

Thermal analysis of a convective–conductive–radiative annular porous fn with variable thermal parameters and internal heat generation

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Abstract

The thermal characteristics of annular porous fns with rectangular and hyperbolic cross-sections and internal heat generation were comprehensively studied by the homotopy perturbation method (HPM). The convective–conductive–radiative mode of heat transfer was considered in the current analysis. All thermal parameters were considered as a function of temperature. An approximate closed-form solution was obtained by solving the nonlinear heat transfer equation using HPM. Darcy's model was employed to formulate the governing equation of heat transfer through porous media. Unknown constants were the initial approximations of the solution and were evaluated based on the boundary and initial conditions of the problem. The effects of pores and different thermal parameters on the dimensionless temperature distribution and the fin efficiency were graphically presented. In order to evaluate the accuracy of the closed-form solution, the obtained results (for both dimensional and non-dimensional forms) were validated by numerical solutions.

Keywords Axisymmetric porous fn · Variable thermal parameters · Homotopy perturbation method · Semi-exact solution · Fin efficiency

*R*_a Rayleigh Number *R* Dimensionless radius

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Greek symbols

Introduction

Mechanical processes result in heat generation, and diferent cooling processes are required to release this heat. A fin is an extended surface that is primarily used to enhance heat dissipation from the equipment surface to the surrounding fluid $[1-3]$ $[1-3]$ $[1-3]$. Fins are generally used in automobile components, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, internal combustion engines, space vehicles, electric transformers, micro-electronic components, and photovoltaic panels [[4,](#page-14-2) [5](#page-14-3)]. Sheikholeslami et al. [\[6](#page-14-4)] investigated the efects of fn length and shape as well as nanoparticle size on the performance of a nanoparticle-enhanced phase-change material (NEPCM)-based heat exchanger. Selimefendigil et al. [[7\]](#page-14-5) used a fuzzy-based model to predict heat transfer through a square cavity in the presence of an adiabatic thin fin. They further performed a numerical study to investigate the effects of an adiabatic thin fin mounted on an upper wall $[8]$ $[8]$. The fin was subjected to laminar forced convection over a backwardfacing step in a channel. Selimefendigil et al. [[9\]](#page-14-7) employed a numerical model to study the fuid–structure interaction in a vertical lid-driven cavity feld under a magnetic feld.

A fn was attached to the cavity to analyze the fow mixing and heat transfer behavior in the cavity. Fins are generally made of metals or alloys with high thermal conductivity, and porous fns have attracted considerable attention for efective energy utilization.

The concept of porous fins was first proposed by Kiwan and Al-Nimr [[10\]](#page-14-8) in 2001. Kahalerras and Targui [[11](#page-14-9)] used porous fns to enhance heat transfer in a double-pipe heat exchanger, and the obtained numerical results based on the fnite volume method revealed improved heat transfer due to a substantial alteration of the fow pattern in the presence of porous fns. Kiwan et al. [\[12](#page-14-10), [13\]](#page-14-11) employed Darcy's model to analyze the fuid-fow pattern across a porous medium. Sheikholesmami [[14](#page-14-12)] used a non-Darcy model to analyze the interaction between iron oxide–water nanofuid and a porous encloser. He studied the efects of an external magnetic feld and temperature on the viscosity of ferrofuid by a control volume-based fnite element method. Saedodin and Sadeghi [[15\]](#page-14-13) investigated the heat transfer through a cylindrical porous fn by the fourth-order Runge–Kutta method and observed that the heat loss rate in a porous fn was higher than that in a non-porous fn. Talukdar and Mishra [[16\]](#page-14-14) reported that the heat transfer rate was significantly improved in a flow channel between two isothermal plates with a solid porous matrix. Selimefendigil et al. [[17\]](#page-14-15) found that the use of porous fins greatly enhanced the performance of a solar photovoltaic (PV) module. Hatami and Ganji [\[18](#page-14-16)] assessed the performance of a convective–radiative circular porous fn with diferent geometric profles and used the least-square method coupled with the fourth-order Runge–Kutta method to solve the governing equations of heat transfer through porous media. The exponential-shaped fn made of silicon nitride led to greater heat dissipation as compared to the triangular and rectangular fns made of the same material. Moreover, in comparison to the solid fin, a signifcant improvement in heat transfer through the porous fn was also reported in their analysis. Moradi et al. [\[19\]](#page-14-17) used the diferential transformation method (DTM) to obtain the temperature feld in a triangular convective–radiative porous fn. In this study, the performance of the fn was discussed in terms of the porosity factor, and it was observed that the fin efficiency was improved with the increasing porosity. Ullmann and Kalman [\[20](#page-14-18)] performed a comprehensive study of convective–conductive annular fns with rectangular, triangular, parabolic, and hyperbolic profles and estimated their optimal dimensions and efficiencies. Gorla and Bakier [\[21](#page-14-19)] analyzed the natural convection and radiation in a rectangular porous fn and found that the radiative energy directly infuenced the transfer of more heat. Therefore, the incorporation of radiative parameters in the governing equations of heat transfer is essential to predict the actual heat transfer through a fn. Darvishi and Gorla [[22](#page-14-20)] performed the unsteady thermal analysis of porous rectangular fns of infnite and fnite lengths. Heat transfer equations based on Darcy's model were formulated considering an insulated fin tip and a tip with a known convective heat transfer coefficient. It was noticed that the presence of pores altered the non-steady heat transfer rate and temperature distribution.

