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## arsenal research

**ARSENAL RESEARCH- the Austrian Centre for Research and Testing** is a research centre owned by the Republic of Austria. With its about 220 employees in 4 specialised divisions Arsenal Research takes an interdisciplinary approach to projects on energy, environmental protection, construction engineering, traffic engineering and microelectronics.

The Department of Renewable Energies has been working in the fields of solar thermal energy for more than 20 years. Closely Connected to these working fields are air-conditioning, building technology and space heating, as well as photovoltaics.

ARSENAL is the only institution for testing and certification of solar thermal applications according to national Standards. Beside testing, Arsenal gives support to the industry during the developing process of solar collectors and components. Projects concerning dissemination of solar energy are also content of the work. Arsenal is also accredited for calibration of electrical quantities, pressure and temperature.

## Symbols and Units

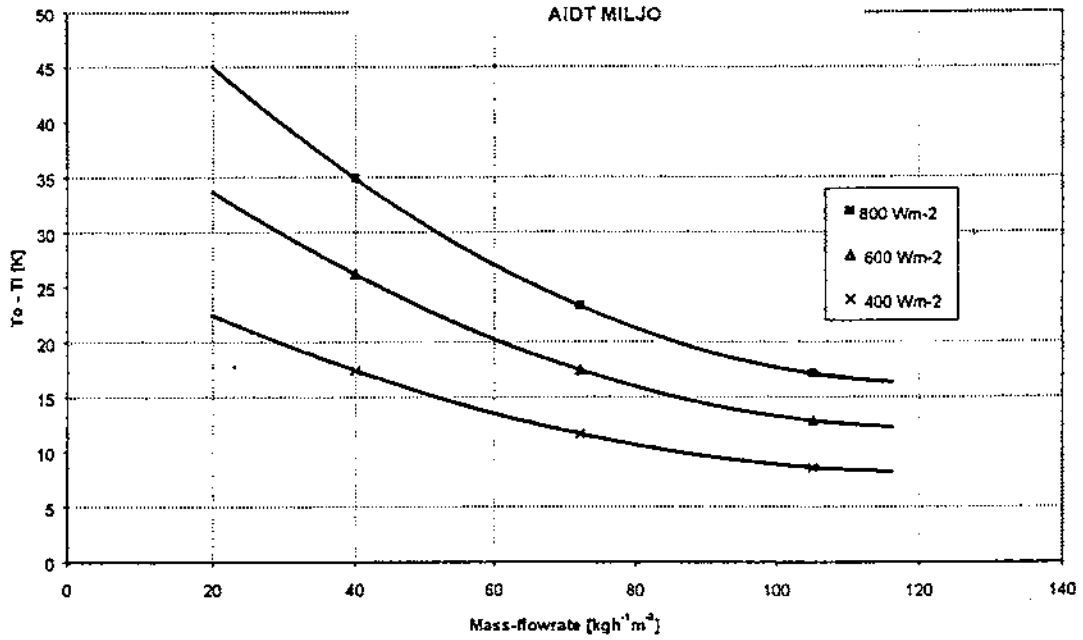
$A_c$	Collector reference area (normally: aperture area) [ $m^2$ ]
$C_p$	Specific heat [ $Jkg^{-1}K^{-1}$ ]
Eta, $\eta$	Efficiency
$G_T$	Global solar irradiance on tilted surface (further on only G) [ $Wm^{-2}$ ]
G	Global solar irradiance [ $Wm^{-2}$ ]
K	Kelvin
$\dot{m}$	Mass flow rate [ $kg h^{-1}$ ]
$Q_{sol}$	Solar performance of the sun at the collector reference area [W]
$Q_u$	Useful gain of the collector [W]
$T_a$	Ambient temperature [ $^{\circ}C$ ]
$T_{am}$	Measured absorber temperature [ $^{\circ}C$ ]
$T_i$	Inlet temperature [ $^{\circ}C$ ]
$T_k$	Collector temperature (physical collector-mean-temperatur) [ $^{\circ}C$ ]
$T_m$	Mean Collector temperature (arithmetic mean value between inlet and outlet temperature) [ $^{\circ}C$ ]
$T_o$	Outlet temperature [ $^{\circ}C$ ]
W	Watt
$\alpha$	solar absorptance
$\Delta T$	temperature difference $T_o - T_i$ [K]
$\epsilon$	hemispherical emittance
$\rho$	density of heat transfer fluid air [ $kgm^{-3}$ ]
$\tau$	transmittance
$\xi$	airflow-resistance

