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Numerical investigation on optimal number of longitudinal fins in horizontal annular

phase change unit at different wall temperatures

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Highlights

- The fin number has an optimal value for a specific boundary temperature.
- The heat transfer enhancement is more effective under a lower wall temperature.
- Number of fins beyond a value result in the decrease of heat transfer rate.
- The optimal number of fins is 10 in this study.

Abstract: The number, shape, and size of the fins utilized in a phase change unit form the key parameters affecting the heat transfer process in the unit. To the best of our knowledge, there are no relevant literature reports on the optimal number of fins in a horizontal annular phase change unit for different wall temperatures. To investigate the correlation between the number of fins and the wall temperature, in this study, based on a numerical simulation using the enthalpy-porosity model, we examine the phase-change material (PCM) melt with different numbers of installed fins (n = 4, 6, 8, 10, 12) at five different constant wall temperatures. The

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