

Thermal Performance of Fined Plate Mini-Channel Heat Sink

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Abstract: This paper presents fined plate minichannel heat sink numerically under forced convection. Two geometries, flat plate and fined plat heat sinks have been drawn by solidworks, then imported to Starccm+ for simulation. The plate was 45 mm width and 55mm length and the fined heat sink has fins with 3 mm height and 1 mm thickness. Source load 325 W at the bottom of heat sink ad different volumetric flow rate 0.5, 0.75 and 1 liter per minute are used to simulate the microprocessor. The results have shown that fins heat sink has more heat transfer rate, 194.3 watts at 1liter per minute. Moreover, thermal resistance and base temperature reduced 58 % and 30.7 % compared to flat plate respectively. The results have shown excellent agreement with published experiments.

Keywords: mini-channel heat sink, flat plate, fined plate heat sink.

I. Introduction

Fins used widely to conduct heat generated at the surface, fluid, air or liquid pass through fins to remove heat easily. Fins heat sinks are applied to electronics and gas engines cooling. Researchers studied the height, thickness and shape and size of the fined plate heat sink. Kim et al [1] presented a vertical plate-fin heat sinks under natural convection in a fully-developed-flow regime. Lin et al [2] used vertical planar fin array in conventional heat sinks for CPU cooling experimentally. They utilized an oblique planar fins heat sink to improve the overall performance of the heat sink. Wang et al [3] proposed a novel cannelure fin structure under cross flow condition air-cooled heat sink. Pang [4] designed a hybrid PV/TE system integrating a thermoelectric (TE), photovoltaic (PV) to evaluate the thermal behaviors and the cooling performance. Yi Li et al [5] assessed the performance of plate-fin heat sinks in a cross flow. Shen et al [6] carried out experimental and numerical study of the orientation effects on the fluid flow and heat transfer of rectangular fin heat sinks under natural convection conditions. Jang et al [7] examined the orientation effect for a cylindrical heat sink used to cool an LED light bulb numerically. Kwon Kim [8] studied thermal performance of a vertical plate-fin heat sink under natural convection. It was optimized for the case in which the fin thickness varied in the direction normal to the fluid flow. Sohel et al [9] experimentally investigated the thermal performances of a mini-channel heat sink for cooling of electronics using nanofluid coolant instead of pure water. Ho et al [10] worked, experimental to explore the forced convective heat transfer performance of using Al₂O₃/water nano-fluid to replace the pure water as the coolant in a copper mini-channel heat sink. Hashemi et al [11] reported numerical solution and analytical solution for fully developed velocity profile in a miniature plate fin heat sink with SiO₂-water nano-fluid as coolant. [12] Used a base fluid made of 75% water and 25% of ethylene glycol. TiO₂, SiO₂ and Al₂O₃ nanoparticles with different volume loading in the base fluid was tested to achieve the lowest operating temperature of a quad-core processor. SaadAyubJajja et al [13] investigated five different heat sinks with fin spacing's of 0.2 mm, 0.5 mm, 1.0 mm, and 1.5 mm along with a flat plate heat sink. The base temperature and thermal resistance of the heat sinks were found to drop by decreasing the fin spacing and by increasing volumetric flow rate of water. More temperature drops to 40.5 C at spacing 0.2mm, volumetric flow rate equal 1 LPM.

This article carried out a numerical study on flat plate and fined plate mini-channel heat sinks under forced convection. As the fins have been found very important for the heat sink [1], the particular focus of this study was the influence of heat sink fins on heat transfer and thermal resistance of fined heat sinks. Thermal performance of fined heat sinks was compared with flat plate under a given flow rate and heat source load conditions. Reynolds number ranges from 400 to 2000. Based on computational results, different physical flow phenomena in flat plate and finned plat heat sink were shown, and local temperature distributions were discussed in detail to explain the overall heat transfer behavior. Finally, the influence fins heat sink was

discussed. For validation the numerical results have been compared with and experimental done by AyubJajja et al [13].

II. Meshing study

To understand the sensitivity of the heat sink grid, four different grids, 38576 coarse grids cells, 446329 fine grids cells and 756549 and 1088726 very fine grids cells were used to check the stability of the grids. Best grids have been used within the heat sink in order to measure the fluid flow and heat transfer characteristics. Surface temperature has been used as measurement. Figure 1 shows the surface temperature with grid cells.