Ma et al. [\[23](#page-14-21)] predicted the performance of a longitudinal porous fn by the spectral collocation method and reported that the heat transfer coefficient, the surface emissivity, and heat generation parameters varied with the local temperature. A homogeneous isotropic porous medium with a single-phase fuid was considered in their analysis. Cuce and Cuce $[24]$ $[24]$ developed the expressions of efficiency, effectiveness, and heat transfer rate for a longitudinal rectangular porous fn and compared the results with those of a solid fn. Kundu and Lee [[25\]](#page-14-23) developed an analytical model to predict the temperature distribution in a moving porous annular fn with a stepped profle. The optimization analysis revealed that for the same mass, the porous fn transferred more heat than its solid counterparts at optimum conditions. Das [[26\]](#page-14-24) inversely estimated the thermal parameters, porosity, solid thermal conductivity, emissivity, permeability, and thickness of a porous annular fn by the hybrid evolutionary algorithm. In this analysis, the heat transfer equation without considering heat generation and the convective heat transfer coefficient were solved numerically. Mosayebidorcheh et al. [\[27\]](#page-14-25) employed the least-square method (LSM) to analyze the temperature felds in longitudinal fns of diferent crosssections and performed an optimization study to select the best fn material in terms of heat transfer rate, efectiveness, and efficiency. Mesgarpour et al. $[28]$ $[28]$ $[28]$ investigated the efect of a sintered porous fn on heat transfer and fuid flow through a channel. They employed CFD simulations to evaluate the efect of sintered balls on the porosity of a contact model. Turkyilmazoglu [[29\]](#page-14-27) studied the efects of temperature and humidity ratio on a wet porous fn. Hoshyar et al. [\[30](#page-14-28)] and Cuce et al. [[24\]](#page-14-22) employed the homotopy perturbation method (HPM) to predict the heat transfer through a longitudinal conductive–convective porous fn; however, the main drawback of their analysis was that radiation was not incorporated in the governing equation of heat transfer.

The best of our open literature search (Books, peered reviewed journal etc.) reveals that no experimental studies have yet been carried out for annular porous fins. Stark et al. [\[31](#page-14-29)] experimentally investigated the thermal characteristics of a porous fn with a square block structure. The thermal behavior obtained from the semi-analytical solution was compared with the results obtained from the experiment. In their paper, they only addressed numerical and analytical solutions for an axisymmetric annular porous fn.

The selection of proper conductive–convective parameters is crucial to achieving the best fn design. Considering variable parameters and all types of losses, it is generally found that the thermal properties of fns change signifcantly

at high temperatures. No studies have been performed to obtain the closed-form solution of heat transfer through an annular porous fn with multiple variable thermal parameters, such as conduction, convection, radiation, and heat generation. In comparison to existing mathematical techniques for solving nonlinear heat transfer equations, HPM is relatively simple and does not require many terms to obtain the approximate closed-form solution. Cuce et al. [[24](#page-14-22)] presented a complete overview of recent works on heat transfer through porous fns. Hoseinzadeh et al. [[32\]](#page-14-30) compared the numerical and analytical results for the thermal properties of a longitudinal porous fn.

The present paper aimed at disclosing the closed-form solutions of nonlinear heat transfer equations for an annular porous fn with multiple variable thermal parameters. The novelty lies in incorporating the temperature variation in the physical heat transfer parameters such as the surface emissivity, thermal conductivity of solid and fuid. The works also include the external convection from the solid matrix and the heat generation parameter as functions of temperature for a more realistic modeling of the phenomenon. The governing equations with multiple nonlinear parameters were solved by HPM. The thermal behavior of a rectangular fin was compared with that of a hyperbolic fin in terms of their temperature distributions, efficiencies, effectiveness, and heat transfer rates. The fuid velocity feld across the porous matrix was simulated by Darcy's model. The closedform solution of the problem was compared with the numerical solution obtained by the fnite diference method. The obtained temperature distribution was further validated by modeling the fn in Comsol-Multiphysics software.

Physical model and mathematical formulation

Physical model

In the present analysis, rectangular and hyperbolic porous annular fins with an inner radius of r_b and an outer radius of r_0 were considered (Fig. [1\)](#page-3-0). In addition, the following assumptions and simplifcations were made in the present analysis:

- A steady-state heat transfer was considered.
- The fin base was maintained at a constant temperature, and the contact resistance was neglected.
- Darcy's law governed the fluid flow across the porosity of the fns.
- The porous medium was saturated with a homogenous single-phase isotropic fuid.
- Temperature varied along the radial direction only.

Fig. 1 Geometry of annular porous fn

- • The surface porosity of the fins was equal to the volumetric porosity.
- All thermal parameters were a function of temperature.

Thermal losses in the fns occurred by convection and radiation from the solid surface of the fns and the convection loss between the solid matrix and the fuid fowing through pores. Thus, a suitable multiplication factor was introduced to calculate the surface area of the solid matrix through which convection and radiation occurred.

Mathematical formulation

Considering heat fow along the radial direction of an annular porous fn, the steady-state energy balance equation for heat transfer can be expressed as

$$
q_{r} - q_{r+dr} = 2\varepsilon\sigma\pi(1-\phi)\left(T^{4} - T_{s}^{4}\right) rdr + 2\pi hr(1-\phi)(T - T_{a})dr + \dot{m}C_{p}(T - T_{a}) - 2\pi q^{*} trdr
$$
\n(1)

where q is heat flow at a radial distance r from the center, ε is the emissivity of the solid matrix, σ is the Stefan-Boltzmann constant, T_s is the radiation sink temperature, T_a is ambient temperature, h is the convective heat transfer coefficient from the solid matrix to the external atmosphere, *ṁ* is the mass flow rate, C_p is the specific heat capacity of the fluid, q^* is the heat generation per unit volume, *t* is the thickness of the fin at a radial distance r , and ϕ is porosity.

