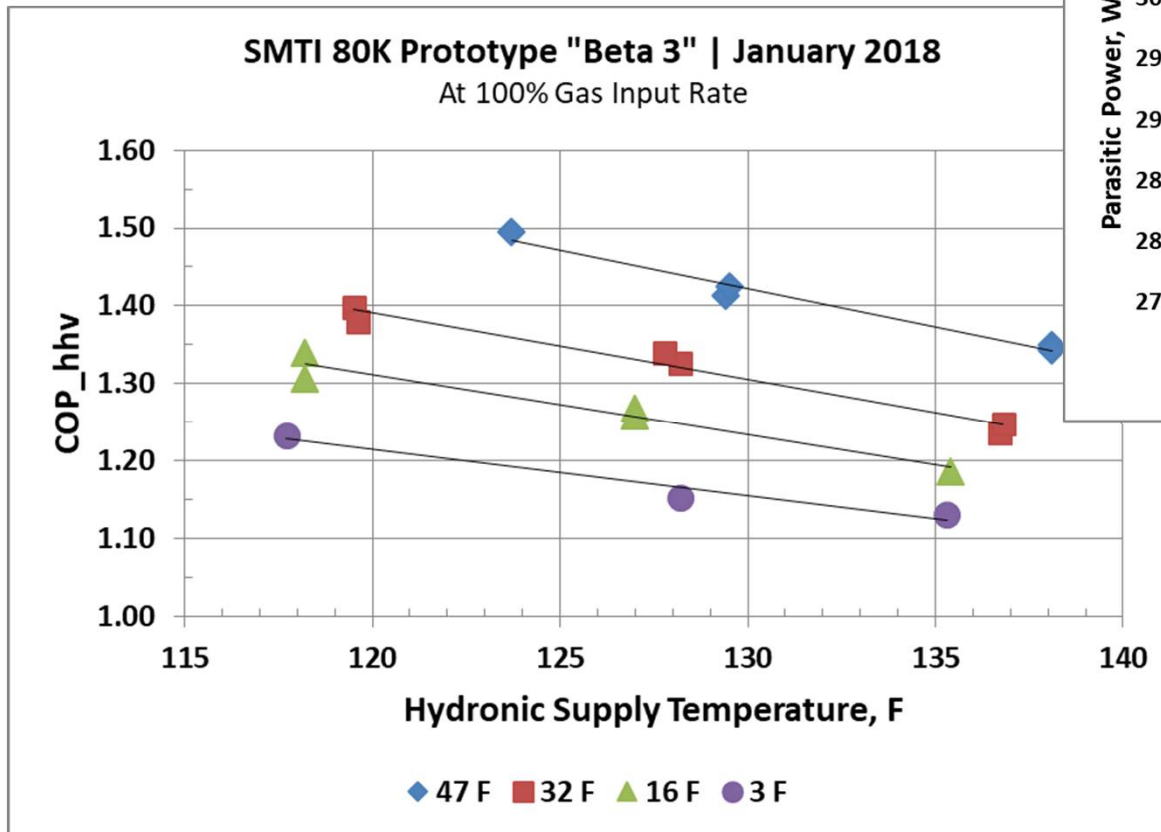


80,000 Btu/hr "Beta 3"

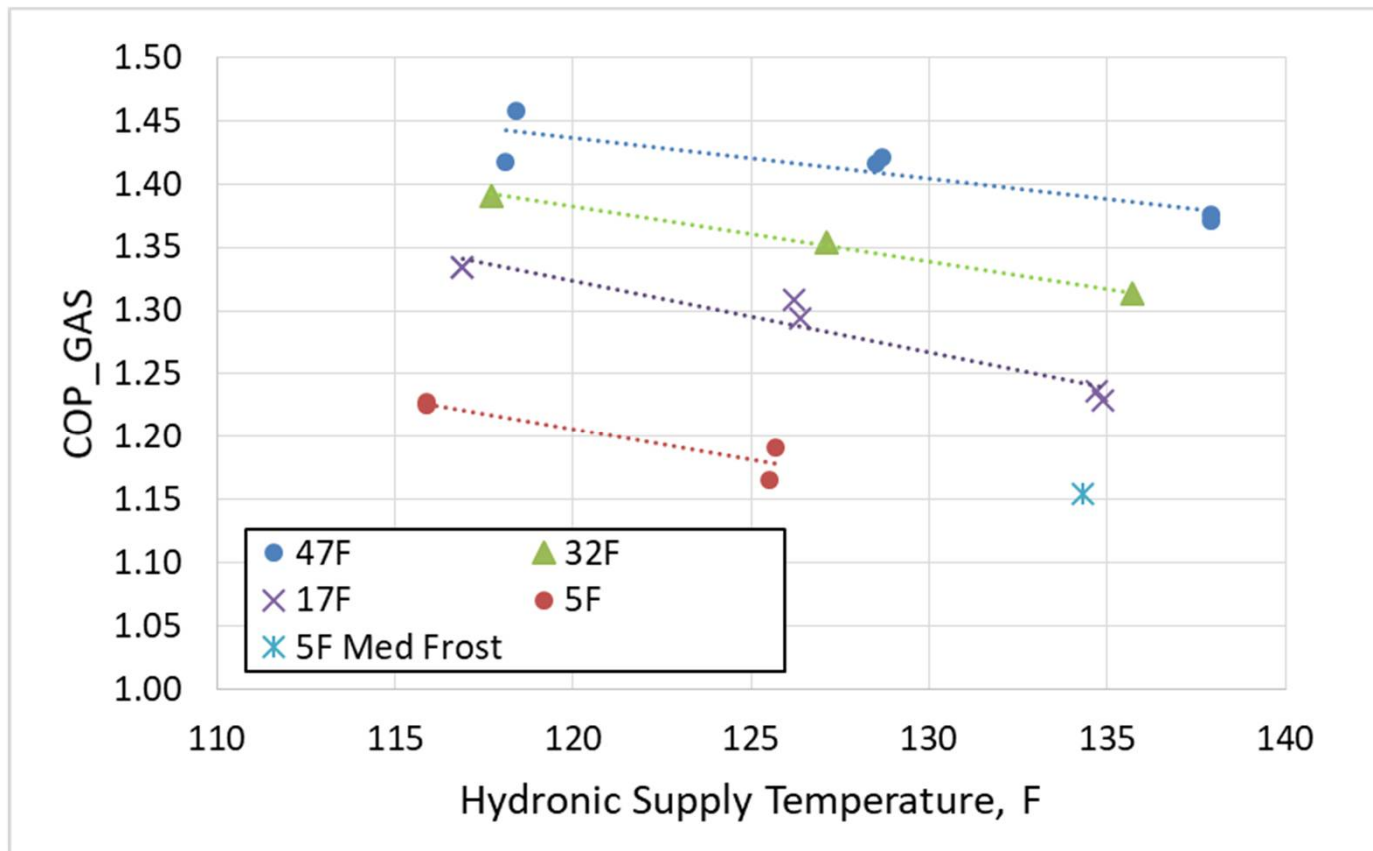


140,000 Btu/hr "Beta 2"