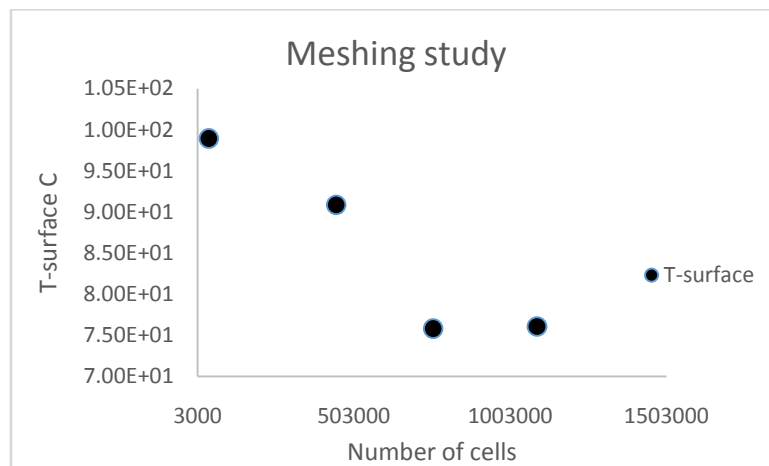


Figure 1: Meshing independence study

III. Geometry and physics model

Two geometries have been drawn using solidworks premium 2016 and the simulation has been performed using starccm+ 10.6. The heat source is assumed at the bottom of the mini-channel heat sink. 325 W power supplies were used with each heat sink configuration. The flat heat sink dimensions is 55mm width, 45 mm length and 3 mm height, the fins has 1 mm thickness, 55 mm length and 3 mm height. Figure 2 show the flat plate and fined plate mini-channel heat sinks.

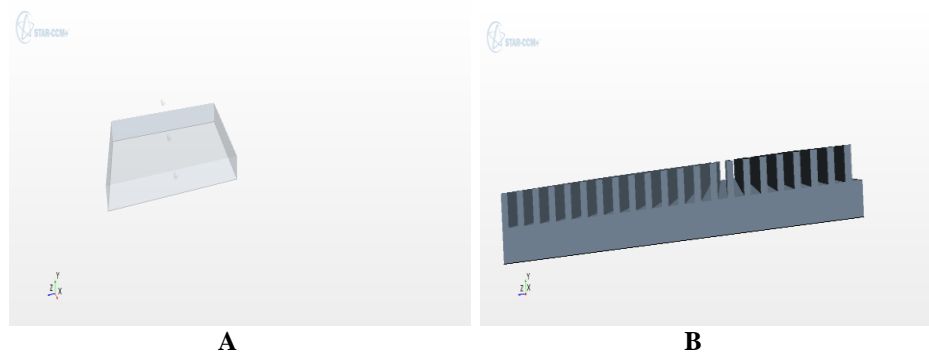


Figure 2: Flat plate (A) and fined plate (B) minichannel heat sinks.

IV. Results And Discussion

4.1 Heat sink and temperature drop

Figure 1 presents the difference in base temperature produced by finned heat sink in comparison to the flat plate heat sink. The greatest base temperature drop of 30.3°C at 0.5 LPM resulted when 1.5 mm fin spacing heat sink was used. As a result of using fined plate mini-channel heat sink, the lowest base drop temperature of 23.8°C was achieved at a flow rate of 1 LPM.

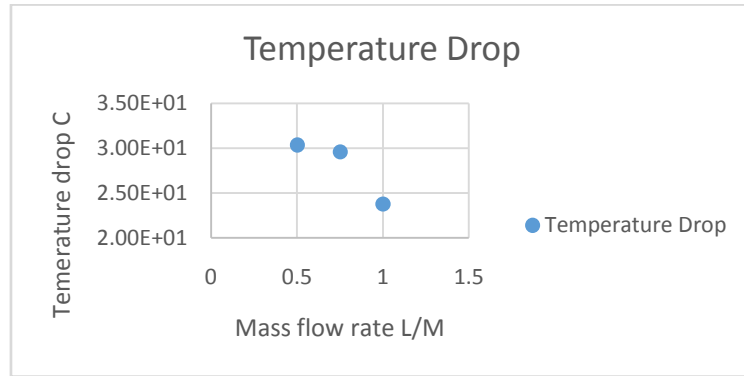


Figure 3: Comparison of temperature drop with volumetric flowrate.

