

The absorber or receiver (flat plate or parabolic) must have high absorptance in the wavelength range below 2 micron, as the main solar spectrum is in this range.

**Collector Power Output:** We combine the following terms and substitute,  $Q_{\text{conv}} + Q_{\text{rad}} = Q_{\text{RC}}$   $Q_{\text{ref}} = \tau \rho E A_c$   $[Q_{\text{out}} = \tau E A_c (1 - \rho) - Q_{\text{RC}}]$  For absorber,  $\alpha = 1 - \rho$  So,  $Q_{\text{out}} = \tau \alpha E A_c - Q_{\text{RC}}$   $Q_{\text{RC}} = \eta_o E A_c - Q_{\text{RC}}$  where the product of transmittance and absorptance is replaced as the Optical Efficiency of the absorber or collector. Power output  $Q_{\text{out}} = \tau E A_c - Q_{\text{ref}} - Q_{\text{conv}} - Q_{\text{rad}}$  is reduced by losses due to reflection, convection and radiation.  $\dot{m} = \eta_o E A_c - a_1(T_c - T_a) - a_2(T_c - T_a)^2 / C_p(T_{\text{out}} - T_{\text{in}})$  This is the mass flow rate rewritten as a area flux, measured in kg/m<sup>2</sup> hr.

**Collector Performance:** The collector converts solar irradiance, E, to .absorber surface ( A<sub>c</sub> ) heat