In Eq. [1,](#page-3-1) the frst term of the right-hand side signifes the loss due to radiation from the fn to the atmosphere, the second term implies the loss due to convective heat transfer between the solid matrix and the external fluid flow over it, the third term signifes the energy absorbed by the fuid flowing internally through pores of the fin, and the last term implies the heat generated in the given element. The mass

fow rate of a homogenous single-phase isotropic fuid across the porous fn can be represented as

$$
\dot{m} = 2\pi \rho v r dr \tag{2}
$$

The fuid velocity (*v*) was obtained based on Darcy's model for fluid flow through a porous medium [\[33\]](#page-14-31).

$$
v = \frac{g\kappa\beta}{\gamma} \left(T - T_{\rm a} \right) \tag{3}
$$

Now, substituting Eqs. [2](#page-3-2) and [3](#page-3-3) into Eq. [1](#page-3-1),

$$
-\frac{dq}{dr} = 2\varepsilon\sigma\pi(1-\phi)\left(T^4 - T_s^4\right)r + 2\pi hr(1-\phi)(T - T_a) + \frac{2\pi\rho\kappa\beta gC_p(T - T_a)^2r}{\gamma} + 2\pi q^*tr\tag{4}
$$

Fourier's law of conductive heat fux can be expressed as

$$
q = -k_{\text{eff}}A_{\text{c}}\frac{\text{d}T}{\text{d}r} \tag{5}
$$

Fins generally operate at high temperatures; thus, thermal parameters were considered as a linear function of temperature. The variations of diferent thermal parameters, such as convective heat transfer coefficient (h) , emissivity (ε) , conductivity of the solid matrix (k_s) , conductivity of the cooling fluid (k_f) , and heat generation coefficient (q) , with temperature are presented below.

$$
h = h_0 \left(\frac{T - T_a}{T_b - T_a} \right)^n; \ \varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 \left[1 + \lambda (T - T_s) \right];
$$

\n
$$
q^* = q_0 \left[1 + a(T - T_a) \right]; \ k_f = k_f^0 \left[1 + \kappa_1 (T - T_a) \right]
$$

\nand
$$
k_s = k_s^0 \left[1 + \kappa_2 (T - T_a) \right]
$$
 (6)

The relationship between the fn thickness and the radial distance was also considered in the present analysis.

$$
t(r) = t_{\rm b} \left(\frac{r}{r_{\rm b}}\right)^{\rm m} \tag{7}
$$

where *t* is the thickness of the fin and r_b is the base radius of the fin. The parameters $m=0$ and $m=-1$ correspond to uniform and hyperbolic fns, respectively. The cross-sectional area (A_c) and the effective thermal conductivity of the porous matrix of the fn can be expressed as

$$
A_{\rm c} = 2\pi r t \mathrm{d}r \text{ and } k_{\rm eff} = \phi k_{\rm f} + (1 - \phi) k_{\rm s} \tag{8}
$$

Now, substituting Eqs. [5](#page-3-4) and [8](#page-4-0) into Eq. [4](#page-3-5),

$$
(\phi \kappa_1 + k_r (1 - \phi) \kappa_2) t \left(\frac{dT}{dr}\right)^2 + (m + 1) \frac{t}{r} \frac{k_{\text{eff}}}{k_f^0} \frac{dT}{dr} + \frac{k_{\text{eff}}}{k_f^0} t \frac{d^2 T}{dr^2}
$$

= 2(1 - ϕ) $\sigma \frac{\varepsilon}{k_f^0} \left\{ 1 - (T - T_s) \lambda \right\} (T^4 - T_s^4)$
+ 2 $\frac{h_0}{k_f^0} \left(\frac{T - T_a}{T_b - T_a} \right)^n (1 - \phi) (T - T_a) + \frac{\rho \kappa \beta g C_p (T - T_a)^2 r}{k_f^0 v_f}$
- $q_0 \frac{t}{k_f^0} \left\{ 1 + e(T - T_a) \right\}$ (9)

Further, in order to simplify the analysis, the following non-dimensional parameters were introduced.

Boundary conditions

For a fnite-length fn with a constant base temperature and a well-insulated tip (no heat transfer from the fn tip), the following boundary conditions were considered.

$$
T_{r=r_b} = T_b
$$
 and $\frac{dT}{dr}\Big|_{r=r_0} = 0$ (12)

The non-dimensional forms of these boundary conditions can be expressed as

$$
\theta_{R=1} = 1 \text{ and } \frac{d\theta}{dR}\bigg|_{R=\eta} = 0 \tag{13}
$$

Solution strategy

The nonlinear non-dimensional steady-state heat transfer equation with temperature-dependent thermal parameters was solved by the homotopy perturbation method (HPM), which has the advantages of both regular homotopy and the traditional perturbation method. In this method, the approximate analytical solution of linear and nonlinear partial differential equations can be obtained by introducing a small embedding parameter. This method is very powerful in solving nonlinear diferential equations of multiple orders

$$
R = \frac{r}{r_b}, \quad \theta = \frac{T}{T_b}, \quad \theta_s = \frac{T_s}{T_b}, \quad \theta_a = \frac{T_a}{T_b}, \quad \tau_1 = \frac{\phi \kappa_1 T_b}{\phi + k_r (1 - \phi)}, \quad \tau_2 = \frac{k_r (1 - \phi) \kappa_2 T_b}{\phi + k_r (1 - \phi)},
$$
\n
$$
Q^* = \frac{q_0 r_b^2}{(\phi + k_r (1 - \phi)) k_f^0 T_b}, \quad \tau_w = \tau_1 + \tau_2, \quad N_r = \frac{2(1 - \phi) \sigma \epsilon T_b^3 r_b}{(\phi + k_r (1 - \phi)) k_f^0 T_b t_b},
$$
\n
$$
N_c = \frac{2h_0 r_b^2 (1 - \phi)}{(\phi + k_r (1 - \phi)) k_f^0 t_b}, \quad N_{cc} = \frac{\rho \kappa \beta g C_p T_b r_b^2}{(\phi + k_r (1 - \phi)) k_f^0 v_f t_b}, \quad \lambda T_b = \lambda^0, \quad eT_b = e^0
$$
\n(10)