80K GAHP Beta 3



140K GAHP Beta 2

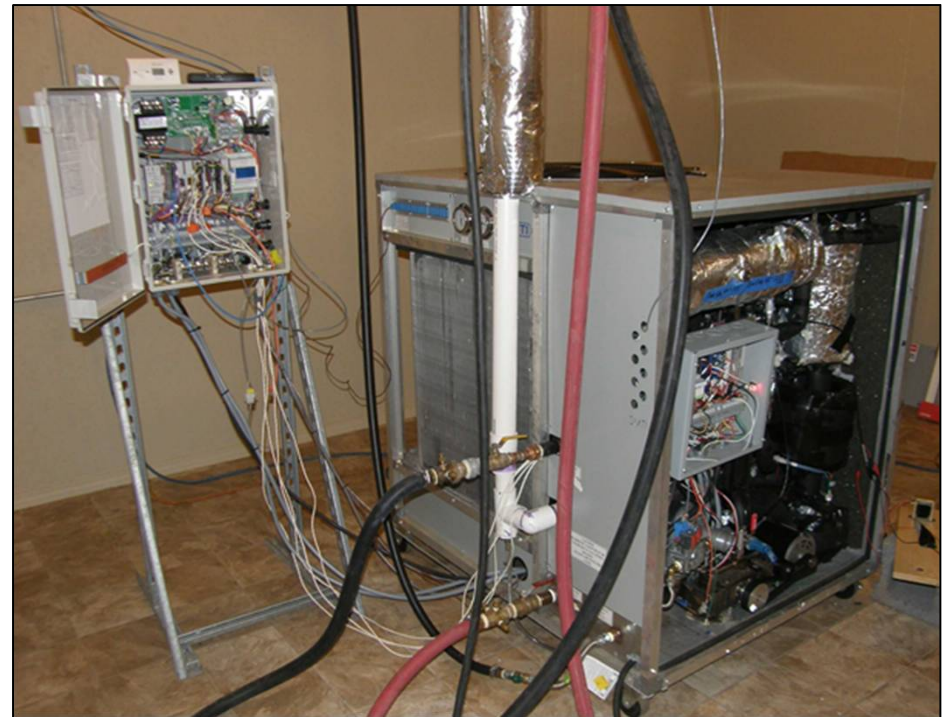


GAHP Reliability Testing

- Beta 1 runtime as of 2/16/18: 2002 hours
- Beta 2 runtime as of 2/9/18: 4400 hours



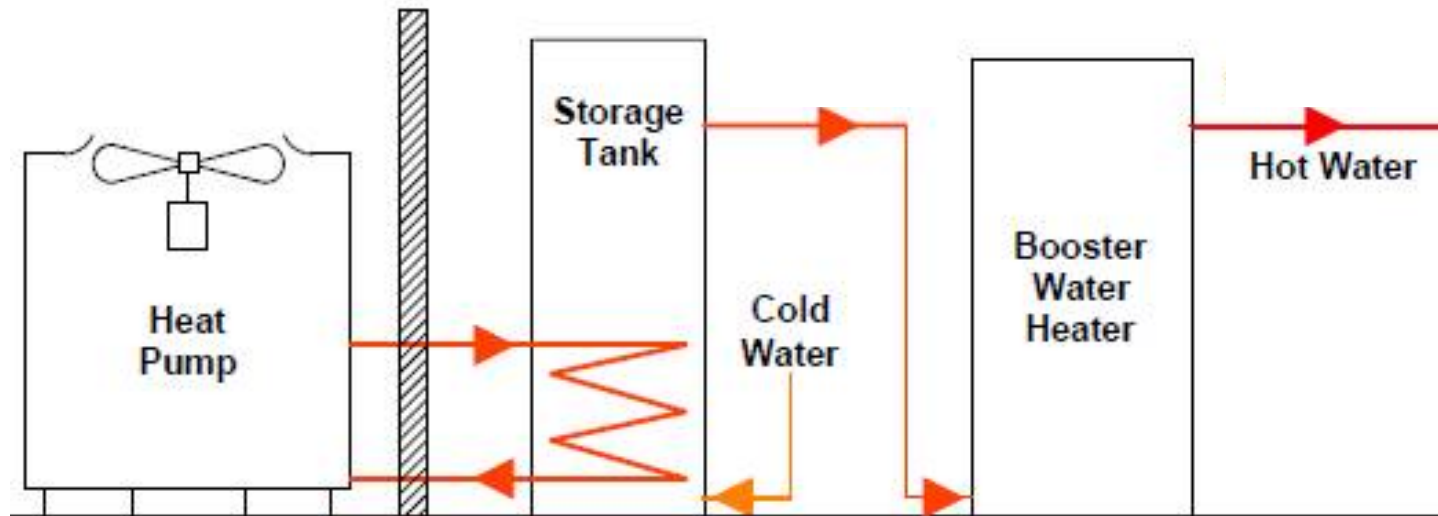
Beta 1 GAHP installed at home in Northeast TN



Beta 2 GAHP hydronically coupled to heat rejection facility with variable speed fan

