

- With sketches, compare the differences during freezing of water, solution and food.
- Figure 1 shows the schematic of the mechanical vapour compression cycle,
  - Explain its operating principle; [0.5]
  - If a standard vapour compression cycle operates with a condensing temperature of 35°C and an evaporating temperature of -10°C, draw the standard vapour compression cycle on the pressure-enthalpy diagram in Figure 2. [0.5]

- A 150 kg beef carcass is frozen to -20°C, if the mass fraction of water and protein are 58.21% and 17.48% respectively, and the initial freezing point is -1.7°C, what is the mass of frozen and unfrozen water at -20°C? The mass fraction of ice can be calculated by

$$x_{ice} = \frac{1.105x_{wo}}{1 + \frac{0.8765}{\ln(t_f - t + 1)}} \quad [0.4]$$

- If the initial temperature of the carcass is 10°C, how much heat must be removed during this freezing process? The enthalpy of unfrozen and frozen foods can be calculated respectively by

$$H = H_f + (t - t_f)(4.19 - 2.30x_s - 0.628x_s^3) \quad (\text{for unfrozen foods})$$

$$H = (t - t_r) \left[ 1.55 + 1.26x_s - \frac{(x_{wo} - x_b)L_0 t_f}{t_r t} \right] \quad (\text{for frozen foods})$$

where  $t_r$  = reference temperature (zero enthalpy) = -40°C;  $H_f$  = enthalpy of food at initial freezing temperature, kJ/kg;  $L_0$  = latent heat of fusion of water = 333.6 kJ/kg. (Hint: The equation for frozen foods can be used to calculate  $H_f$ ). [0.6]

- An infinite beef slab with thickness of 40 mm is to be frozen in an air blast freezer. The initial temperature of the beef is 10°C, freezing air temperature is -30°C and surface heat transfer coefficient is 40 Wm<sup>-2</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>.
  - Explain the physical meaning of the dimensionless numbers: Bi, Pk and Ste; [0.3]
  - Calculate the time required for the thermal centre of the beef to reach a temperature of -10°C. [0.7]

The following data and equations may be used in the calculation:

Densities of frozen and unfrozen beef are 1018 kg m<sup>-3</sup> and 1075 kg m<sup>-3</sup> respectively;

Enthalpies at -10°C and at the initial freezing point -1.7°C are respectively 83.4 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup> and 274.2 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>;

Specific heats of frozen and unfrozen beef are 2.11 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup> and 3.52 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup> respectively;

Thermal conductivity of frozen beef is 1.66 W m<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>.

$$\theta = \frac{\Delta H_{10}}{T_f - T_m} \left[ \frac{PD}{h} + \frac{RD^2}{k_s} \right]$$

Bi = hD / k; Pk = C<sub>1</sub> (T<sub>i</sub> - T<sub>f</sub>) / ΔH; Ste = C<sub>s</sub> (T<sub>f</sub> - T<sub>m</sub>) / ΔH

P = 0.5072 + 0.2018 Pk + Ste (0.3224 Pk + 0.0105/Bi + 0.0681)

R = 0.1684 + Ste (0.2740 Pk - 0.0135)

