

The rate of solar heat absorbed by the absorber plate

$$\dot{Q}_{abs} = \tau \alpha A G_r \quad (G_r \text{ is the solar irradiation})$$

\swarrow transmissivity \searrow absorptivity

$$\dot{Q}_{loss} = UA (T_c - T_a)$$

\uparrow overall heat transfer coefficient \leftarrow average collector temperature

$$\dot{Q}_{useful} = \dot{Q}_{abs} - \dot{Q}_{loss}$$

$$= \tau \alpha A G_r - UA (T_c - T_a)$$

$$\eta_c = \frac{\dot{Q}_{useful}}{\dot{Q}_{incident}} = \frac{\tau \alpha A G_r - UA (T_c - T_a)}{A G_r} = \tau \alpha - U \frac{T_c - T_a}{G_r}$$

The collector efficiency may be defined as a function of water inlet temperature

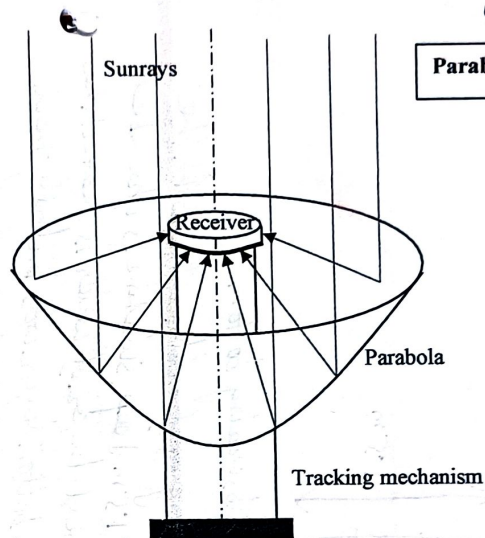
$$\eta_c = F_R \tau \alpha - F_R U \frac{T_{w,in} - T_a}{G_r}$$

F_R = collector heat removal factor

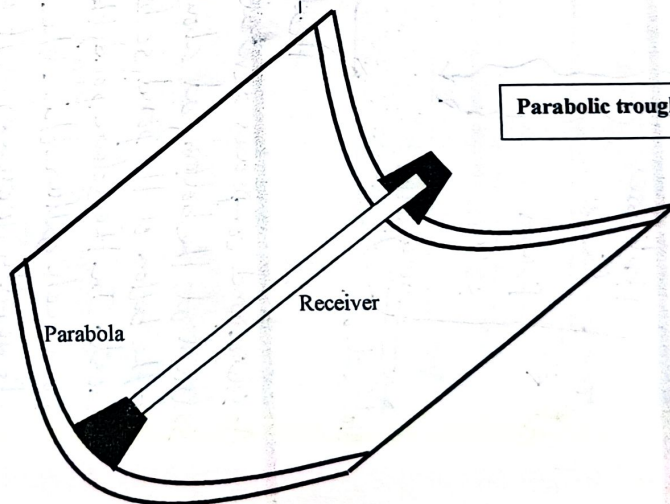
As the angle of solar incident radiation changes throughout the day, the product $\tau \alpha$ also changes.

This change can be accounted for by including incident angle modifier $K_{\tau \alpha}$