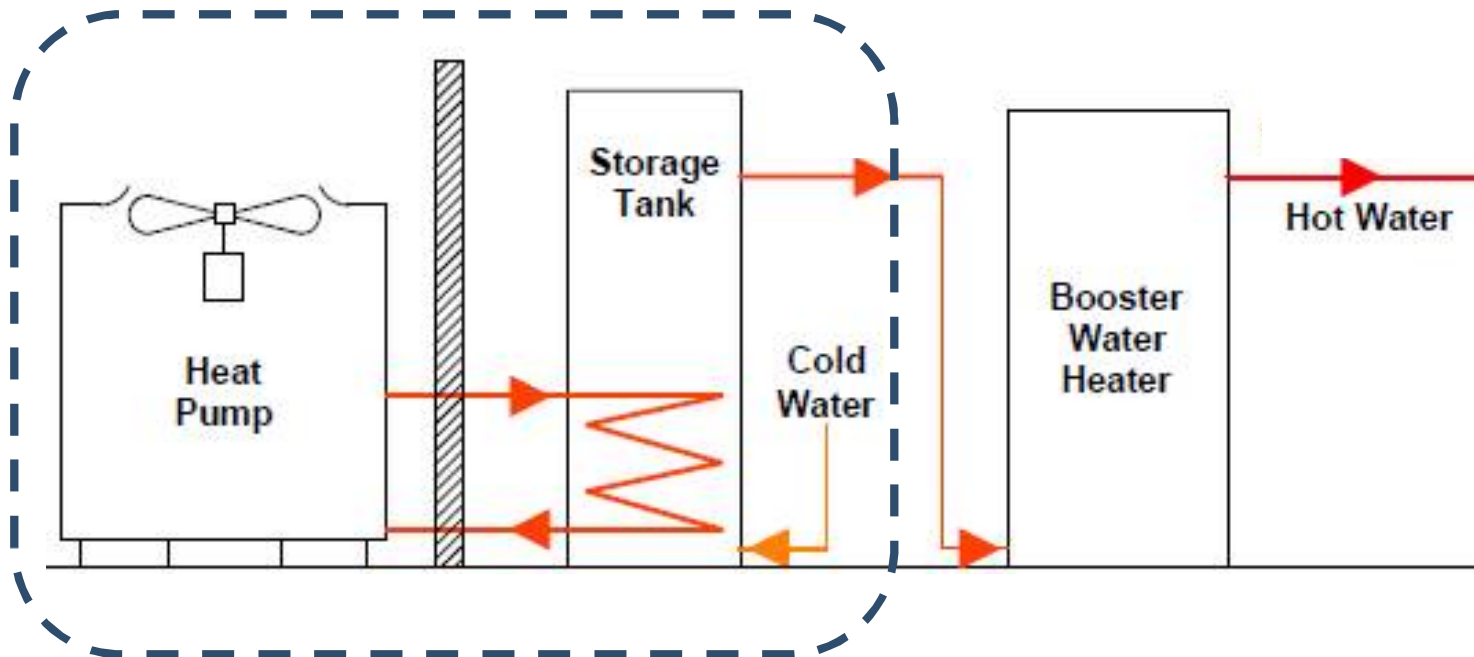
Full-Service Restaurant Simulated Use Testing