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### Temperature-rise vs. Mass-flowrate

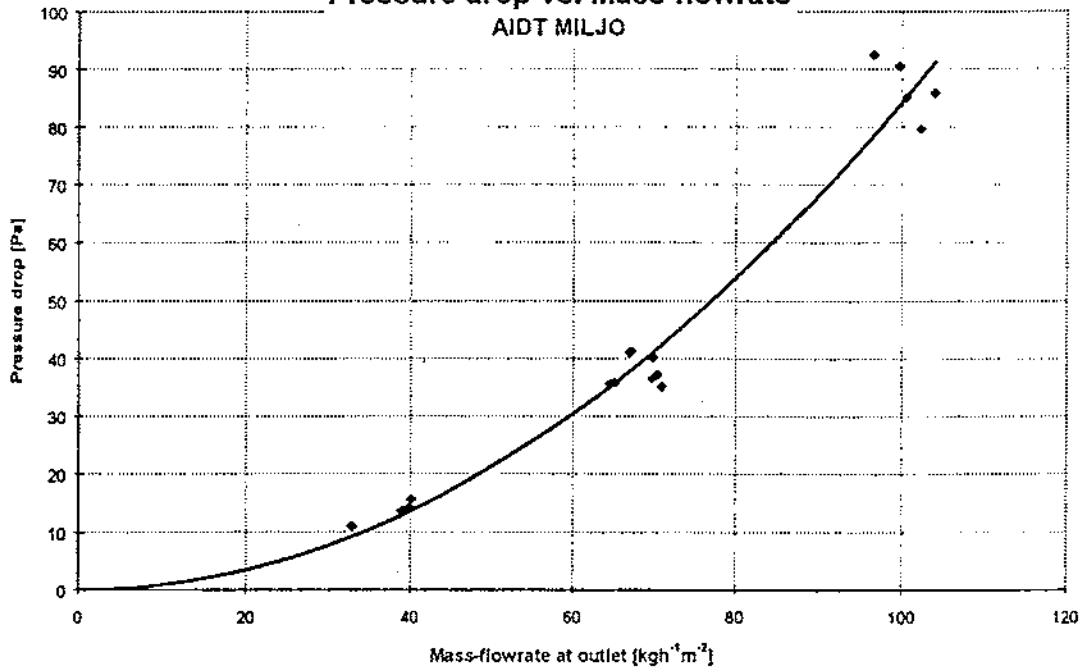
for  $T_o = T_a$ , Surrounding air speed  $3\text{ms}^{-1}$