The aforesaid non-dimensional parameters are described in the nomenclature. After carrying out non-dimensional transformations and substituting the previously stated variable parameters, the energy balance equation can be expressed in the following non-dimensional form.

and does not require tedious calculations. In addition, the solutions converge after a few iterations. The core theory of HPM can be formulated as

$$
L(\theta) + N(\theta) - f(r) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad r \in \psi \tag{14}
$$

$$
\tau_{\rm w}R^{\rm m}\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\theta}{\mathrm{d}R}\right)^{2} + (m+1)R^{\rm m-1}\left[\phi + \tau_{\rm w}(\theta - \theta_{\rm a}) + k_{\rm r}(1 - \phi)\right]\frac{\mathrm{d}\theta}{\mathrm{d}R} + \left[f + \tau_{\rm w}(\theta - \theta_{\rm a}) + k_{\rm r}(1 - f)\right]R^{\rm m}\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}\theta}{\mathrm{d}R^{2}} = N_{\rm c}\left[\frac{(\theta - \theta_{\rm a})^{\rm n+1}}{(1 - \theta_{\rm a})^{\rm n}}\right] + N_{\rm cc}(\theta - \theta_{\rm a})^{2} + N_{\rm r}\left\{1 + \lambda^{0}(\theta - \theta_{\rm s})\right\}(\theta^{4} - \theta_{\rm s}^{4}) - Q^{*}\left\{1 + e^{0}(\theta - \theta_{\rm a})\right\}R^{\rm m}
$$
\n(11)

where $\tau_w = \tau_1 + \tau_2$ represents the variable thermal conductivity parameter for solid–fuid interactions.

with the specifed boundary condition of

$$
B\left(\theta, \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n}\right) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad r \in \Omega \tag{15}
$$

where $L(\theta)$ and $N(\theta)$ are linear and nonlinear differential operators, respectively, *f* (*r*) is an analytical function, *B* is a boundary operator, and *ψ* represents the boundary of the domain Ω. Now, an artifcial parameter *p* is introduced to construct a homotopy.

$$
H(\theta, p) = (1 - p) [L(\theta) - L(\theta_0)] + p [L(\theta) + N(\theta) - f(r)] = 0
$$
\n(16)

where $L = \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2}$ and θ_0 are initial approximations that satisfy the boundary conditions. The embedding parameter $p \in [0,$ 1] monotonically changes from 0 to 1; thus Eq. [\(16](#page-5-0)) becomes

$$
p = 0: L(\theta) = L(\theta_0) p = 1: L(\theta) + N(\theta) - f(r) = 0
$$
 (17)

As *p* varies from 0 to unity, $H(\theta, p)$ simultaneously changes from θ_0 to $\theta(r)$. With the help of the perturbation technique and considering smaller values of *p*, the solution of the above equation can be expressed as

$$
\theta = \theta_0 + p\theta_1 + p^2\theta_2 + p^3\theta_3 + p^4\theta_4 + \cdots
$$
 (18)

As *p* approaches unity, an approximate solution is obtained.

$$
\theta = \theta_0 + \theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 + \theta_4 + \cdots \tag{19}
$$

Fin efficiency

The fin efficiency is defined as the ratio of the heat transferred from the fin material to the surrounding fluid in actual working conditions to the heat transferred in ideal operat-ing conditions [[34](#page-14-32)]. The actual heat transferred from a fin (considering conductive, convective, and radiative losses) is equal to the heat conducted from the base.

$$
Q_{\text{actual}} = -k_{\text{eff}} A_{\text{c}} \frac{dT}{dr} \bigg|_{r=r_{\text{b}}} \tag{20}
$$

where A_c is the cross-sectional area at the base of the fin. The heat transferred from a fin in ideal operating conditions can be expressed as

$$
Q_{\text{ideal}} = \int_{r_b}^{r_t} P[h_0(T_b - T_a) + \varepsilon(T_b) \sigma (T_b^4 - T_s^4)] \, \mathrm{d}r \tag{21}
$$

where P is the perimeter of area A_c . Hence, the fin efficiency can be expressed as

$$
\eta = \frac{-k_{\text{eff}}A_{\text{c}}\frac{\text{d}T}{\text{d}r}\Big|_{r=r_{\text{b}}}}{\int_{r_{\text{b}}}^{r_{\text{t}}}P\big[h_{0}\big(T_{\text{b}}-T_{\text{a}}\big) + \varepsilon\big(T_{\text{b}}\big)\sigma\big(T_{\text{b}}^{4}-T_{\text{s}}^{4}\big)\big]\text{d}r}
$$
(22)

The fin efficiencies for different values of the convection parameter (N_C) were compared with the results given by Cuce et al. [\[24](#page-14-22)], and the comparison is presented in Fig. [3b](#page-8-0).

Experimental study

It is evident that no experimental works for an annular porous fn have yet been conducted. Stark et al. [\[31\]](#page-14-29) recently carried out an experimental analysis for a porous fn with a square block structure. In their study, aluminum metal foam with high porosity of about 0.941 was used as the fin material and was connected with a copper wick. The thermal characteristics measured from the semi-analytical solution were compared with the results obtained from experimental measurements. The experiment proposed by Stark et al. [[31\]](#page-14-29) can be modifed and used for the experimental study of an axisymmetric annular fn in a porous media.