$$\eta_c = F_R K_{\tau \alpha} \tau \alpha - F_R U \frac{T_{w,in} - T_a}{G_r}$$

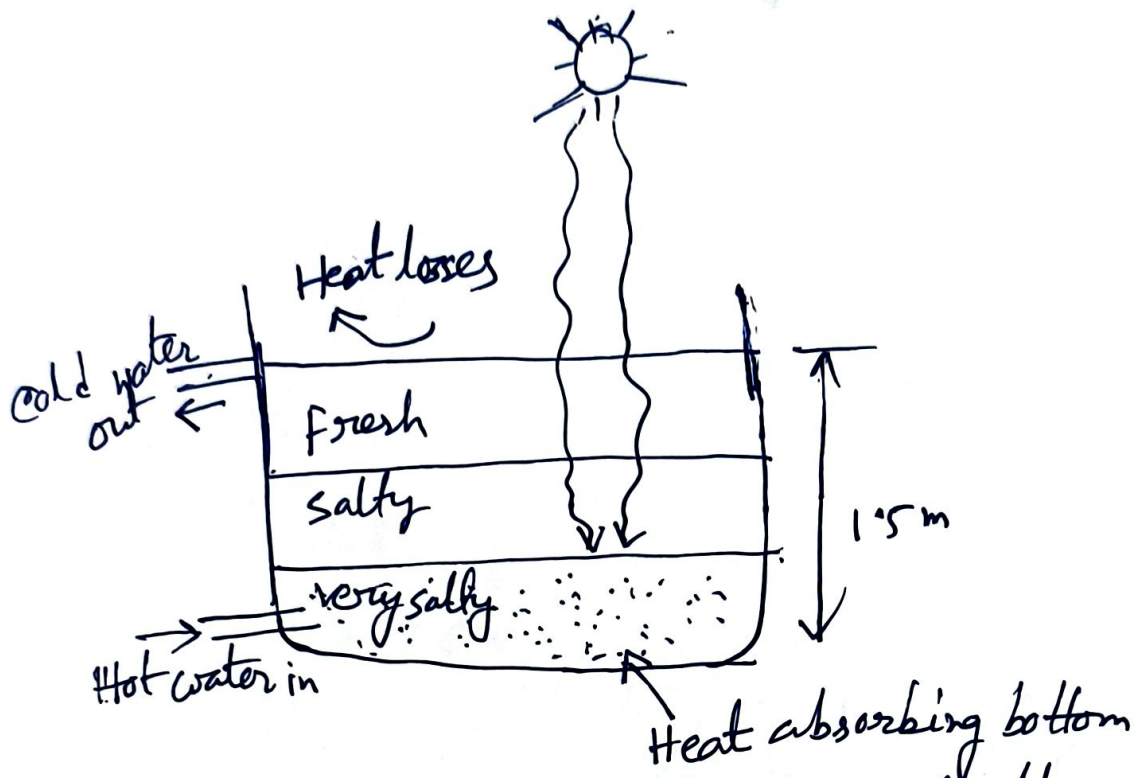


Parabolic dish collector

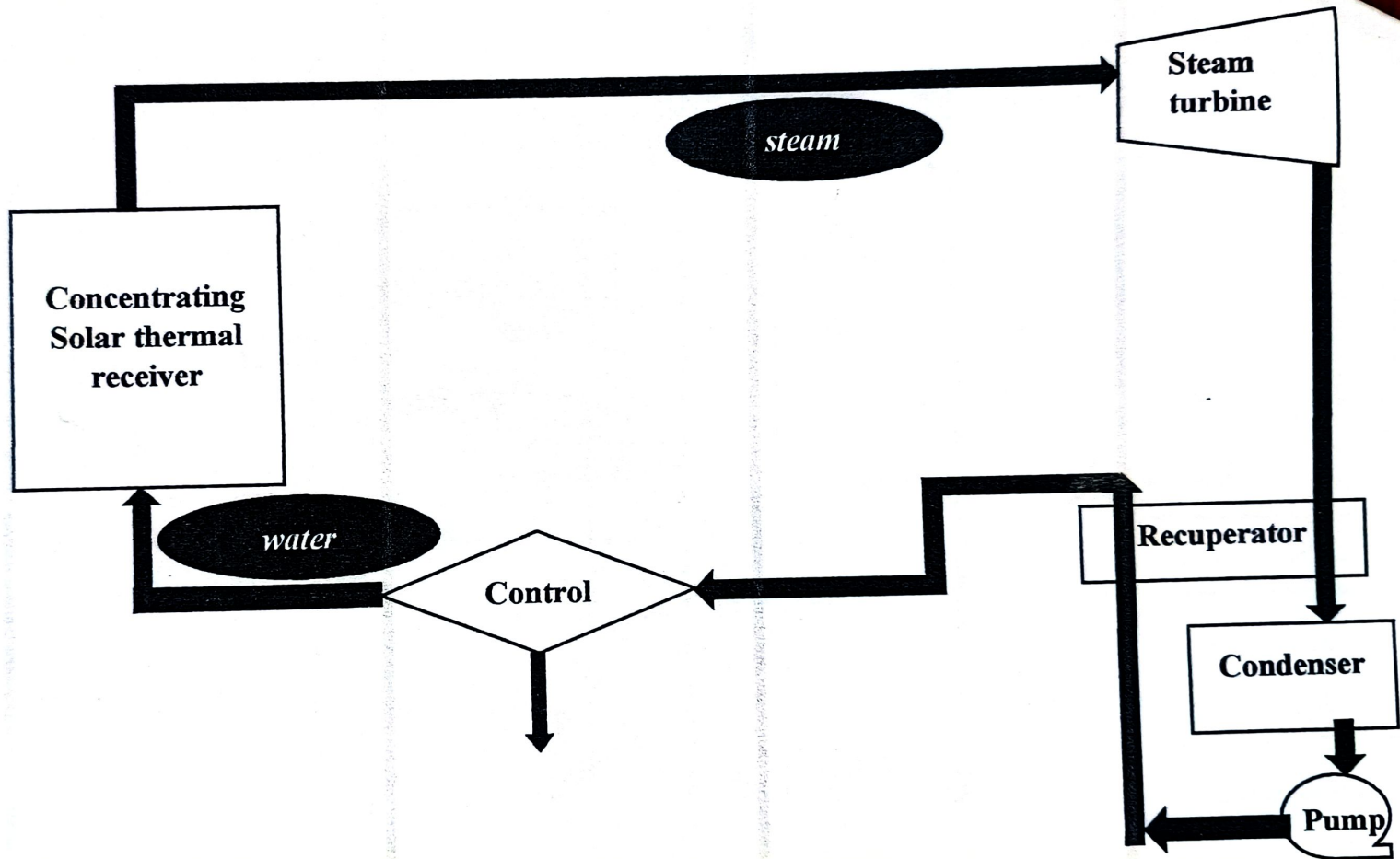