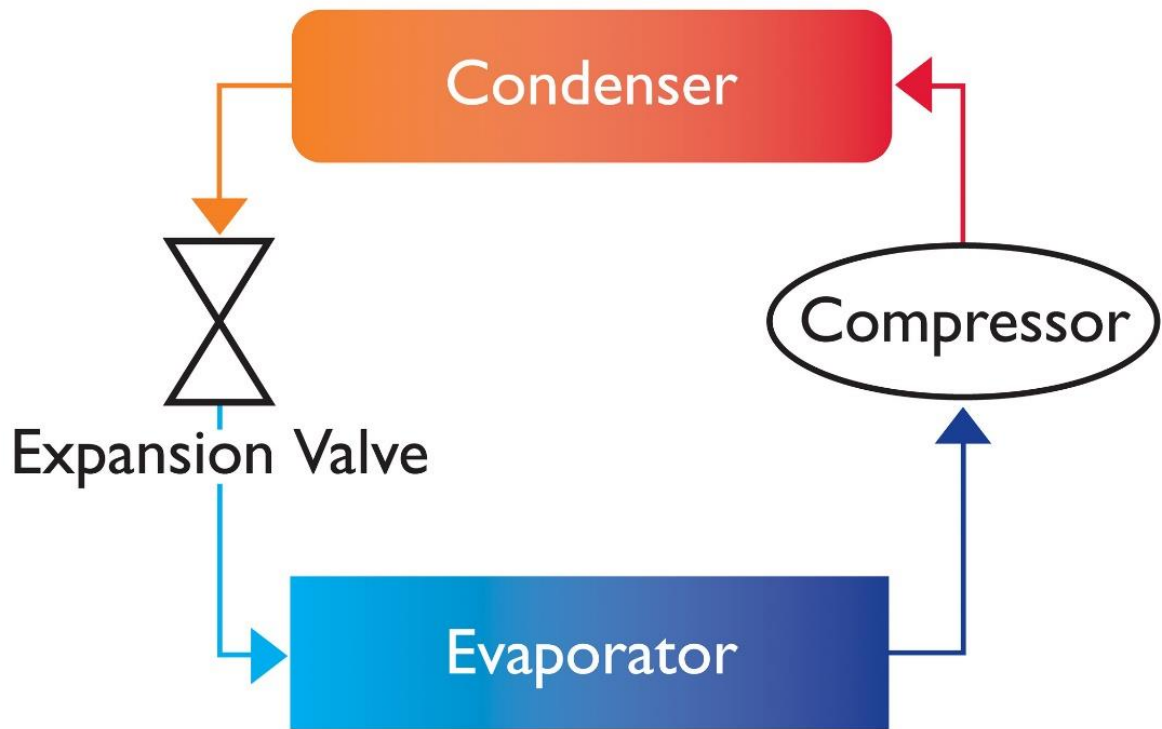


Figure 1. Mechanical vapour compression cycle.

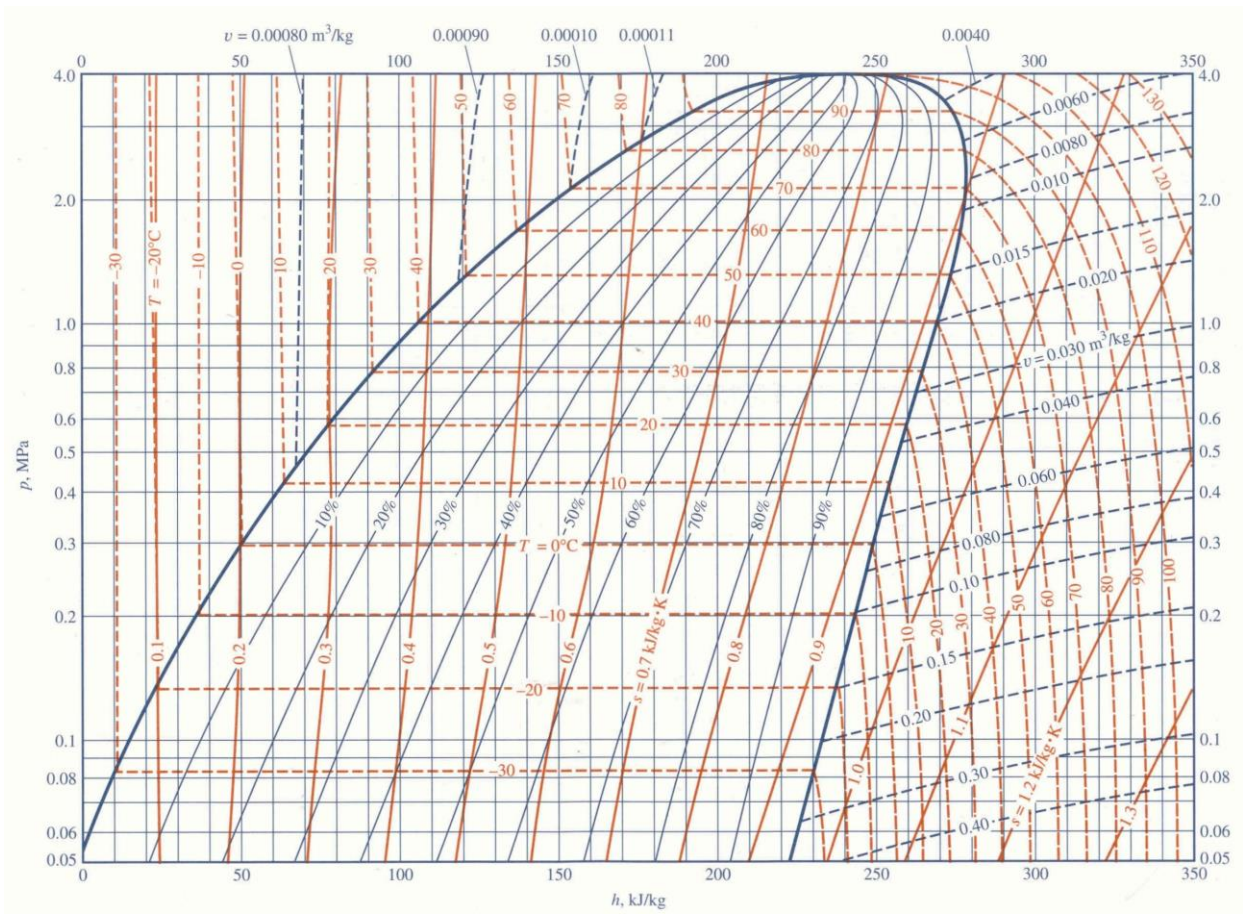


Figure 2. Pressure-enthalpy diagram for refrigerant 134a.