CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

An air conditioner, comprising

a refrigerant circuit in which a compressor, an outdoor heat exchanger, an expansion valve, and an indoor heat exchanger are connected to one another; and

an evaporation temperature detecting means for detecting an evaporation temperature, wherein

in a predetermined dehumidification operation mode, the indoor heat exchanger includes: an evaporation region where a liquid refrigerant evaporates; and a superheat region downstream of the evaporation region, and the compressor and the expansion valve are controlled so that an extent of the evaporation region varies depending on a load and so that the evaporation temperature detected by the evaporation temperature detecting means falls within a predetermined temperature range.

~~[Claim 2]~~

~~The air conditioner according to claim 1, further comprising an evaporation temperature detecting means for detecting an evaporation temperature, wherein~~

~~the compressor and the expansion valve are controlled based on the evaporation temperature.~~

~~[Claim 3]~~

~~The air conditioner according to claim 2, wherein~~

~~the compressor and the expansion valve are controlled so that the evaporation temperature falls within a predetermined temperature range.~~

[Claim 42]

The air conditioner according to claims ~~1 to 3~~, further comprising a superheat temperature detecting means for detecting a superheat temperature.

[Claim ~~5~~3]

The air conditioner according to claims ~~1 to~~ or 42, wherein the indoor heat exchanger includes: an auxiliary heat exchanger to which a liquid refrigerant is supplied in the predetermined dehumidification operation mode; and a main heat exchanger disposed downstream of the auxiliary heat exchanger in the predetermined dehumidification operation mode.

[Claim ~~6~~4]

The air conditioner according to claim ~~5~~3, wherein:

the main heat exchanger includes a front heat exchanger disposed on a front side in the indoor unit, and a rear heat exchanger disposed on a rear side in the indoor unit; and

the auxiliary heat exchanger is disposed forward of the front heat exchanger.

[Claim ~~7~~5]

The air conditioner according to claim ~~6~~3, wherein

the number of rows of tubes functioning as the evaporation region in the auxiliary heat exchanger in the predetermined

dehumidification operation mode is not less than a half of the total number of rows of tubes of the front heat exchanger.

[Claim ~~6~~6]

The air conditioner according to any one of claims 1 to ~~7~~5, further comprising:

an indoor fan configured to supply air flow to the indoor heat exchanger; and

a changing means for changing the number of revolution of the indoor fan.