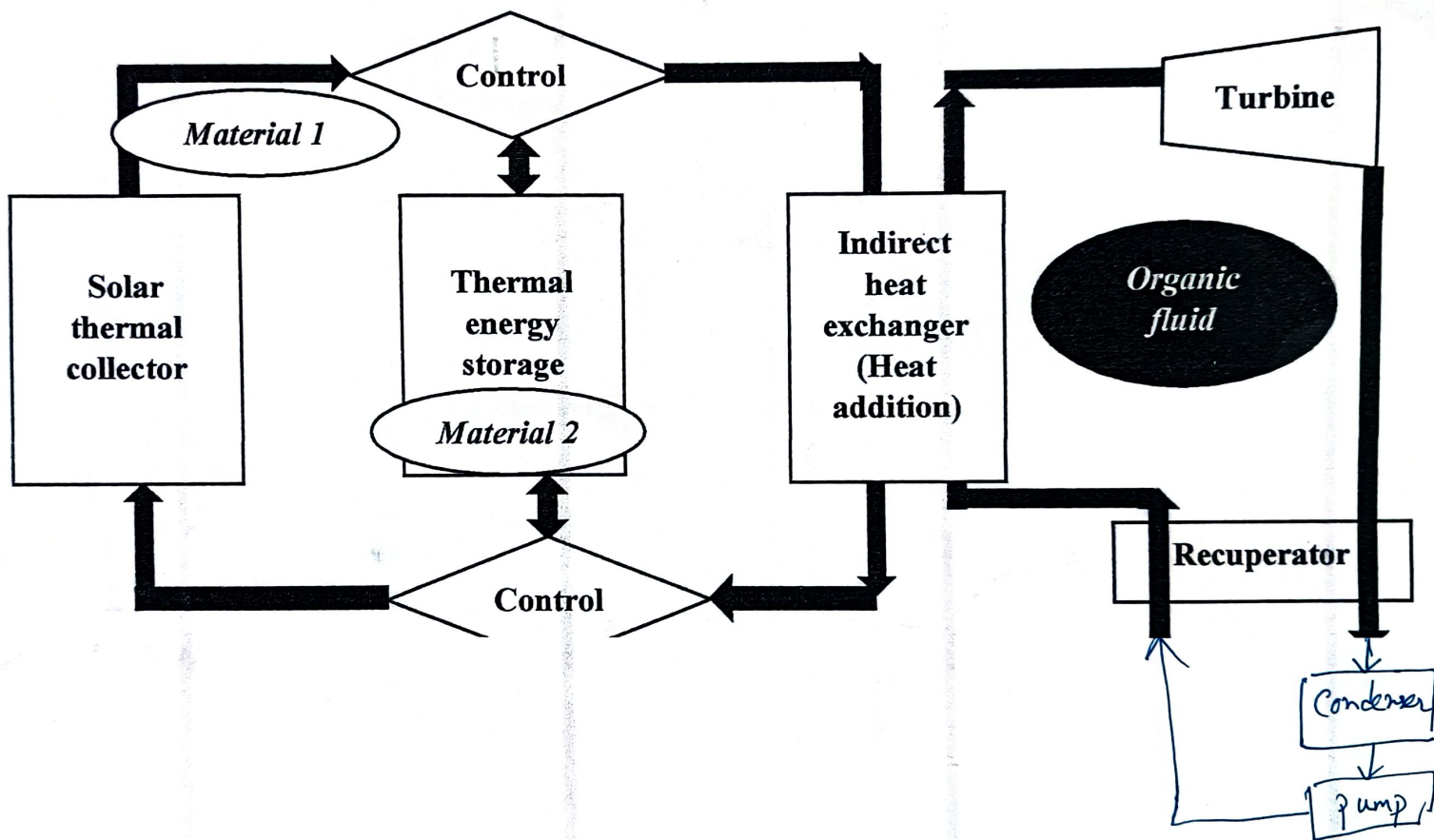
Parabolic trough collector

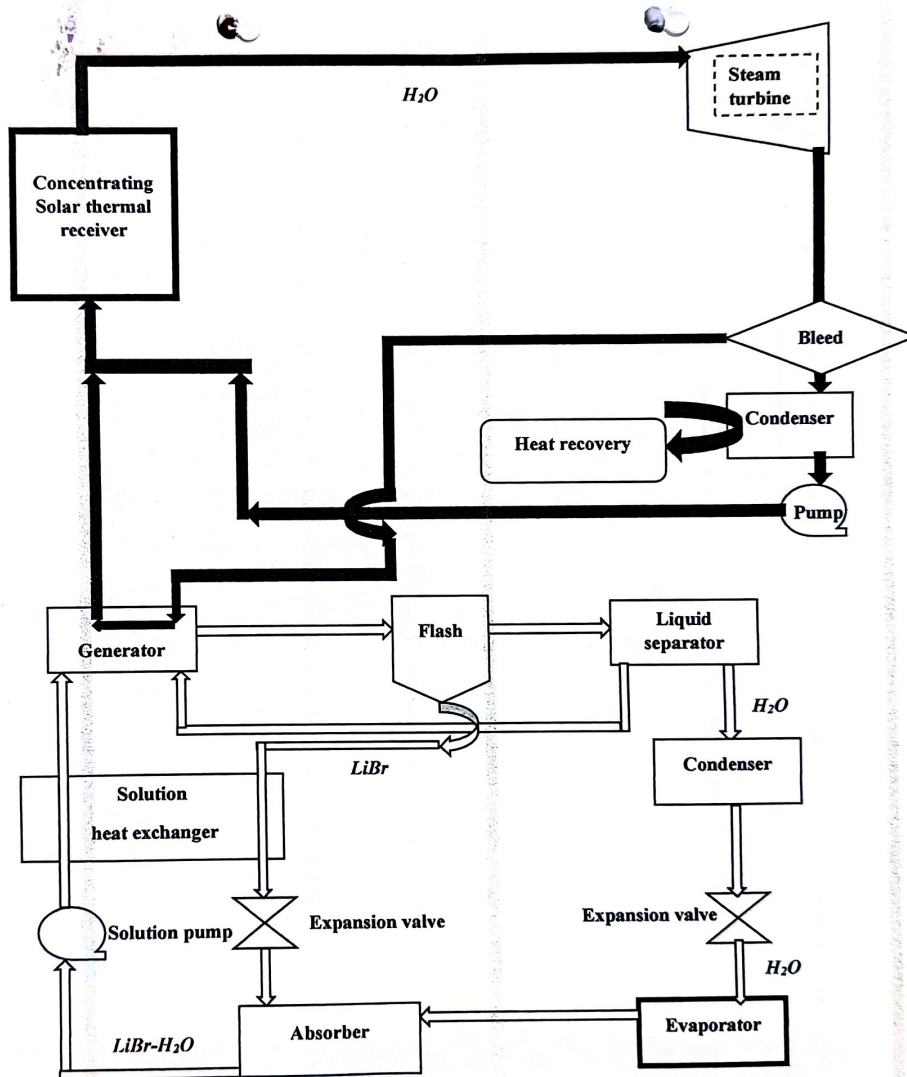
Solar Pond

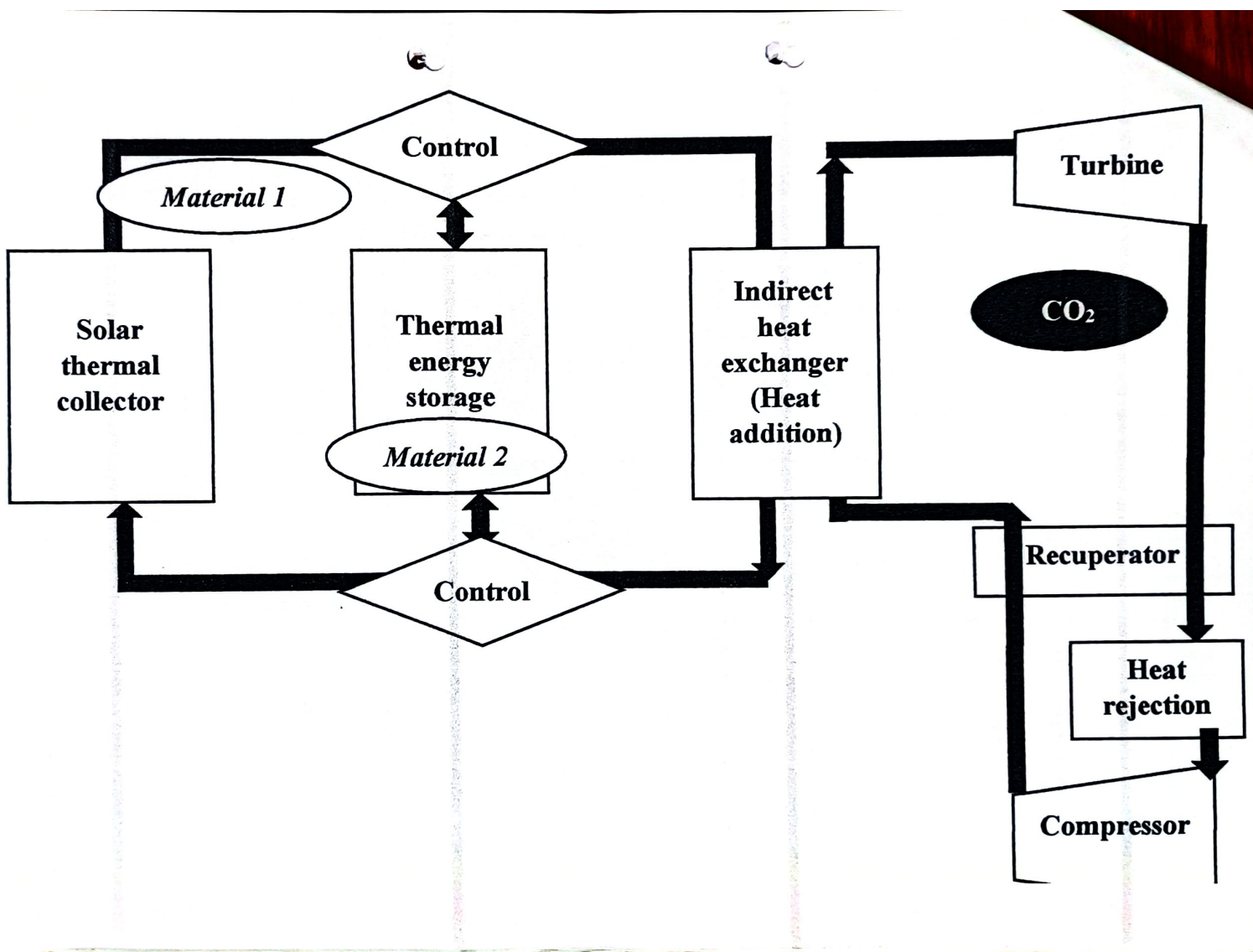