AIDT MILJO



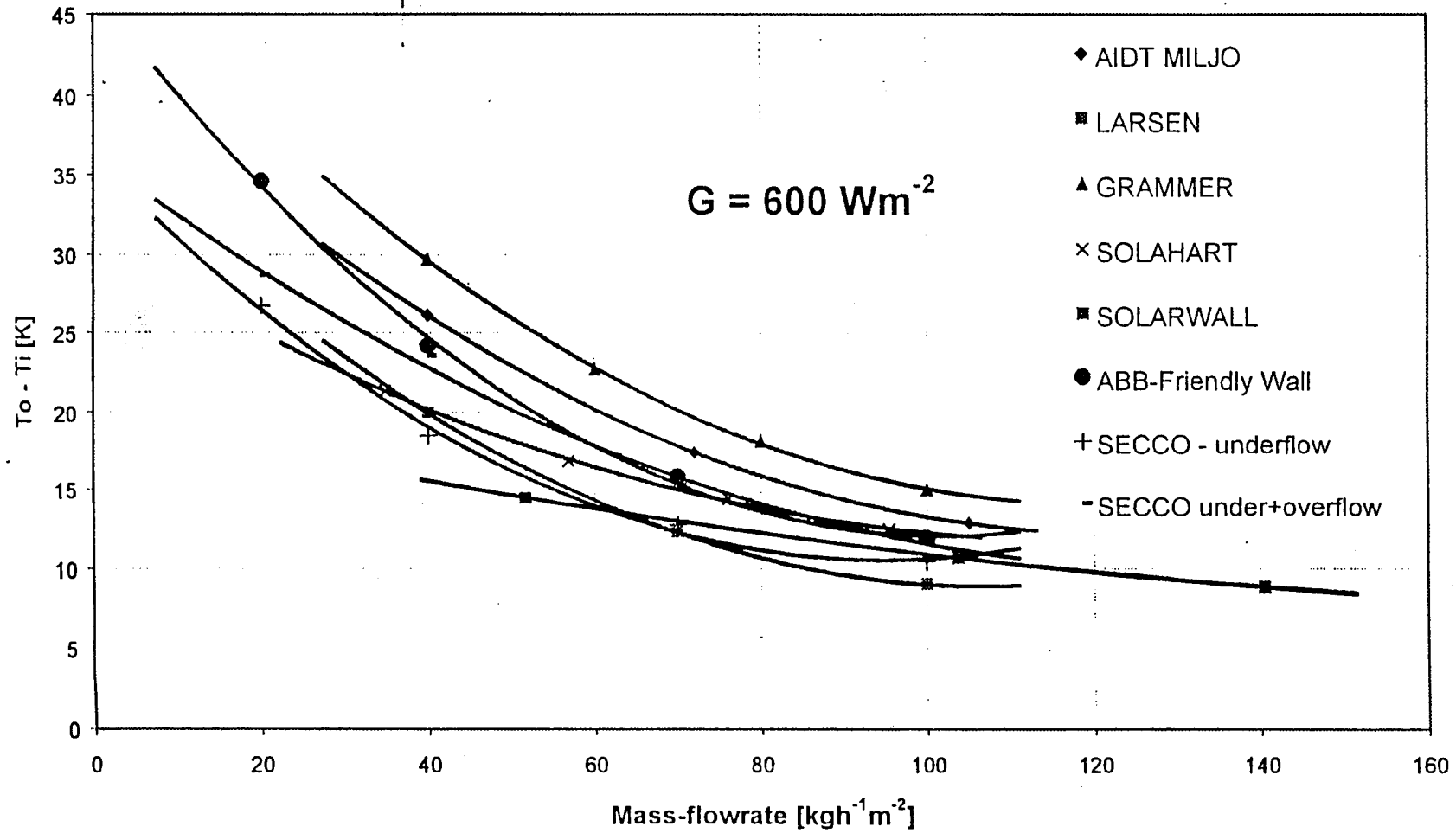
### Pressure drop vs. Mass-flowrate

AIDT MILJO

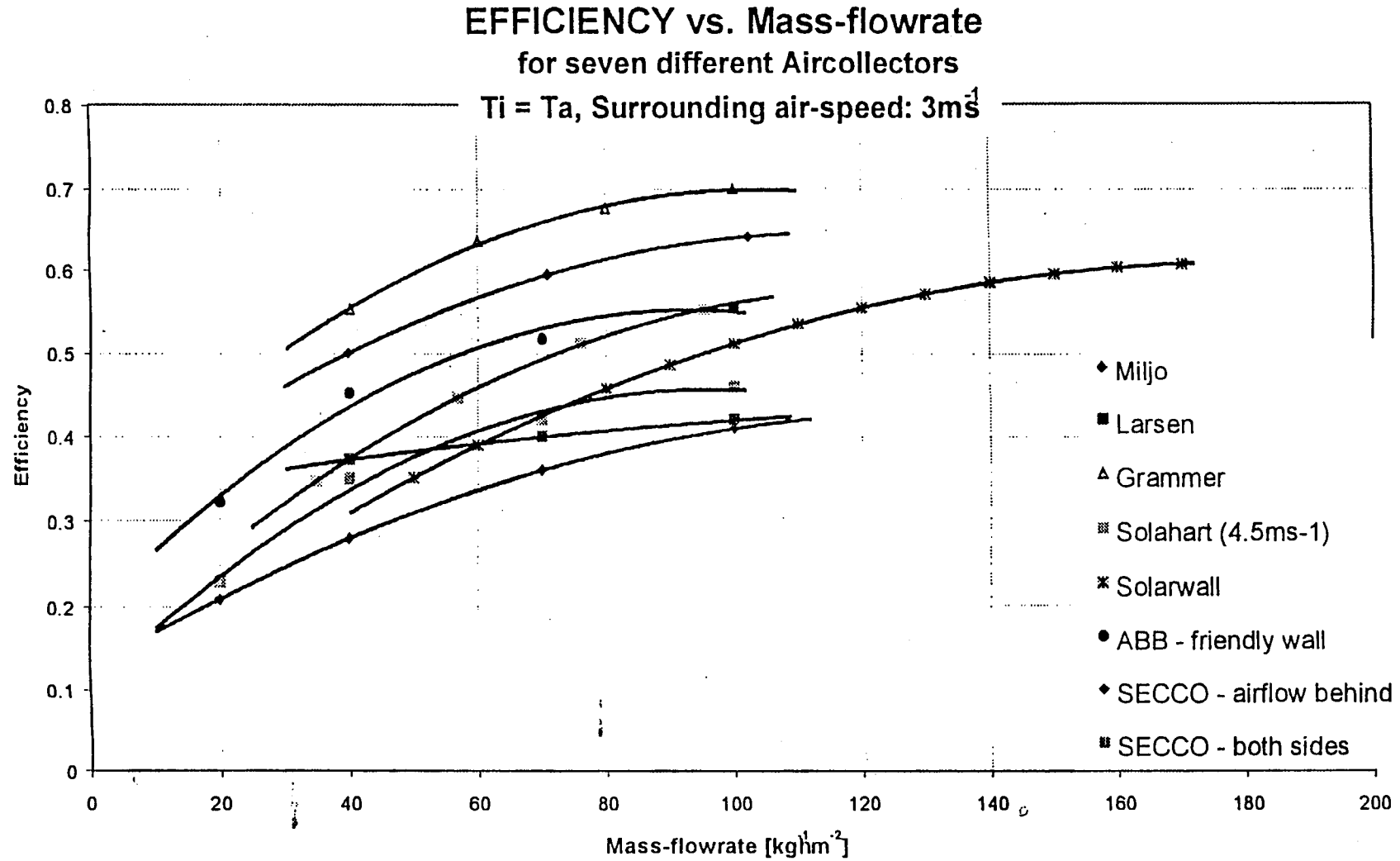


