

# PERFORMANCE OF TWO ABSORPTION-COMPRESSION HYBRID REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS USING R1234ZE(E)/IONIC LIQUID AS WORKING PAIR

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## ABSTRACT

Energy consumption is growing fast all over the world, the low-grade heat like solar energy, geothermal energy and waste heat released during industry processes is viewed as a source of recyclable energy. Absorption refrigeration technology has attracted much attention and been investigated from different aspects in recent years due to its feasibility to be driven by low-grade heat. However, the most commonly used working pairs of the absorption refrigeration system are  $\text{NH}_3/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{LiBr}$  have some obvious drawbacks including crystallization, corrosion, negative pressure operation and toxicity, *etc.*

Ionic liquids (ILs) are a class of liquid salts with many advantages such as non-volatility, good thermal and chemical stability, low melting point, nontoxicity, *etc.* Hydrofluoroolefin (HFO) is the promising alternative of HFC, which has no damage to ozone layer and nearly won't lead to global warming. Therefore, HFO/IL is a kind of promising working pair to replace  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{LiBr}$  and  $\text{NH}_3/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

In this work, two new absorption-compression hybrid refrigeration systems using R1234ze(E)/[HMIM][BF<sub>4</sub>], R1234ze(E)/[EMIM][BF<sub>4</sub>] and R1234ze(E)/[OMIM][BF<sub>4</sub>] as novel working pair are proposed. The effects of compressor position, compression ratio, generation temperature, evaporation temperature, condensation temperature and absorption temperature on the coefficient of performance (*COP*) and circulation ratio (*f*) were analyzed. Comparison result shows that the two systems have many advantages over the single-effect absorption refrigeration system including increasing *COP*, reducing the heat load of condenser and *f*, and enlarge the operation range of generation temperature, evaporation temperature and absorption temperature. R1234ze(E)/[OMIM][BF<sub>4</sub>] shows better cooling performance than R1234ze(E)/[EMIM][BF<sub>4</sub>] and R1234ze(E)/[HMIM][BF<sub>4</sub>] due to its favourable thermophysical properties.