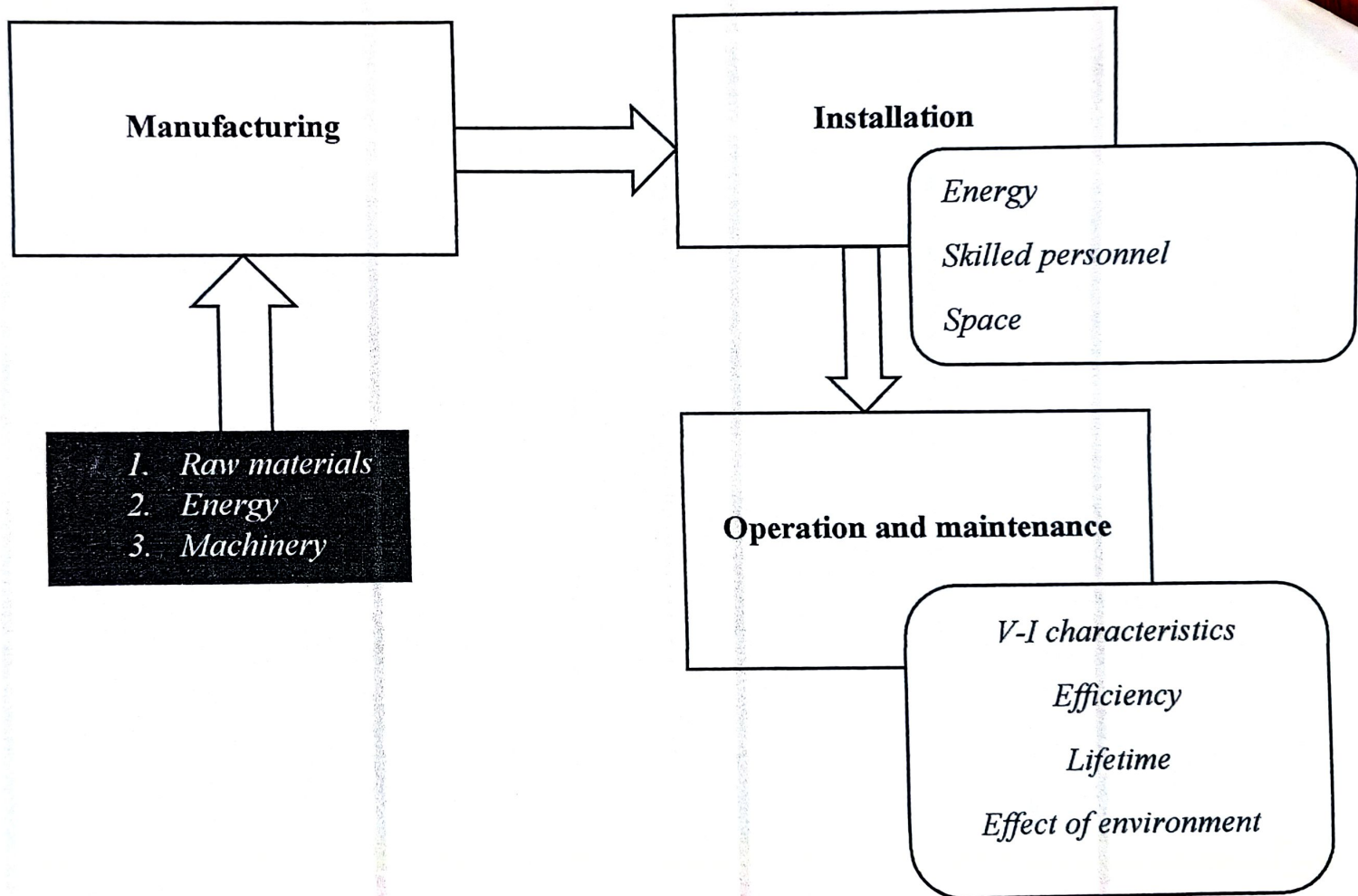
A solar pond comprises several layers of salty water, with the saltiest at the bottom, at about 1.5 m deep. Sunshine is absorbed at the bottom of the pond, so lowest layer of water is heated the most. In the solar pond, the bottom layer was initially made so much saltier than the one above that, even though its density decreases as it warms, it still remains denser than the layer above. Thus convection is suppressed, and the bottom layer remains at the bottom getting hotter and hotter.