# Temperature-rise vs. Mass-flowrate

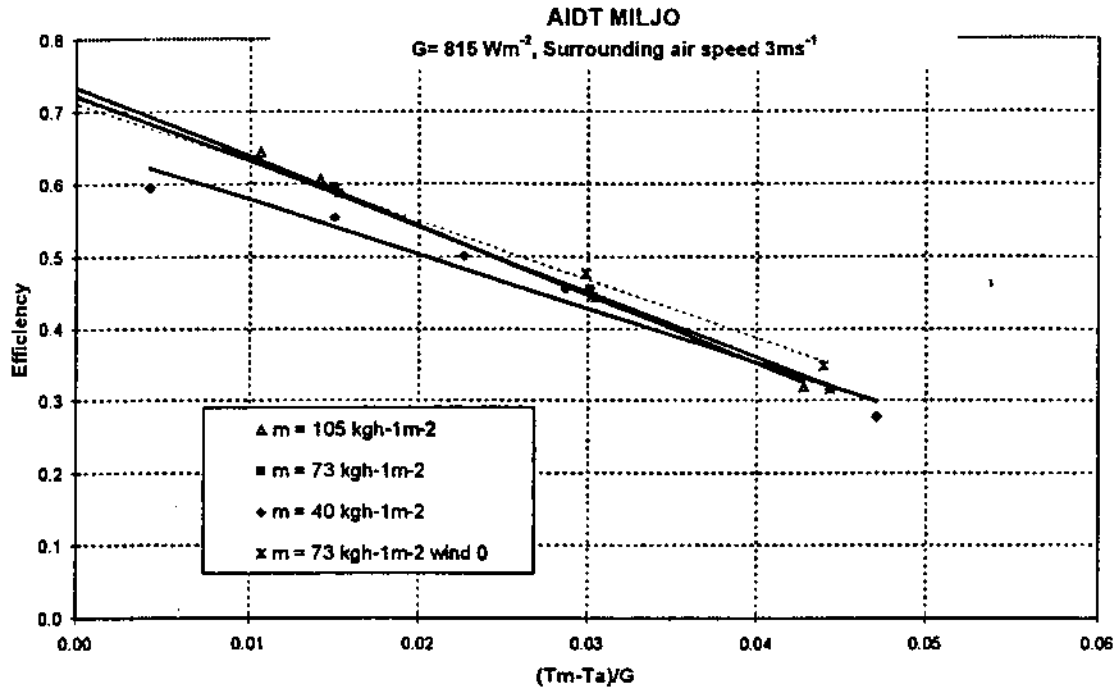
Surrounding air speed  $3\text{ms}^{-1}$