Results and discussion

The current section describes the results obtained from the approximate closed-form solution of heat transfer for an annular fn in a porous media, and the solution was obtained by solving the nonlinear governing equation of heat transfer by HPM. The effects of different temperature-dependent thermal parameters were presented. In order to examine the accuracy of the HPM-based solution, the obtained results were validated by numerical solutions and available experimental data.

Validation

Numerical solutions were presented to validate HPMbased closed-form solutions for rectangular and hyperbolic porous fns. The temperature felds of the fns in the dimensional form were verifed by FEM in Comsol Multiphysics software (v5.2a), where the corresponding non-dimensional results were verifed by the fnite diference method (FDM). The fns were made of Al–204 alloy (solid), and the fuid fowing across the porous matrix was considered to be air (fuid). The thermophysical properties at ambient temperature are taken from online data [[35](#page-14-33)] and the recent published work [[26](#page-14-24)] $(h_0 = 25 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1}, \varepsilon_0 = 0.702,$ $\phi = 0.4$, $k_s^0 = 123.13$ W m⁻¹ K⁻¹, $k_f^0 = 0.026$ W m⁻¹ K⁻¹, $g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$, $\rho = 1.24 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$, $C_p = 1.005 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$, β =3.5×10⁻³ K, *κ*=5.1274×10⁻⁸ m², and *ν* = 1.568×10⁻⁵ $m²$ s^{−1}). The thickness and base temperature of the fins were $t = 0.003$ m and $T_b = 600$ K, respectively. The dimensionless parameters, N_C , N_{CC} , N_R , and Q , were estimated using the same parameters mentioned above. In Table [1](#page-6-0), HPM-based solutions for the temperature variation along the fin length are presented and compared with FEM results. The contours

of temperature profles for the rectangular and hyperbolic porous fns obtained from the FEM analysis are illustrated in Fig. [2](#page-6-1), and the non-dimensional results for temperature felds are compared with FDM solutions in Table [2.](#page-7-0) In both dimensional and non-dimensional analyses, the maximum errors at the fn tip for the rectangular and hyperbolic profles were less than 1% and 2%, respectively. The hyperbolic fn dissipated more heat to the surrounding, resulting in lower tip temperature as compared to the rectangular one. Furthermore, the temperature distribution for a set of diferent non-dimensional parameters is exhibited in Table [3](#page-7-1). In both dimensional and non-dimensional analyses, the HPM analysis yielded a maximum error of 1.29% and 2.95% at the fn tip for the rectangular and hyperbolic profles, respectively. It indicates that the percentage of error was dependent on parametric values. The error could be further reduced by considering higher-order terms in the assumed solution of Eq. [18.](#page-5-1) In Fig. [3](#page-8-0)a, the obtained temperature distribution is compared with the published work of Das [\[26](#page-14-24)]. The nondimensional parameters that are common in the governing equation were used for comparison, and the remaining terms were set to zero. The fin efficiency obtained from Eq. (22) (22) is compared with the result of Cuce and Cuce [[24\]](#page-14-22) in Fig. [3b](#page-8-0). In order to maintain the equivalency of the results, the additional terms (radiation parameters) in the present formulation were neglected, and a good agreement was obtained. Therefore, it can be inferred that the proposed HPM-based closed-form solution yielded almost accurate results in both dimensional and non-dimensional forms.

Efect of the convection parameter (*N***c)**

It was assumed that a certain portion of heat was dissipated from the solid matrix of the fn to the external far-feld through convection. The temperature-dependent convective heat transfer coefficient was assumed to be a function of temperature. The power index of the heat transfer coefficient (*n*) denotes the heat transfer mode. The *n* values of −0.25, 0.25, and 2 represent laminar flm boiling, laminar natural convection, and nucleate boiling, respectively. In the present study, natural convection with the laminar fluid flow

Fig. 2 Temperature contour obtained using Comsol Multiphysics 5.2a, along the radius of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic fns for the aforementioned thermo-physical (properties *h*=25 Wm−2 K−1, ε =0.702, ϕ = 0.4*, k*_s = 123.13 Wm⁻¹ K⁻¹, k_f = 0.026 Wm⁻¹ K⁻¹, and $\rho = 1.24 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $C_p = 1.005 \text{ kJ/kgK}$)

was considered as the mode of heat transfer from the fins to the surrounding. Natural convection occurred at two different solid–fuid interaction boundaries (a) solid surface of the porous matrix to the surrounding air fowing outside the fn along the surface and (b) solid porous matrix to the

Table 1 Dimensional analysis of HPM and FDM solutions for temperature distribution

The material properties of the fin were taken as to those of Al-204 alloy.

Table 2 Non-dimensional analysis of HPM and FDM solutions for temperature distribution considering dimensionless parameters $N_r = 0.5$, $N_c = 0.7$, $N_{cc} = 1.5$, *Q**=0.04, *e*=0.3, *λ*=0.2, $T_{\rm w}$ = 0.03

air fowing across pores. The natural convection phenomenon occurred due to the frst interaction was denoted by the parameter N_C , and the parameter N_{CC} signifies the natural convection between the fuid inside pores and the solid porous matrix. The parameter N_{CC} was a function of Darcy's number and varied with the permeability of the porous media. Heat transfer from the solid porous matrix to the fuid inside pores was dependent on the orientation and shape of the pores. Figure [4](#page-8-1) illustrates the efects of the parameter N_c on the non-dimensional temperature distributions of the porous rectangular and hyperbolic fns. It is evident that the gradients of the temperature curves became steeper with the increase of N_c . Hence, in both profiles, the tip temperature had a greater depression for a larger value of N_c , it indicates that the parameter N_c increased the convective heat transfer rate from the solid porous matrix to the surrounding. For the same values of N_C , lower tip temperatures were detected for the hyperbolic profle as compared to the rectangular profle. The hyperbolic profle has a larger surface area than the rectangular profle and dissipated more heat from the fn surface to the surrounding. An interesting observation is that the reduction in the fin tip temperature is much more pronounced at higher values of N_C in case of both the geometries. This highlights the prominence of external convection in the heat dissipation from the fn irrespective of the crosssection of the fin.