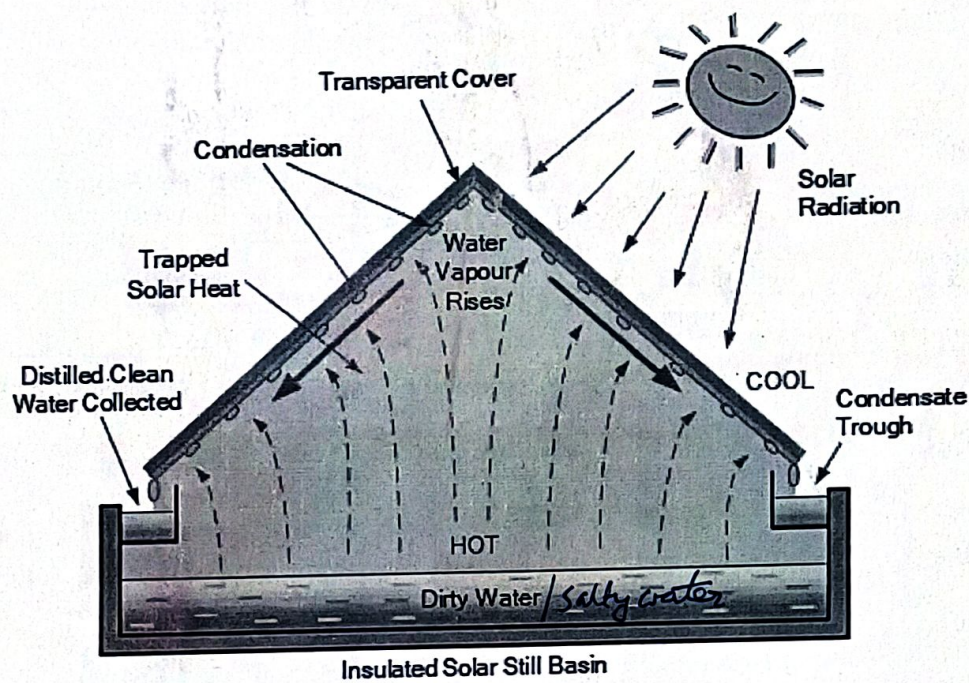


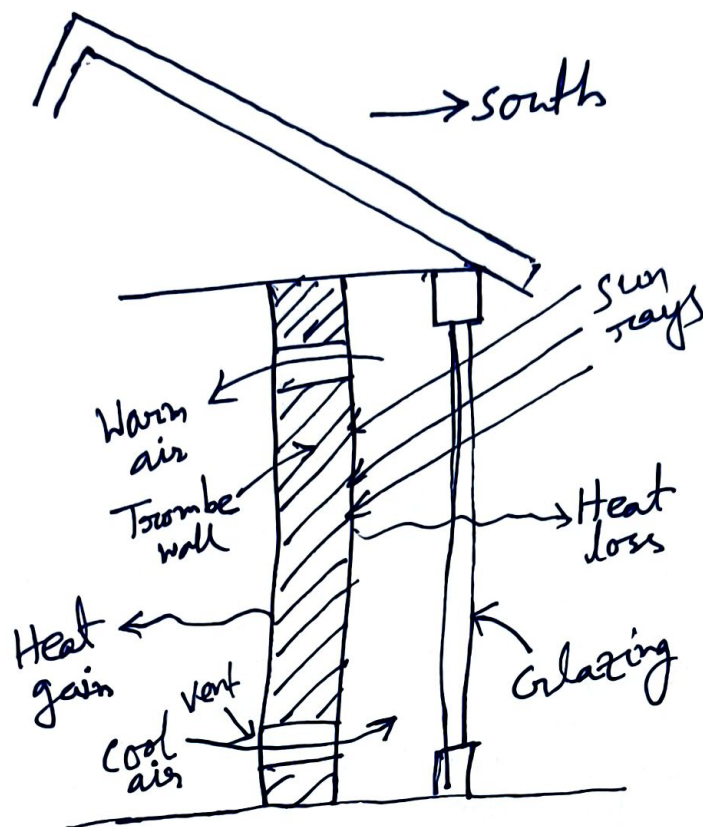




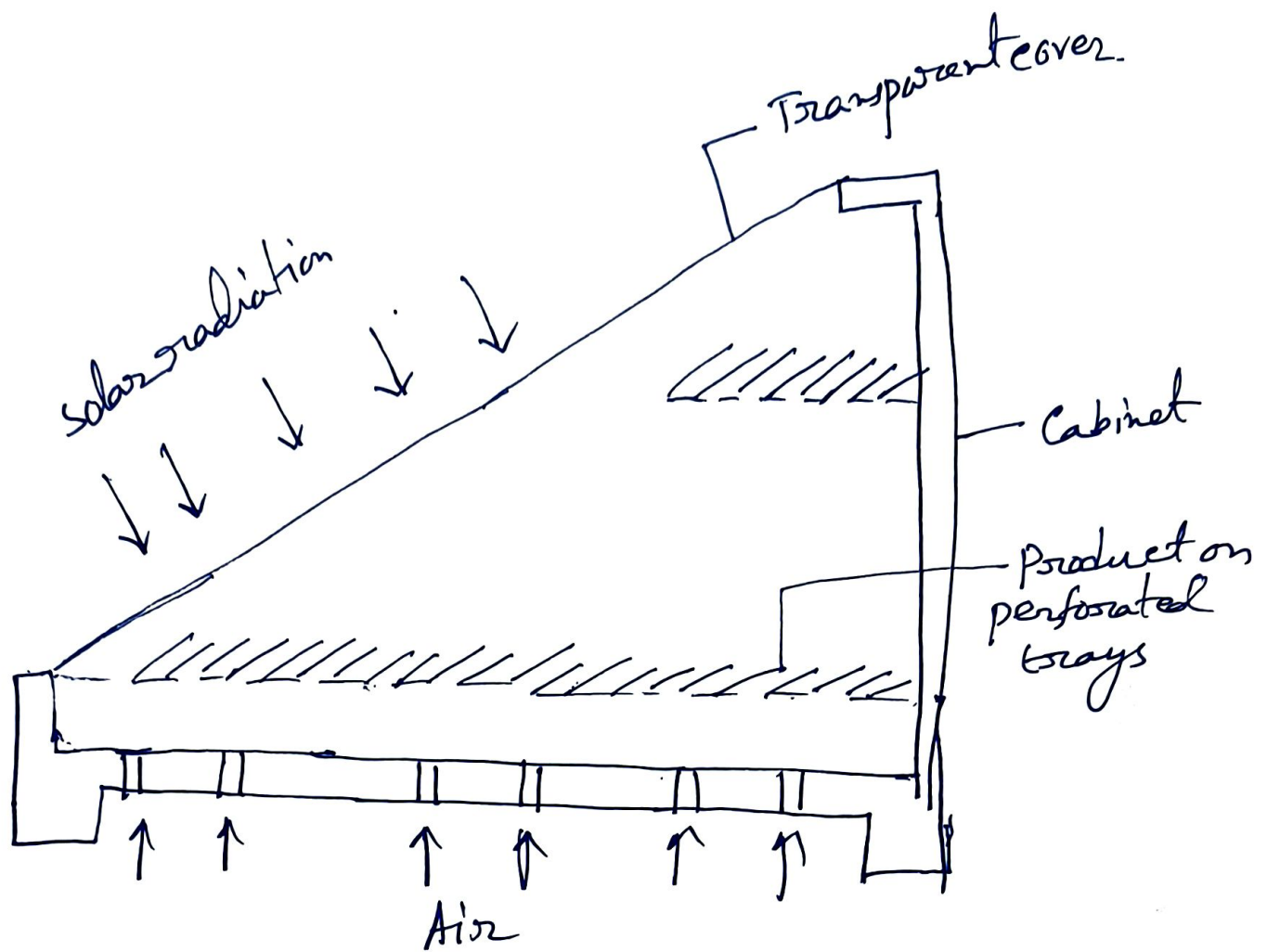


Solar Still





Dark-painted thick masonry wall called trombe walls as commonly used on south sides of passive solar homes to absorb solar energy, store it during the day, and release it to the house during the night. Usually a single or double layer of glazing is placed outside the wall and transmit most of the solar energy while blocking heat losses from the exposed surface of the wall to the outside. Air vents installed at the bottom and top of the trombe walls so that the house air enters the parallel flow channel between the trombe wall and glazing, rises as it is heated, and enters the room through the top vent.



Temperature ranging from 50 to 80°C

Drying time ranges from 2 to 4 days

Typical products which can be dried in such devices are dates, apricots, chillies, grapes, etc.