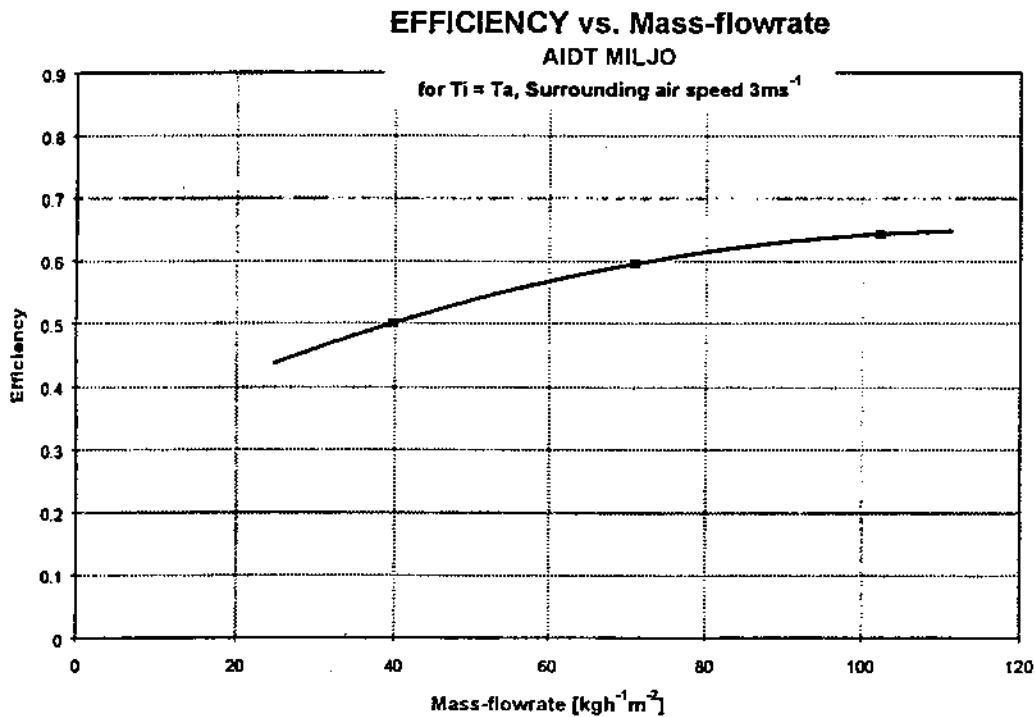
Common presentation of the efficiency curves for all tested collectors:



### EFFICIENCY rel. to Mean-collector-temperature



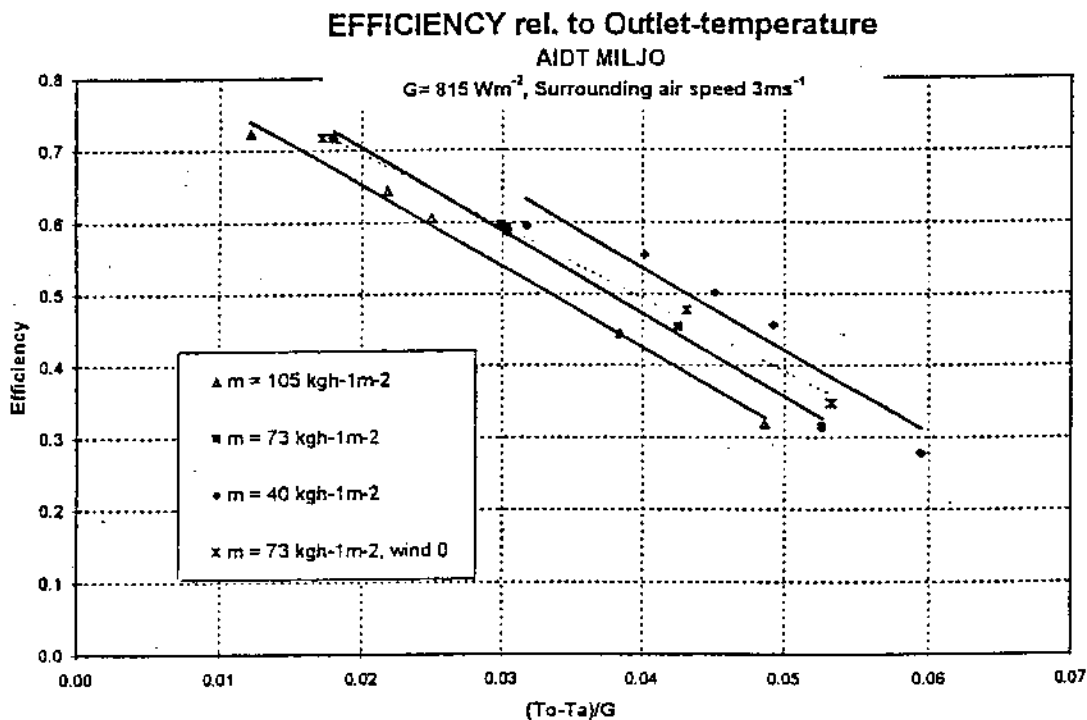
This collector is usually operating with  $T_i = T_a$ , therefore the following presentation is important as well:



# AIDT MILJØ

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- Reference area:  $1.24\text{m}^2$  (gross dimensions:  $1986\text{mm} \times 720\text{mm}$ )
- Air-flow: penetrating through a black porous felt absorbing mat
- Glazing: 6mm channelled sheet made of polycarbonate
- Casing: Aluminium
- Absorber: black porous felt absorbing mat
- Insulation: 30 mm mineral wool
- Tilt angle for testing:  $45^\circ$
- Tested at mass flowrates:  $40, 73, 105\text{ kgh}^{-1}\text{m}^{-2}$  ( $50, 90, 130\text{ kgh}^{-1}$ )



**Note:** At this diagramm, you can see as mentioned in chapter 3, that due to the penetration of the air through the black porous absorber felt, very high heat transfer rates are obtained. Therefore in this case the presentation of the efficiency curve using the arithmetic mean temperature between inlet and outlet would be better suited.