

Contents

Acknowledgments	i
Abstract	iii
Resum	v
Resumen.....	vii
List of figures.....	xiii
List of tables.....	xix
Nomenclature	xxi
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
1.1 Motivation.....	1
1.2 Conditions for the waste heat recovery and the SHW application	4
1.2.1 Waste heat recovery.....	4
1.2.2 SHW application.....	5
1.3 Natural refrigerants for the SHW application	7
1.3.1 The transcritical CO ₂ cycle.....	8
1.3.2 Propane (R290) for the SHW application.....	12
1.4 Objectives.....	17
Chapter 2 Theoretical analysis.....	19
2.1 Introduction	19
2.2 Optimal subcooling.....	25
2.3 Second law analysis.....	31
2.3.1 Introduction.....	31
2.3.2 Results	33
2.4 Conclusions	35
Chapter 3 Heat pump: concept and designs.....	37
3.1 Subcooling made in the condenser (SMC heat pump)	38
3.2 Subcooler in series with condenser (SMS heat pump).....	40

3.3 Heat Pump prototype: the real implementation of the systems	41
3.3.1 Compressor	43
3.3.2 Condenser	44
3.3.3 Subcooler.....	45
3.3.4 Evaporator.....	46
3.3.5 Liquid receiver.....	47
3.3.6 Expansion valve.....	48
3.3.7 Throttling valve.....	50
Chapter 4 Experimental setup and test conditions	51
4.1 Experimental setup	52
4.1.1 Water loop for the heat source (Evaporator)	54
4.1.2 Water loop for the heat sink (Condenser).....	55
4.1.3 Water/glycol loop and chiller working with R410A	56
4.2 Sensors and error analysis	57
4.3 Performed test.....	58
4.3.1 Test for SMC design	59
4.3.2 Test for SMS design	59
Chapter 5 Experimental results and discussion.....	63
5.1 Subcooling in the condenser: SMC design.....	63
5.1.1 Results	64
5.1.2 Condition with high $T_{w,ei}$ and low $T_{w,ci}$	71
5.1.3 Pinch point analysis.....	74
5.1.4 Conclusions	77
5.2 Subcooling in a separate heat exchanger: SMS design	79
5.2.1 Results	80
5.2.2 Condition with high $T_{w,ei}$ and low $T_{w,ci}$	84
5.2.3 Comparison between the SMS (R290) and the reference CO ₂ heat pump for SHW.....	85
5.2.4 Superheat study	86
5.2.5 Thermography: Evaporator refrigerant distribution.....	88
5.2.6 Conclusions	91

Chapter 6 Theoretical comparison between SMS and SMC	93
6.1 Model	94
6.1.1 Model validation: Subcooling made in the condenser (SMC)	94
6.1.2 Model adjustment to the heat pump with subcooler	96
6.2 Results	96
6.3 Conclusions	102
Chapter 7 General conclusions and future work	103
7.1 Conclusions	103
7.1.1 From the theoretical analysis	104
7.1.2 From the experimental results	104
7.2 Future work	106
7.2.1 Integration in a real system	106
7.2.2 Improvement of the heat pump design	107
References	109
Appendix A The importance of heat pump liquid receiver configuration on the impact during transient behavior.	117
A.1 Abstract	117
A.2 Introduction	118
A.3 Experimental setup	119
A.3.1 Refrigerant cycle	120
A.3.2 Liquid receiver design	121
A.3.3 Test procedure	122
A.4 Results	122
A.4.1 Inlet elbow downwards	122
A.4.2 Inlet elbow upwards	124
A.5 Conclusions	125
Appendix B Results and error analysis	127
B.1 Auxiliary consumption	127
B.2 Uncertainty	129
B.3 Experimental results for the SMC design	130
B.4 Results for the SMS design	134