Assumed Installation Configuration



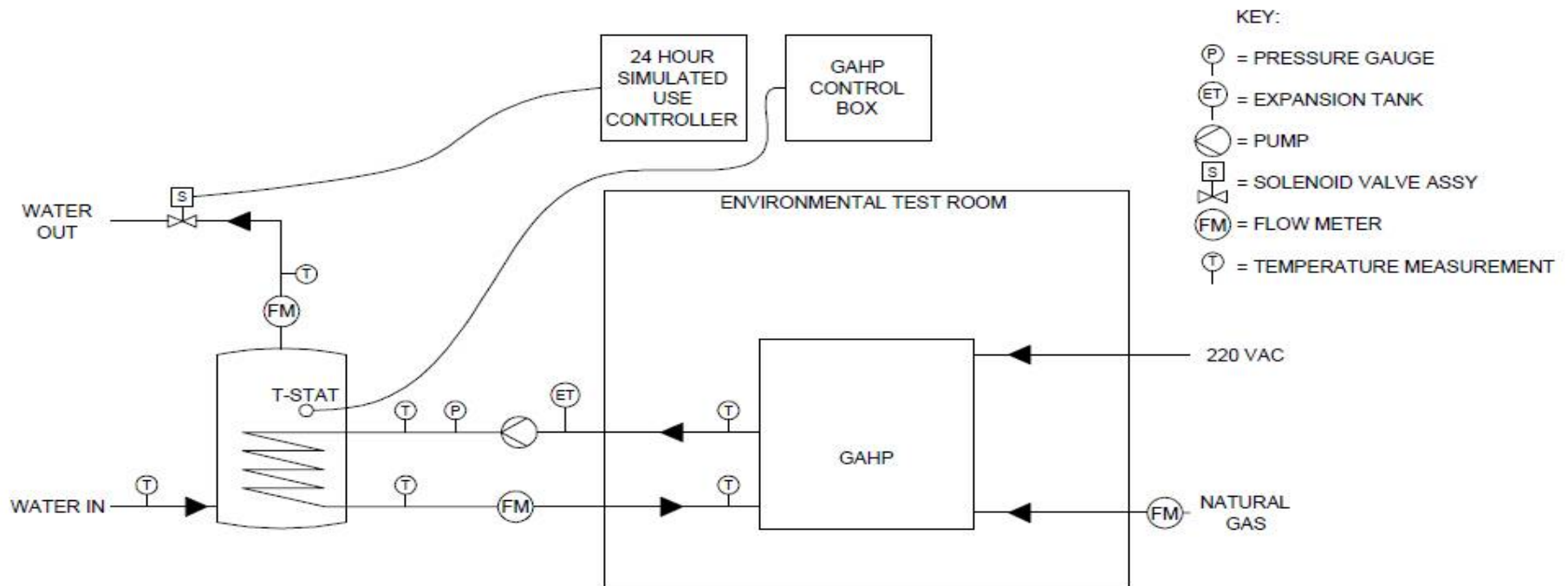
Assumed Installation Configuration

Test Control Volume



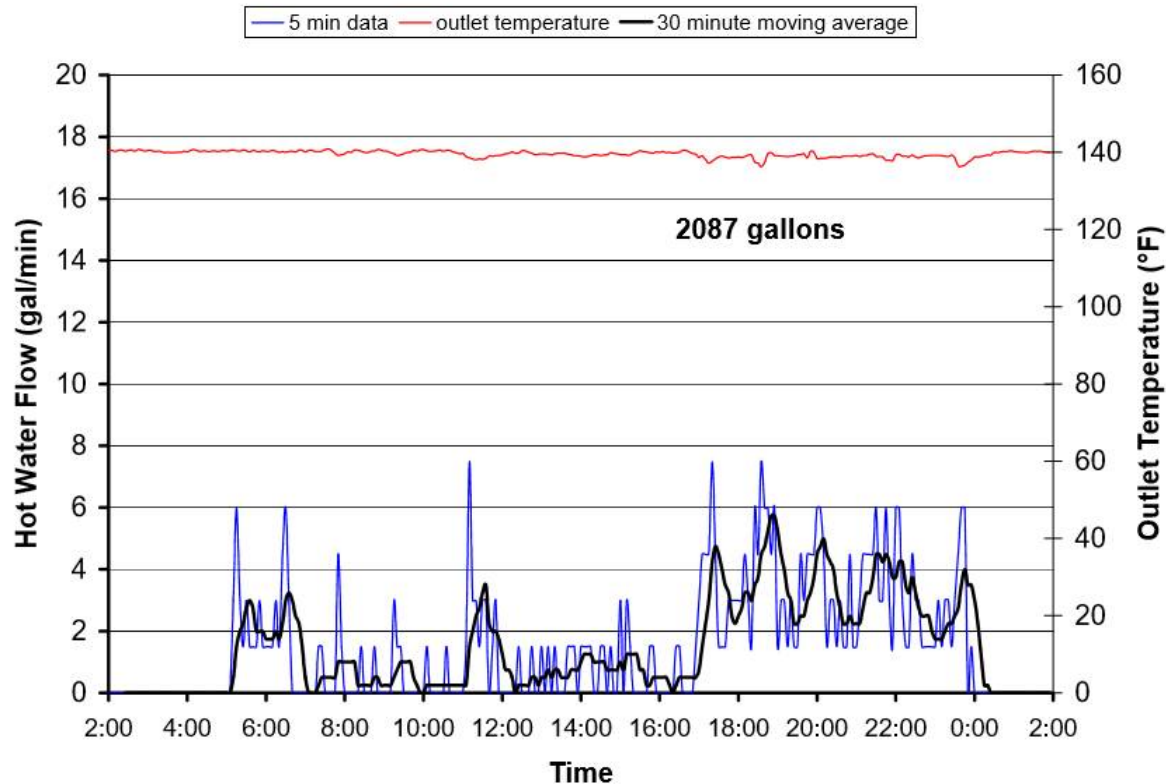
Test Set-up

- 80 kBth GAHP “Alpha 3” Prototype
 - COP 5-10% lower than more recent “Beta” Prototypes
- Hydronically Coupled to 113 Gallon Indirect Storage tank
- Chamber Ambient: 50°F **



** Average ambient contiguous U.S (2015): 54.4°F

Full Service Restaurant Draw Pattern



Tests Performed At:

100% (~2000 gpd)

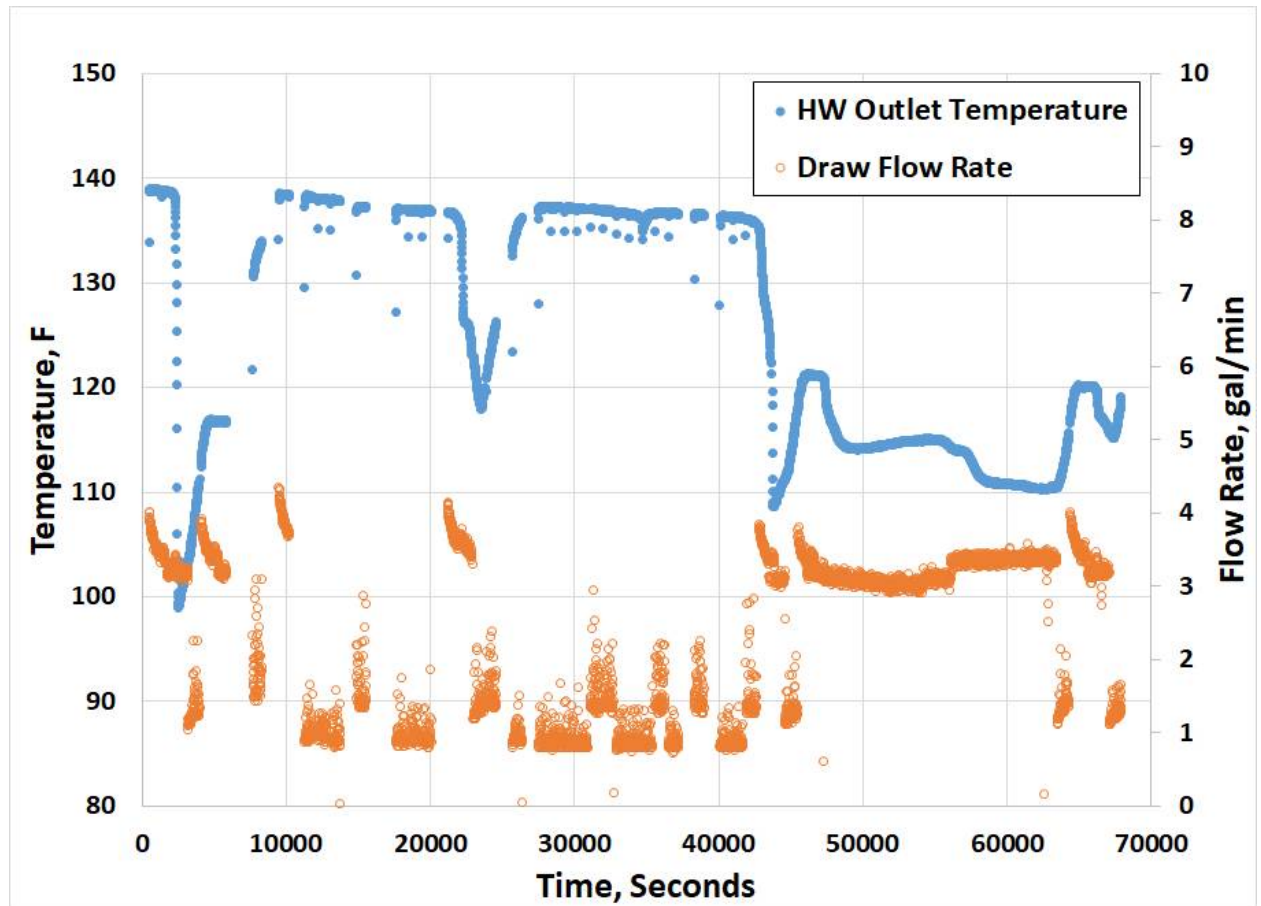
125% (~2500 gpd)

75% (~1500 gpd)

Wallace and Fisher, 'Energy Efficiency Potential of Gas Fired Commercial Hot Water Heating Systems in Restaurants,' (2007)

