

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S1359-4311(16)30325-8

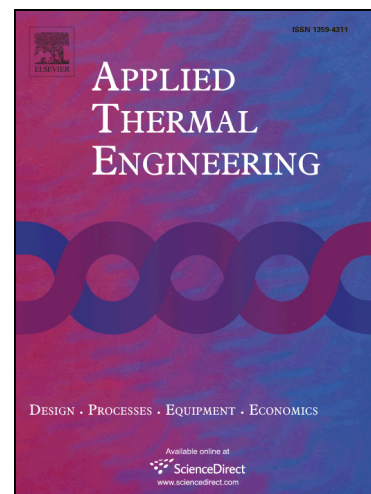
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.03.033>

Reference: ATE 7901

To appear in: *Applied Thermal Engineering*

Received Date: 23 October 2015

Accepted Date: 5 March 2016



Please cite this article as: H. Wang, Y-w. Liu, P. Yang, R-j. Wu, Y-l. He, Parametric study and optimization of H-type finned tube heat exchangers using Taguchi method, *Applied Thermal Engineering* (2016), doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.03.033>

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Parametric study and optimization of H-type finned tube heat exchangers using Taguchi method

Heng Wang, Ying-wen Liu*, Peng Yang, Ren-jie Wu, Ya-ling He

Key Laboratory of Thermo-Fluid Science and Engineering of MOE, School of Energy and Power Engineering, Xi'an

Jiaotong University, Xi'an, shaanxi 710049, P R China

Abstract

In this paper, a three-dimensional numerical model of H-type finned tube heat exchangers has been built. In order to optimize its structure and improve its performance, Taguchi method is applied to investigate the influence of seven geometric parameters including slit width, row number, fin height, spanwise tube pitch, longitudinal tube pitch, fin thickness and fin pitch. Numerical simulations are performed on eighteen cases with different combinations of seven geometric parameters and the overall thermal-hydraulic performance and its characteristics of heat transfer and flow friction are discussed in detail. The results show that fin pitch and fin height play a significant role on the heat transfer characteristics while the flow friction characteristics are mainly affected by fin height, spanwise tube pitch and fin pitch. The intuitive analysis and analysis of variance show that fin pitch, fin height and fin thickness have much stronger influence on its overall thermal-hydraulic performance than the rest four parameters. Finally, the optimal parametric combination of the H-type finned tube is obtained with an improvement of overall thermal-hydraulic performance by 11.4% to 16% for Re in range from 9000 to 24000.

Keywords: H-type finned tube, Taguchi method, numerical optimization, thermal-hydraulic performance

*Corresponding author. Tel.: (86)13087588436
Email address: ywliu@mail.xjtu.edu.cn

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