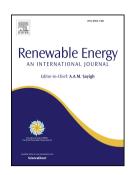
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## Melting Enhancement of a Latent Heat Storage with Dispersed Cu, CuO and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Nanoparticles for Solar Thermal Application

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## 11 Abstract

The performance of all latent heat storage system depends on the quality of phase change 12 material used. In the present study, paraffin-based nanofluid dispersed with 5% of Cu, 5% of 13 14 CuO and 5% of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles are used to investigate its effect on the storage characteristics. A 3-D numerical model of a shell and tube regenerative type latent heat storage is 15 developed using @COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3a to predict the average temperature and melt 16 fraction of paraffin-based nanofluid. The validation with the established pieces of literature and 17 experiments indicated a sound agreement. The effect of adding nanoparticles on melting/ 18 solidification rate and energy storing/ releasing rate are also studied. The result revealed that 19 20 addition of 5% of Cu, 5% of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and 5% of CuO nanoparticles improved the melting rate by 10 times, 3.46 times and 2.25 times and the discharged rate by 8 times, 3 times and 1.7 times, 21 respectively compared to the pure paraffin filled latent heat storage system. However, it 22 decreased the specific heat and heat of fusion which reduced the sensible and latent heat storing 23 capacity. Additionally, orientations of cylinder and tube arrangement are also studied 24 numerically using paraffin as phase change material. 25

26 Keywords: Paraffin; Nanofluid; Average temperature; Melt fraction; Solidification

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