Effect of the conduction–convection parameter (N_{cc})

The parameter $N_{\rm cc}$ was a function of Darcy's number and Rayleigh number. Figure 5 presents the effect of $N_{\rm cc}$ on the

temperature distributions of the rectangular and hyperbolic fns. The increase of Darcy's number reduced the hindrance to the fuid fow across pores and efectively enhanced the convective cooling of the fns. The Rayleigh number is a function of the Grashof number, which increased the conductive–convective parameter. The Grashof number is an approximate ratio of the buoyancy force and the viscous force acting on a fuid. Natural convection is a buoyancydriven phenomenon; hence, a larger buoyancy force increased the convective cooling of the solid matrix by circulating fuid inside pores of the porous matrix. Consequently, the effect of the parameter N_{cc} increased with the increase of the buoyancy force acting on the fuid. Therefore, the temperature along the fn length dropped greatly for a larger value of $N_{\rm cc}$ for both cross-sectional profiles (Fig. [4](#page-8-1)). For the same values of $N_{\rm cc}$, the hyperbolic profile had lower tip temperatures due to its larger surface area. However, the drop in the fn tip temperature is less prominent with greater values of N_{CC} (N_{CC} ~ 4). The reason for this behavior can be attributed to the fact that the natural convection inside the pores is afected by the fow of the fuid. The ease of fow of the fuid and hence its circulation has been plateaued by the maximum permeability the porous fn can achieve. When compared with the effect the increasing value of N_C had on the temperature distribution it can be proposed that at optimal values of the parameters N_C and N_{CC} should be maintained for enhancing the heat dissipation from the fns.

Fig. 3 Comparison of the results obtained by the present formulation and those published in the literature for **a** temperature feld (Das [\[26](#page-14-24)]) and **b** fin efficiency (Cuce and Cuce [[24](#page-14-22)])

Efect of porosity

The effect of porosity was investigated for different values of ϕ , and the values of N_C , N_{CC} , N_R , and other non-dimensional parameters were evaluated for a specific value of ϕ . It was observed that an increase in porosity of the porous medium caused a reduction of the fn tip temperature for both uniform and hyperbolic profles (Fig. [6\)](#page-9-1). The increase in porosity implies that a large amount of fuid was present per unit volume of the fns. Generally, the conductivity of the fuid was less than that of the solid matrix. The increase in porosity caused a decrease in the efective conductivity of the porous media; hence, less amount of heat dissipated along the fn length due to an increase of the thermal resistance. The domination of convective heat transfer over conductive

Fig. 4 Influence of the convection parameter (N_C) on the variation non-dimensional temperature distribution of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic fin

heat transfer caused a decrease of the fn tip temperature. The presence of the term $(1 - \phi)$ in the numerator of term N_{C} and its absence in case of the term N_{CC} signifies the reduction in the external convection to the ambient and the increase in the internal natural convection inside the pores; with larger pore size the internal convection will be enhanced comparatively.

Efect of the internal heat generation parameter

Internal heat generation generally occurs inside a fn due to chemical interactions between the fuid and the solid matrix or the presence of any heat source, such as electric current. In the present study, the temperature diference between the fn base and the tip was considerably large; therefore, the

Fig. 5 Influence of conduction–convection parameter (N_{CC}) on the non-dimensional temperature distribution along the fn length of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic profle

heat generation parameter was considered as a function of temperature. The efect of the heat generation parameter on the dimensionless temperature distributions of the rectangular and hyperbolic fns is displayed in Fig. [7.](#page-10-0) It can be observed that an increase in the heat generation parameter (*Q**) caused an increase in the local temperature of the porous fins.

Efect of the variable thermal conductivity parameter

It is already stated that the temperature diference between the fin base and the ambient generally remains high; hence, it will be a more realistic approach to consider the thermal

Fig. 6 Influence of porosity value (ϕ) on the non-dimensional temperature distributions along the fn length of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic profle

conductivity of the fuid and the solid as a function of temperature. In the present analysis, the thermal conductivity parameter was dependent on the thermal conductivity coefficients of the solid and the fluid and varied linearly with the temperatures of the solid and the fuid. Generally, the thermal conductivity coefficient of fluid is very small as compared to that of a solid. The conductivity of pure metals decreases with temperature, whereas that of some materials increases with temperature. Therefore, the variable conductivity parameter for solid–fluid interactions (τ_w) can be positive or negative. The effect of τ_w on the dimensionless temperature distributions of the rectangular and hyperbolic fns is exhibited in Fig. [8.](#page-10-1) The dotted line shows the temperature distribution for the Al-204 alloy used in the dimensional study. Higher fn tip temperatures were detected

Fig. 7 Temperature distribution of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic fns as a function of non-dimensional radial distance for diferent values of heat generation parameter *Q**

for positive τ_w values, whereas an increase of the negative τ_w value caused a large decrease in the fn tip temperature. The thermal conductivity increased with the local temperature when τ_w was positive; hence, more heat dissipated from the fn base to the tip. The decrease in conductive resistance accelerated heat transfer through the solid matrix. The negative τ_w value restricted heat dissipation from the fin base and resulted in lower tip temperatures.