4.2 Heat sink and heat transfer rate

Fig. 4 indicates a comparison of heat transfer rate to the coolant with volumetric flow rate. Even with the smaller magnitude of volumetric flow rate for the finned sinks, they indicated significantly higher heat transfer rates in comparison of flat heat sink which was due to the fact of significant area enhancement, 2.3 in comparison of flat heat sink for 1.5 mm finned heat sinks, respectively. It can be seen that a finned heat sink at flow rate of 1 L per minute was able to remove 194 W of heat (about 60% of the total source load which was 325 W). The minimum heat removed found by the flat sink at a flow rate of 0.5 L per minute was 162 W (about 50% of the source power). The heat rate error of numerical simulation was always found to be within 8.7% compared to experimental done by AyubJajja et al [13].

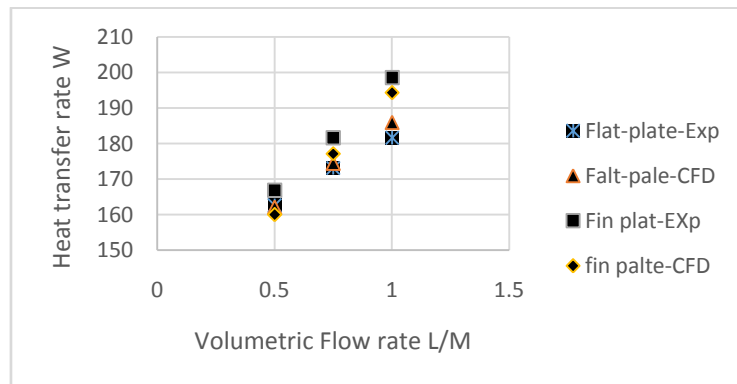


Figure 4: Comparison of heat transfer rate with volumetric flow rate.

1.3 Thermal resistance of heat sinks

Fig. 3 shows the change in thermal resistance with volume flow rate for both heat sinks. The thermal resistance for all heat sinks decreases by increasing the volumetric flow rate of water. The values of thermal resistance for flat plate heat sink geometry are considerably higher in comparison to the finned heat sink geometries. The maximum value of thermal resistance was found to be 0.214765 K/W for flat plate heat sink at 0.5 LPM. The thermal resistance decreases by adding the fins for any given flow rate of the water. Heat sink with a fin spacing of 1.5 mm produced lowest value of thermal resistance of 0.067114 K/W at a volume flow rate of 1 LPM.

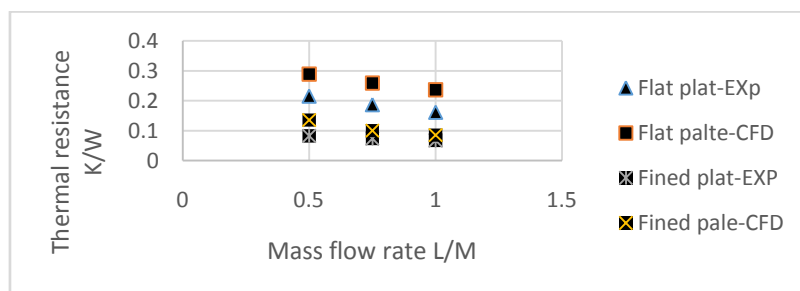


Figure 5: Variation of thermal resistance of heat sinks with volumetric flowrate.

V. Conclusion

The effect of adding fins to a flat plate has been studied numerically. Two different heatsinks with fins along with a flat plate heatsink were studied for effective thermal management of high heat generating device. At a simulated microprocessor power of 325

W, the lowest heatsink base temperature of 51.7°C was achieved by using a heatsink of 1.5 mm fin spacing at a flow rate of 1. It can be concluded from this numerical study that geometrically enhanced heatsinks by using fins, have a lot of potential to manage the high heat generating devices.

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