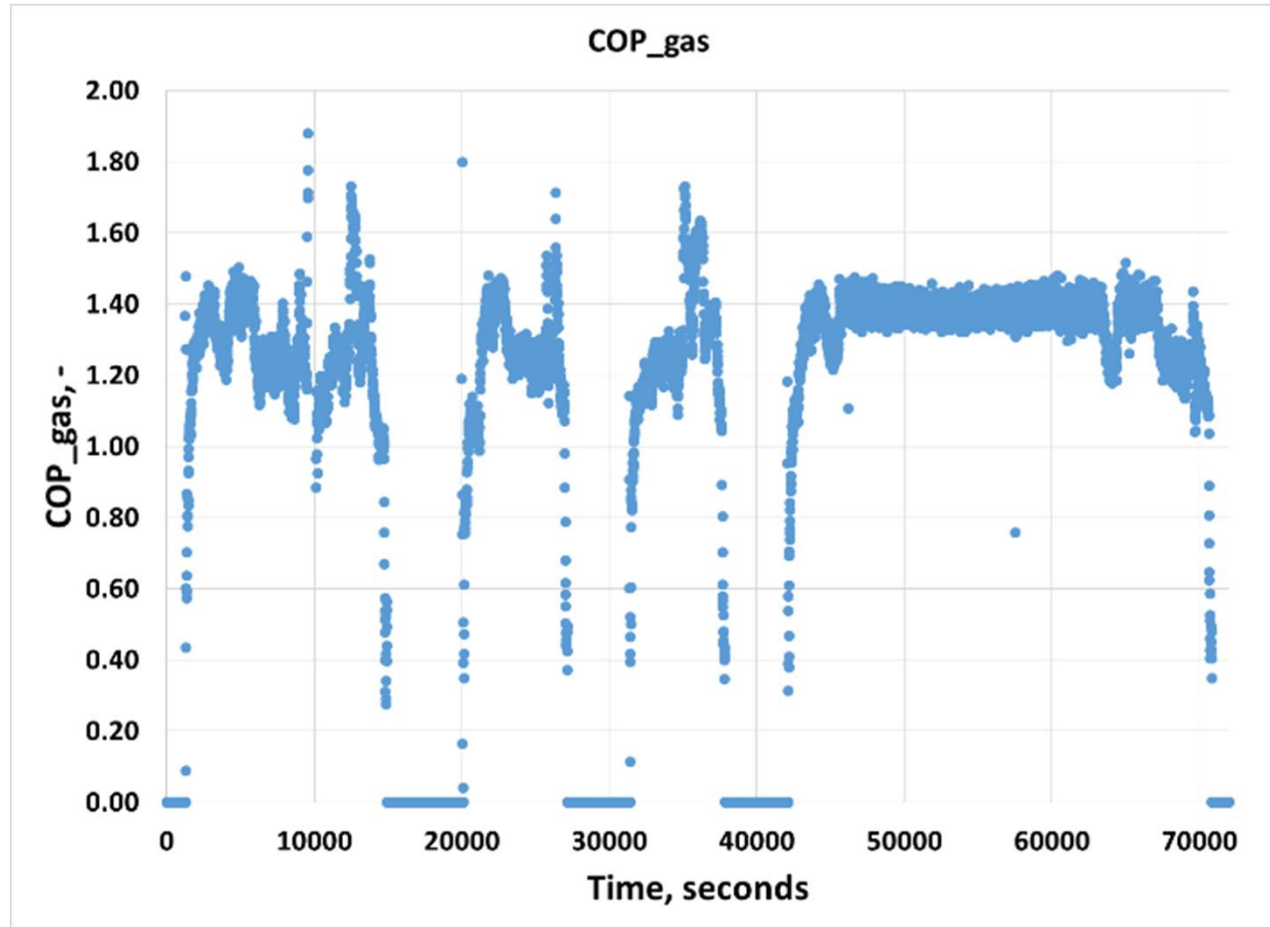
100% (~2,000 gallons) at 50°F Ambient

- Avg Tank inlet & outlet water temps: 69.3°F & 124°F
- 99.5% above 100°F
- 69% above 120°F
- GAHP provided 72% of delivered energy (140°F supply)
- Average GAHP COP: 1.32



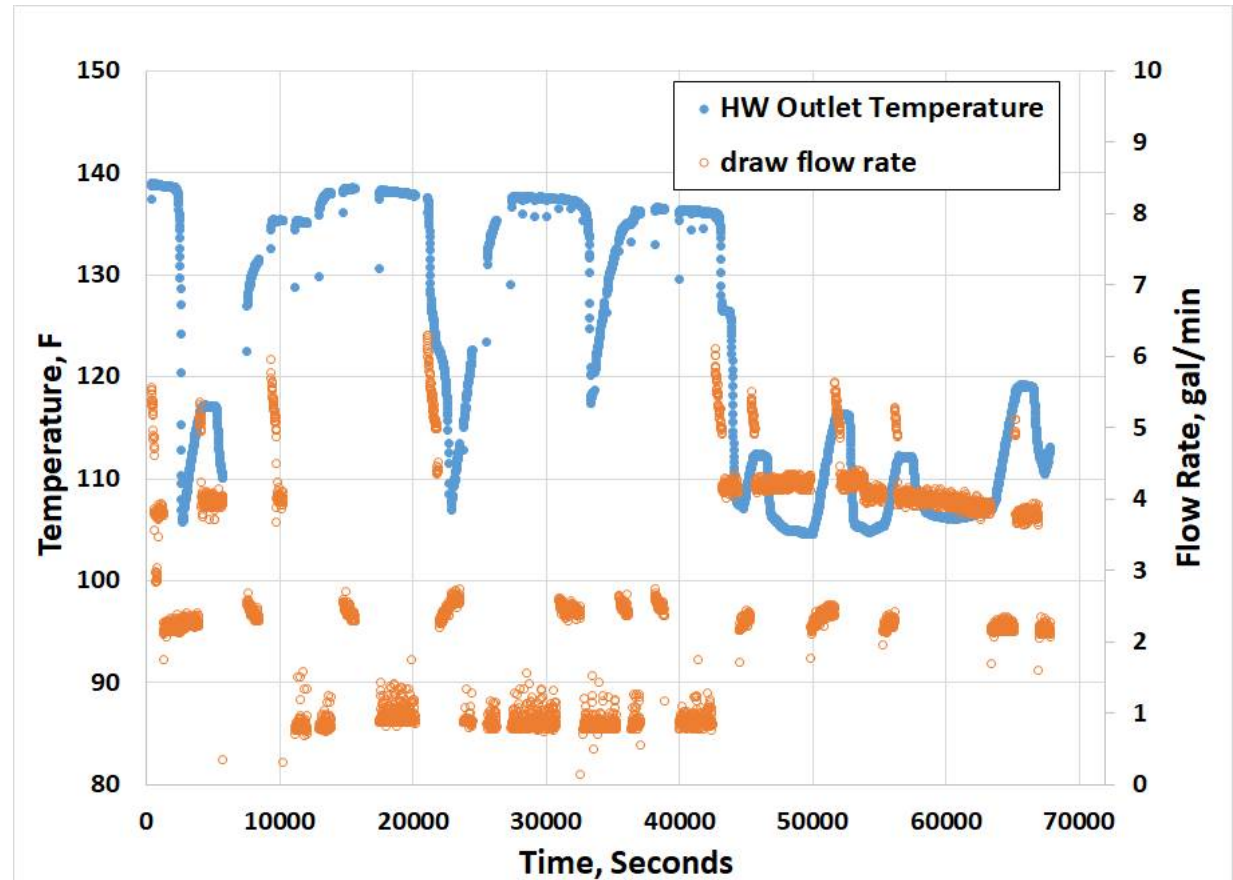
* *Two tests completed (Test 1,2) with virtually identical results*