Fin efficiency

The fin parameters, $N_r = 0.5$, $N_c = 0.7$, $N_{cc} = 1.5$, $Q^* = 0.04$, $e = 0.3$, $\lambda = 0.2$, $\tau_w = 0.03$, were considered to calculate the fin efficiency. Figure 9 compares the efficiencies of the rectangular and hyperbolic fns. It is clear that for all values of N_c , the hyperbolic fin exhibited a higher efficiency.

Fig. 8 Effect of variable thermal parameter (τ_w) on non-dimensional temperature distribution along the fn length of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic profles

The variation of the fin efficiency with the parameter N_c for different values of τ_w is illustrated in Fig. [10.](#page-11-1) The fin efficiency monotonically decreased with the increase of N_c for both rectangular and hyperbolic profiles, and a lower τ_w value resulted in a lower fin efficiency. It indicates that the conductive heat transfer through the solid matrix of the fn got restricted, resulting in lower efficiency. In comparison to the rectangular fn, the hyperbolic fn manifested higher efficiencies for positive τ_w values and lower efficiencies for negative τ_w values. The fin efficiency was affected by the efective conductivity of the porous matrix and the external convection from the solid part of the porous fn. The drop in the fin efficiency with an increase of the parameter N_c could be compensated with a higher value of τ_w .

Fig. 9 Comparison of efficiencies of rectangular and hyperbolic profile fins as a function of convection parameter N_C

Fig. 10 Fin efficiencies of a rectangular and **b** hyperbolic fins as a function of convection parameter N_C for different values of variable thermal parameter $\tau_{\rm W}$

Fig. 11 Fin efficiencies of a rectangular and **b** hyperbolic fins as a function of convection parameter N_c for different values of emissivity

The effect of emissivity on the fin efficiency for uniform and hyperbolic cross-sections is presented in Fig. [11.](#page-12-0) The surface to surface radiation inside the porous matrix was neglected in the present analysis. It was observed that the fin efficiency for a given value of N_c was reduced with the increasing surface emissivity of the fin material. Hence, for higher surface emissivity, the amount of heat radiated by the fn surface was larger. The increasing radiative heat transfer to the surrounding lowered the local fn temperature, and the large temperature variation along the fn length reduced the fin efficiency. The efficiency of the hyperbolic fin was not affected significantly by low N_c values, whereas the effect was prominent at higher values of the convection parameter. For a rectangular and hyperbolic profle, a distinct diference of the effect of emissivity on the variation of fin efficiencies as function of N_C can be seen. From the analysis of Figs. $9-11$, it can be concluded that the fin efficiency can

attain optimal values by choosing materials having a high coefficient of thermal conductivity. However, the surface properties which affect the external convection and the emissivity the play a balancing role in the reducing the fin tip temperature and therefore the fin efficiency.Fig. 11 Fin efficiencies of **a** rectangular and **b** hyperbolic fns as a function of convection parameter N_c for different values of emissivity

Outlook and future perspectives

The work presented in this article has drawn an attention on the application of porous fn and its thermal analysis. A closed form solution targeting for temperature distribution in a hyperbolic and rectangular porous fn was established. This work further suggests us several research directions for the development of porous fins and their applications. A continuous effort is still required to choose the suitable materials with appropriate thermo-physical characteristics that can enhance the heat transfer from the hot body to the environment. The adequate knowledge of the various thermo-geometrical parameters for convective, conductive and radiative heat transfer through the fn in porous media may be the primary concern. For achieving the desired solution for heat transfer, an efficient approach for integrating various nonlinear parameters may be the prime importance. The non-dimensional thermo-geometrical parameters would be chosen in the correct form as they are fexible for alteration and refurbishment of the conventional fin. Further, the optimization of the thermo-geometrical parameters is essential for successful fn design for heat transfer. In this context, an inverse analysis [[36\]](#page-14-34) may be promising to select the right combination of thermo-geometrical parameters. The aspects of failure study due to thermal loading such as excessive thermal stresses, creep behavior and other mechanical demolition, need to be properly investigated [[37\]](#page-14-35) for the longterm and widely use of porous fn. The long-term thermal response, efficiency, effectiveness and stability of a porous fn need to be evaluated experimentally. Information on these aspects of the porous fn is currently limited in the literature. Furthermore, an inadequate heat transfer during energy recovery is another barrier that is hindering the development of thermal equipment. Eforts are still in demand at this point.

Conclusions

The afore-discussed research presented the heat transfer equations for porous annular fns with rectangular and hyperbolic cross-sections. The governing equations with diferent nonlinear thermal parameters were solved by HPM. The proposed closed-form solution was validated dimensionally and non-dimensionally by the results of FEM and FDM. The main inferences of the present study are depicted below.

- (1) A good agreement between the results obtained from the HPM-based semi-analytical approach and numerical simulations was noticed. The proposed HPM solution had distinct advantages over other closed-form solutions. HPM allowed the direct estimation of temperature felds to obtain accurate solutions of nonlinear heat transfer equations for porous fns.
- (2) In most cases, the annular fn with a hyperbolic crosssectional profile was found to be more efficient than the fn with a uniform cross-section because the increased surface area of the hyperbolic fn resulted in a more substantial heat loss due to external convection.
- (3) The fin efficiency was greatly affected by the thermal conductivity coefficient of the fin material. The material with a positive thermal conductivity coefficient significantly improved the fin efficiency as compared to the material with a negative thermal conductivity coefficient.
- (4) Heat transfer from the base to the tip of the fn was greatly dependent on the pore volume fraction. Permeability also afected the heat transfer along the fn; however, the effects of porous parameters were reduced with the increase of permeability.

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Appendix

The solution of the governing equation is assumed to be of the form

$$
\theta = \theta_0 + p\theta_1 + p^2\theta_2
$$

It is assumed that $\theta_0 = 1$.

