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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Experimental Investigation of Multi-effect Regenerator for Desiccant Dehumidifier: Effects of Various Regeneration Temperatures and Solution Flow rates on System Performances

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Highlights

- Experimental investigation of vacuum assisted multi-effect desiccant regenerator.
- The efficiency of the regenerator is presented in terms of performance ratio.
- Three regenerator-configurations are presented with respect to steam and LiCl solution flow-types.
- Stem flow in one stage and LiCl solution flow in three stages provide the best performance for desiccant dehumidification.
- Performance ratio decreases with high concentration feed input.

Abstract

We have experimentally measured the thermal performances (PR) of vacuum assisted multieffect regenerator, which employs hydrophobic membrane to separate water vapor from LiCl solution with higher evaporation rates. We have modified the working principles of the conventional multi-effect membrane distillation (MEMD) by the transfer of heat from one stage to the other stage of regenerating module such that more energy can be recovered through multieffect evaporation generated in each regenerating module with enhanced liquid vapor separation in the membrane. The PR and percentage change in desiccant concentration are measured for the

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