100% (~2,000 gallons) at 50°F Ambient



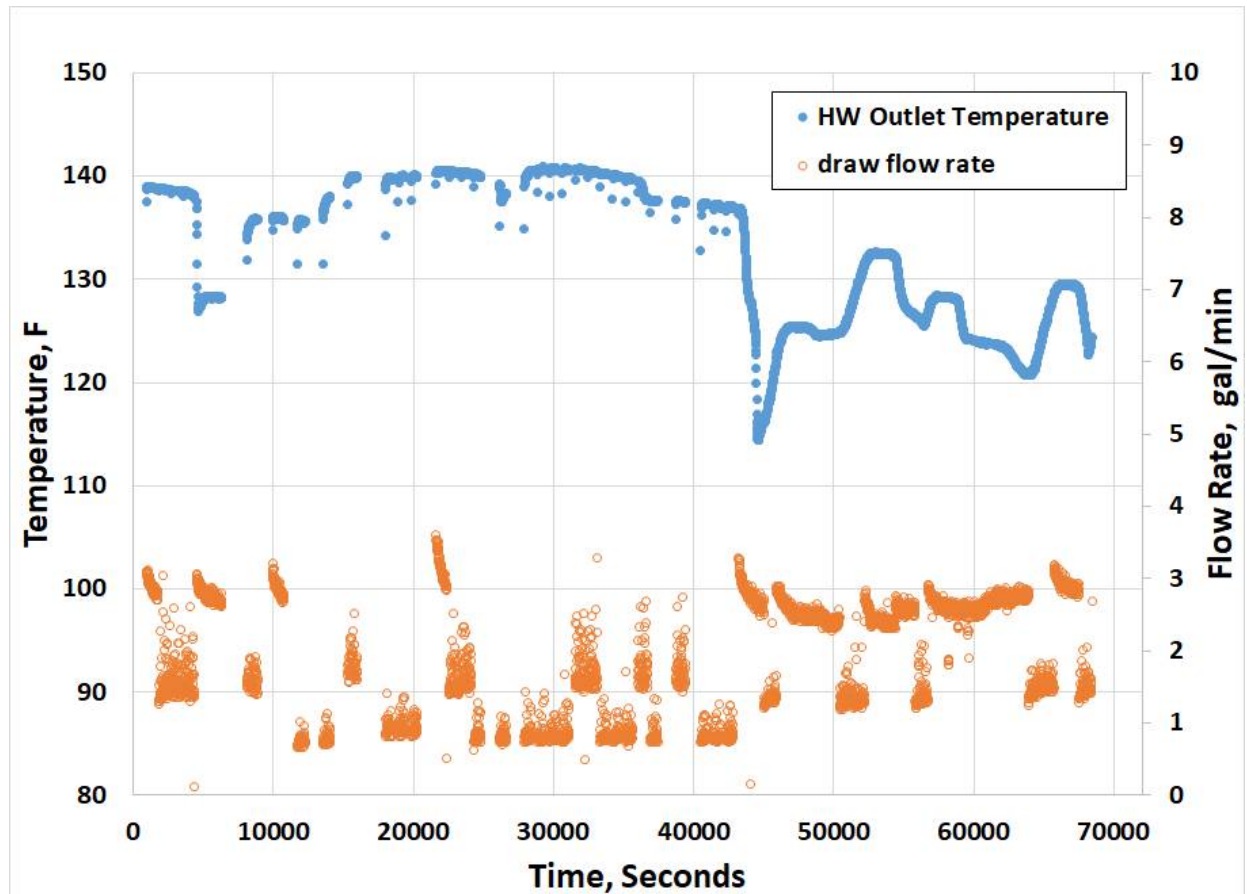
125% (~2,500 gallons) at 50°F Ambient

- Avg Tank inlet & outlet water temps: 70.8°F & 121°F
- 100% above 100°F
- 31% above 120°F
- GAHP provided 67% of delivered energy (140°F supply)
- Average GAHP COP: 1.35

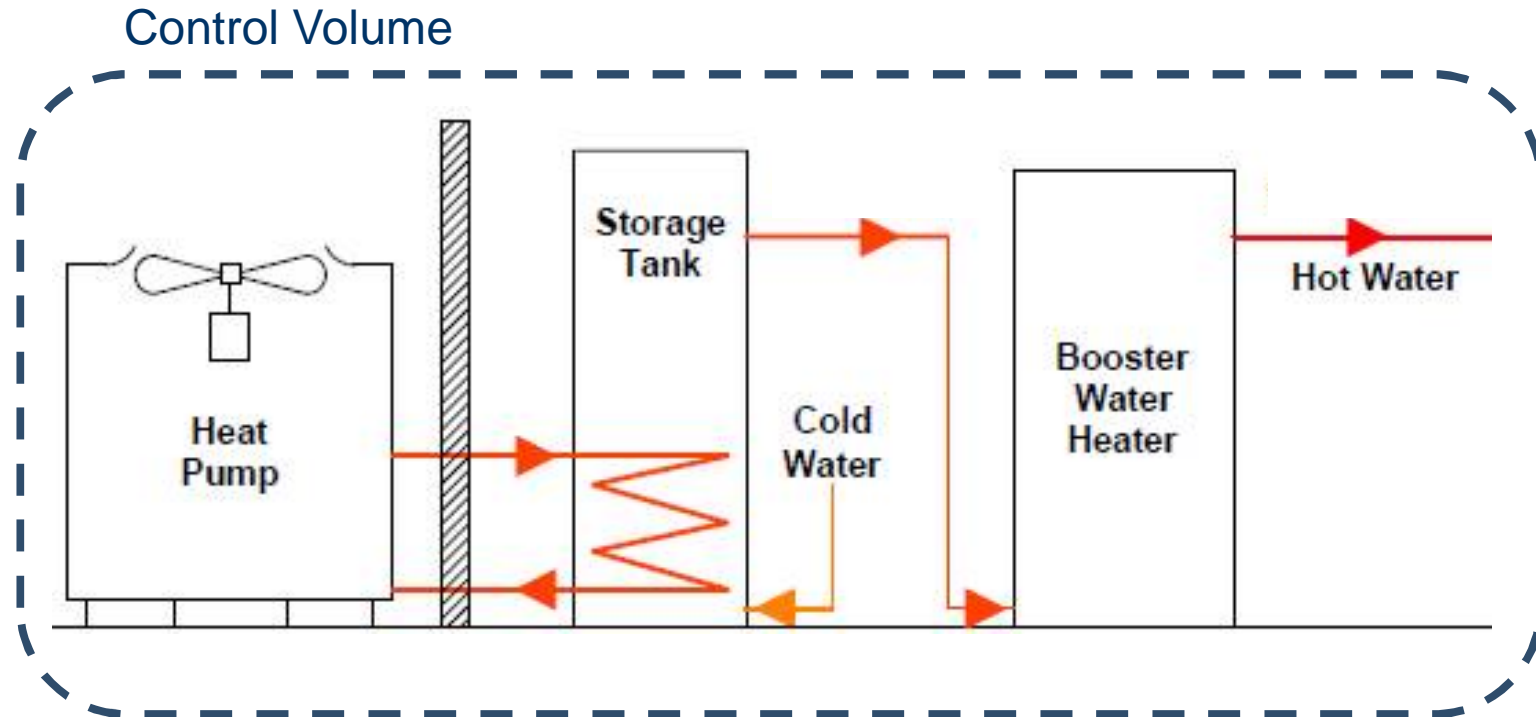


75% (~1,500 gallons) at 50°F Ambient

- Avg Tank inlet & outlet water temps: 72.2°F & 132°F
- 100% above 110°F
- 98% above 120°F
- GAHP provided 85% of delivered energy (140°F supply)
- Average GAHP COP: 1.25