The co-efficient of p is obtained by solving the differential equation

$$
\begin{aligned} &\theta_1^{''}-\bigg\{N_{\rm CC}(\theta_0-\theta_{\rm a})^2-N_{\rm C}\frac{(\theta_0-\theta_{\rm a})^{\rm n+1}}{(1-\theta_{\rm a})^{\rm n}}\\ -&N_{\rm R}(1+\lambda_0(\theta_0-\theta_{\rm s}))\big(\theta_0^4-\theta_{\rm s}^4\big)\big\}R^{-{\rm m}}\\ &+Q(1+e_0(\theta_0-\theta_{\rm a}))=0 \end{aligned}
$$

which is solved subjected to boundary conditions

 $\theta_1 = 0$ at $R = 1$ and $\theta_1' = 0$ at $R = R_T$.

$$
\theta_1 = \left\{ N_{\text{CC}} (1 - \theta_a)^2 + N_{\text{C}} (1 - \theta_a) + N_{\text{R}} (1 + \lambda_0 (1 - \theta_s)) (1 - \theta_s^4) \right\}
$$

$$
\frac{R^{-m+2}}{(1 - m)(2 - m)} - Q (1 + e_0 (\theta_0 - \theta_a)) \frac{R^2}{2} + C_1 R + C_2
$$

where

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]

$$
C_1 = Q(1 + e_0(\theta_0 - \theta_a))R - \left\{ N_{\text{CC}}(1 - \theta_a)^2 + N_{\text{C}}(1 - \theta_a) + N_{\text{R}}(1 + \lambda_0(1 - \theta_s))(1 - \theta_s^4) \right\} \frac{R^{-m+1}}{(1-m)}
$$

$$
C_2 = \frac{Q}{2}(1 + e_0(\theta_0 - \theta_a)) - \left\{ N_{\text{CC}}(1 - \theta_a)^2 + N_{\text{C}}(1 - \theta_a) + N_{\text{R}}(1 + \lambda_0(1 - \theta_s))(1 - \theta_s^4) \right\} \frac{1}{(1-m)(2-m)} - C_1
$$

Similarly, the co-efficient of p^2 is obtained by solving the diferential equation

$$
\theta_2'' + \tau_{\text{W}} (1 - \theta_a) \theta_1'' + (\tau_{\text{W}} (1 - \theta_a) + 1) \frac{m+1}{R} \theta_1'
$$

-
$$
[N_{\text{C}} (1 + n) + N_{\text{R}} \{\lambda_0 (1 - \theta_s^4) + 4(1 + \lambda_0 (1 - \theta_s))\}
$$

+
$$
2N_{\text{CC}} (1 - \theta_a) \frac{\theta_1}{R^m} + Q e_0 \theta_1 = 0
$$

Subjected to boundary conditions $\theta_2 = 0$ at $R = 1$ and $\theta_2 = 0$ at $R = R_T$

$$
\theta_2 = A_2 \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-2m+4}}{(4-2m)(3-2m)(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1 R^{-m+4}}{2(3-m)(4-m)} + \frac{C_1 R^{-m+3}}{(3-m)(2-m)} + \frac{C_2 R^{-m+2}}{(2-m)(1-m)} \right] \n- Q_2 \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-m+4}}{(4-m)(3-m)(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1 R^4}{24} + \frac{C_1 R^3}{6} + \frac{C_2 R^2}{2} \right] - \tau_{\text{W}} (1 - \theta_a) \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-m+2}}{(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1 R^2}{2} \right] \n- B_1 (m+1) \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-m+2}}{(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1 R^2}{2} \right] + C_1 [R \ln R - R] + C_3 R + C_4
$$

where

$$
A_1 = N_{CC}(1 - \theta_a)^2 + N_C(1 - \theta_a) + N_R(1 + \lambda_0(1 - \theta_s))(1 - \theta_s^4)
$$

\n
$$
Q_1 = Q(1 + e_0(\theta_0 - \theta_a))
$$

\n
$$
B_1 = (\tau_W(1 - \theta_a) + 1)
$$

\n
$$
A_2 = N_C(1 + n) + N_R \{ \lambda_0 (1 - \theta_s^4) + 4(1 + \lambda_0(1 - \theta_s)) \} + 2N_{CC}(1 - \theta_a)
$$

\n
$$
Q_2 = Qe_0
$$

$$
C_3 = \tau_W (1 - \theta_a) \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-m+1}}{(1-m)} - Q_1 R \right] + B_1 (m+1) \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-m+1}}{(1-m)^2} - Q_1 R + C_1 \ln R \right]
$$

+
$$
Q_2 \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-m+3}}{(3-m)(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1 R^3}{6} + \frac{C_1 R^2}{2} + C_2 R \right]
$$

-
$$
A_2 \left[\frac{A_1 R^{-2m+3}}{(3-2m)(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1 R^{-m+3}}{2(3-m)} + \frac{C_1 R^{-m+2}}{(2-m)} + \frac{C_2 R^{-m+1}}{(1-m)} \right]
$$

$$
C_4 = \tau_W (1 - \theta_a) \left[\frac{A_1}{(2-m)(1-m)} - \frac{Q_1}{2} \right] + B_1 \left[\frac{A_1}{(2-m)(1-m)^2} - \frac{Q_1}{2} + C_1 \right]
$$

+
$$
Q_2 \left[\frac{A_1}{(4-m)(3-m)(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1}{24} + \frac{C_1}{6} + \frac{C_2}{2} \right] - C_3
$$

-
$$
A_2 \left[\frac{A_1}{(4-m)(3-m)(1-m)(2-m)} - \frac{Q_1}{2(4-m)(3-m)} + \frac{C_1}{(3-m)(2-m)} - \frac{C_2}{(2-m)(1-m)} \right]
$$

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