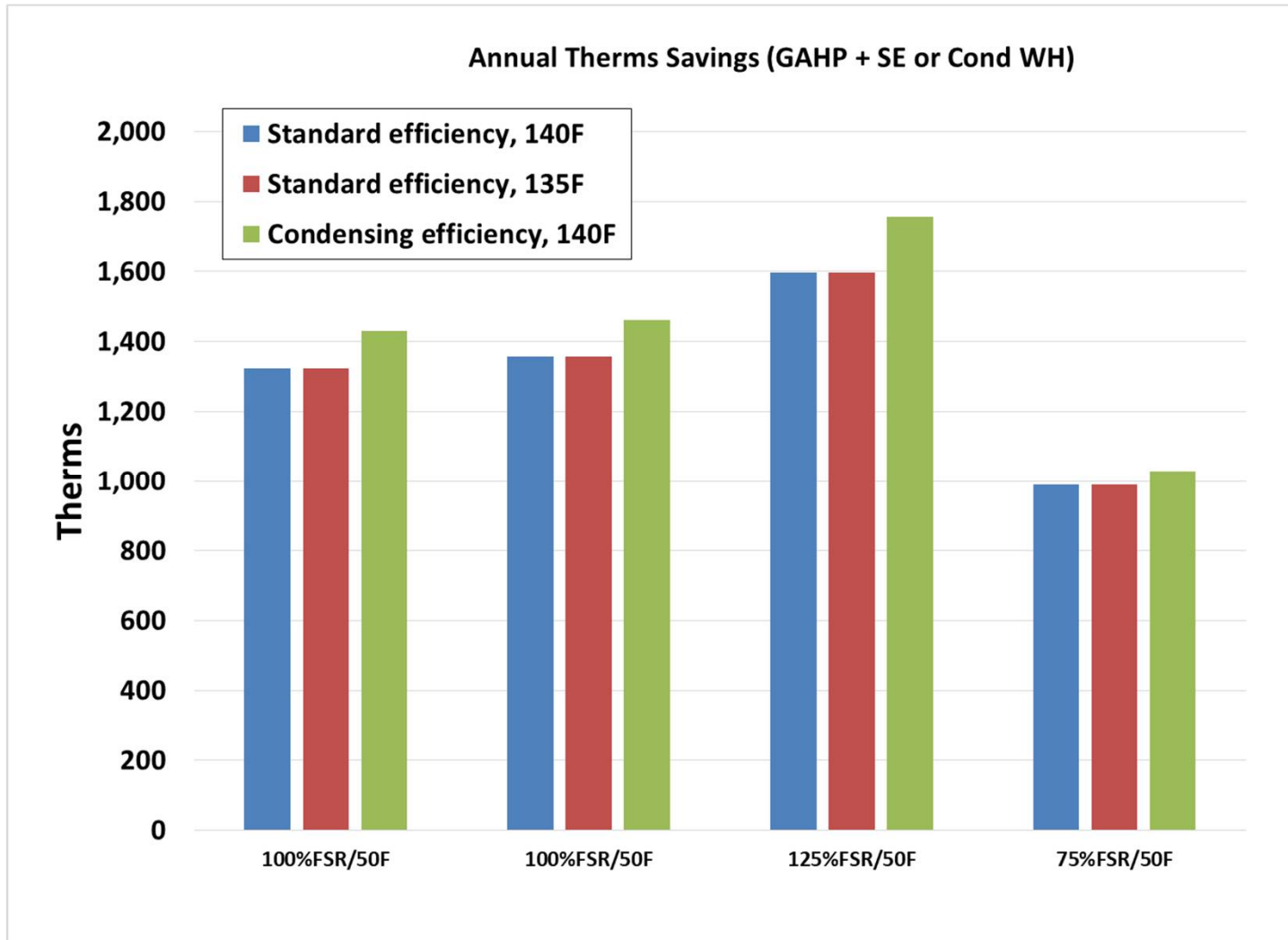
Extending Study with Modeling



- ❖ COP_{gas} of heat pump only
- ❖ COP_{gas} of system with GAHP and Standard WH targeting 140°F
- ❖ COP_{gas} of system with GAHP and Standard WH targeting 135°F
- ❖ COP_{gas} of system with GAHP and Condensing WH targeting 140°F

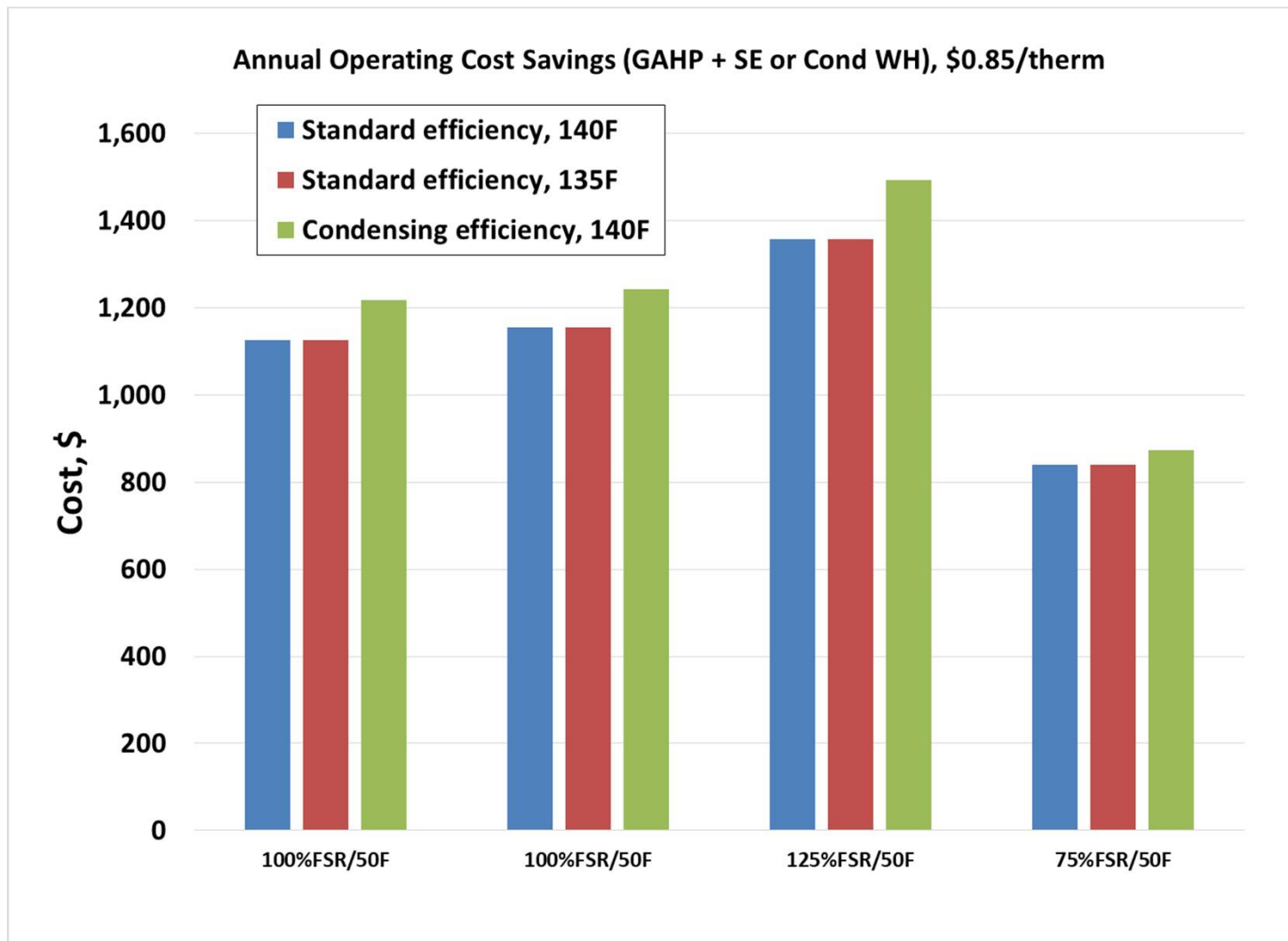
Annual Therms Saved

Compared to 80% Storage Tank Installation



Annual Savings at \$0.85/therm

Compared to 80% Storage Tank Installation



Simple Payback: 2500 gpd

80 kbth GAHP + 100g IST + 199k/100g “Booster” Water Heater

vs

Two 199k/100g Non-Condensing Storage Water Heaters

Two 199k/100g Condensing Storage Water Heaters

	GAHP	NC	Cond
Installed Cost	\$14,370	\$10,130	\$13,200
Therms Used/yr	4,863	6,651	5,912
kWhr/yr	1,317		266
Gas Cost/yr	\$4,620	\$6,318	\$5,616
Electric Cost/yr	\$132		\$27
Therms Saved/yr (vs NC)	1,788		
Net Savings/yr (vs NC)	\$1,567		
Simple Payback, yrs (vs NC)	2.7		
Therms Saved/yr (vs Cond)	1,049		
Net Savings/yr (vs Cond)	\$891		
Simple Payback, yrs (vs Cond)	1.3		

Natural Gas: \$0.95 per therm

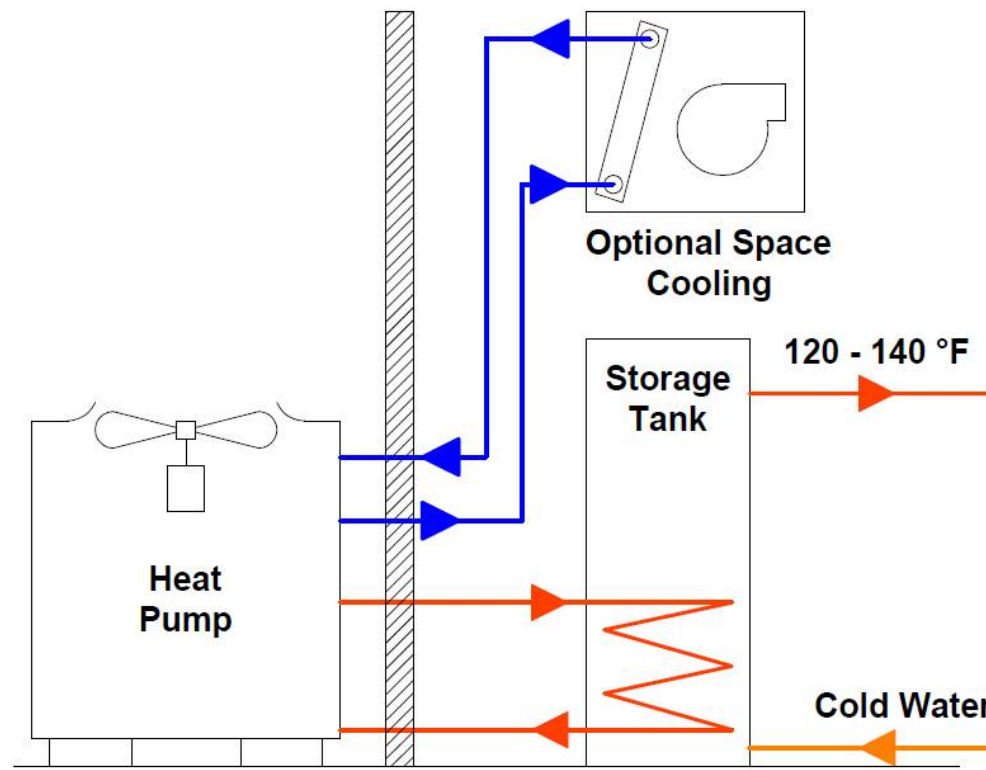
Electricity: \$0.10 per kWhr

Summary

- An 80,000 btu/hr GAHP connected to 113 gallon tank can provide the majority of the water heating load required for typical Full Service Restaurants
- GAHP systems offer significant therm and dollar savings
- Total daily draw has a significant impact on savings
- Size of storage tank internal heat exchanger can have a large impact on average COP of GAHP
- Future testing with Beta GAHP prototypes should show higher energy and cost savings

Next Steps in 2018

- Two full service restaurant field tests in Los Angeles
- **Water heating and kitchen cooling**



Other GAHP Projects in 2018

- Commercial Laundry Field Test
 - (see my presentation from Session 3C)
- 3 residential combi field tests in cold climate regions
- Six residential water heater field tests in Los Angeles
- Multi-family combi field test in Chicago
- 20 kbtu/hr residential combi prototype (net zero energy)
- Fuel-oil / Bio-diesel residential combi prototype

Acknowledgments



Thank You!

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