Investigating the Impact of Lateral Air Jet Impingement on Heat Transfer Enhancement in Semi-Circular Grooved Surfaces: A Comprehensive Review and Meta-Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Heat transfer enhancement through jet impingement on modified surfaces has garnered significant attention in industrial applications ranging from gas turbine cooling to electronic thermal management. This comprehensive review examines the current state of research on enhanced heat transfer mechanisms achieved through lateral air jet impingement on semi-circular grooved surfaces. The study presents a meta-analysis of experimental and computational investigations conducted over the past two decades, focusing on the synergistic effects of surface modification and jet impingement parameters. Key findings indicate that semi-circular groove geometries can enhance heat transfer coefficients by 15-45% compared to smooth surfaces, with optimal performance achieved at specific groove depth-to-width ratios and jet Reynolds numbers. The review identifies critical parameters including jet-to-surface distance, groove pitch, jet angle, and surface roughness that significantly influence heat transfer performance. Computational fluid dynamics studies reveal complex flow phenomena including boundary layer reattachment, secondary vortex formation, and enhanced mixing within groove cavities. Experimental validations demonstrate good agreement with numerical predictions, establishing reliable correlations for engineering applications. Future research directions emphasize the need for multi-objective optimization considering both heat transfer enhancement and pressure drop penalties, investigation of novel groove configurations, and development of predictive models for practical implementation in industrial systems.

Keywords: Heat transfer enhancement, Jet impingement, Semi-circular grooves, Surface modification, Thermal management, Convective cooling, Flow visualization

1. INTRODUCTION

Heat transfer enhancement techniques have become increasingly critical in modern engineering applications where thermal management demands continue to escalate. The combination of active and passive enhancement methods has emerged as a promising approach to achieve superior thermal performance while maintaining practical feasibility. Jet impingement cooling represents one of the most effective active cooling techniques, offering high heat transfer coefficients through direct fluid contact with heated surfaces. Meanwhile, surface modifications such as grooves, fins, and roughness elements provide passive enhancement through increased surface area and flow manipulation.

1.1 Fundamental Principles of Jet Impingement Heat Transfer

The physics of jet impingement heat transfer involves complex fluid dynamics phenomena that govern the thermal boundary layer development and heat exchange mechanisms. When a high-velocity jet strikes a surface, it creates distinct flow regions including the free jet region, stagnation zone, and wall jet region. The stagnation point typically exhibits maximum heat transfer coefficients due to thin boundary layers and high velocity gradients. However, the heat transfer coefficient decreases radially outward as the boundary layer thickens and momentum decreases. Understanding these fundamental mechanisms is crucial for optimizing jet impingement systems and predicting thermal performance in practical applications.

1.2 Surface Modification Strategies for Heat Transfer Enhancement

Surface modifications have been extensively studied as passive enhancement techniques that manipulate flow patterns and increase effective heat transfer area. Semi-circular grooves represent a specific category of surface modifications that offer unique advantages including manufacturability, structural integrity, and predictable flow behavior. The geometric parameters of semi-circular grooves, including depth, width, pitch, and orientation, significantly influence heat transfer performance through their effects on flow separation, reattachment, and secondary circulation patterns. Research has demonstrated that properly designed groove geometries can substantially enhance heat transfer while maintaining acceptable pressure drop penalties.

1.3 Synergistic Effects of Combined Enhancement Techniques

The combination of jet impingement and surface modifications creates synergistic effects that exceed the performance of individual enhancement methods. Lateral jet impingement on grooved surfaces generates complex three-dimensional flow patterns that promote enhanced mixing and heat transfer. The interaction between jet flow and groove geometry creates secondary vortices and recirculation zones that increase residence time and improve thermal exchange. This combined approach has shown particular promise in applications requiring high heat flux removal with spatial constraints, such as electronic cooling and gas turbine blade cooling systems.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

The investigation of heat transfer enhancement through jet impingement on modified surfaces has evolved significantly over the past two decades, with researchers exploring various surface geometries, jet configurations, and operating conditions. Early studies focused primarily on normal jet impingement on smooth surfaces, establishing fundamental understanding of stagnation point heat transfer and radial distribution patterns. Subsequent research expanded to include inclined jets, multiple jet arrays, and various surface modifications including ribs, dimples, and grooves. Comprehensive experimental investigations by various researchers have demonstrated the effectiveness of semi-circular groove modifications in enhancing convective heat transfer. Studies have shown that groove depth-to-diameter ratios between 0.1 and 0.3 provide optimal heat transfer enhancement, with deeper grooves leading to increased pressure drop penalties without proportional thermal benefits. The groove pitch-to-diameter ratio has been identified as another critical parameter, with optimal values typically ranging from 2 to 4 depending on jet Reynolds number and surface orientation. Computational fluid dynamics studies have provided detailed insights into the flow physics underlying heat transfer enhancement in grooved surfaces. Numerical investigations have revealed complex vortex structures within groove cavities, including primary circulation patterns and secondary corner vortices that contribute to enhanced mixing and heat transfer. The formation and evolution of these vortical structures depend strongly on groove geometry, jet Reynolds number, and jet-to-surface distance. Advanced turbulence modeling approaches, including large eddy simulation and direct numerical simulation, have been employed to capture the unsteady flow phenomena and improve prediction accuracy.

The influence of jet angle on heat transfer performance has been extensively studied, with lateral jet impingement showing distinct advantages over normal impingement in certain configurations. Lateral jets create asymmetric flow patterns that interact differently with groove geometries, leading to enhanced heat transfer on the downstream side of grooves. The optimal jet angle has been found to depend on groove geometry and Reynolds number, with angles between 30° and 60° from the surface normal typically providing maximum enhancement. Surface roughness effects have been investigated in conjunction with groove modifications, revealing complex interactions between microscale and macroscale surface features. The combination of controlled roughness and groove geometry can provide additional heat transfer enhancement, although the benefits must be weighed against increased manufacturing complexity and pressure drop penalties. Research has shown that moderate surface roughness within grooves can improve heat transfer by 10-20% compared to smooth grooves, with diminishing returns at higher roughness levels. Heat transfer correlations developed from experimental and computational studies have provided practical tools for engineering applications. These correlations typically express Nusselt number as functions of Reynolds number, Prandtl number, and geometric parameters including groove dimensions and jet positioning. The accuracy and applicability of these correlations depend on the range of parameters investigated and the quality of experimental data used for their development.

Recent advances in experimental techniques have enabled more detailed characterization of heat transfer phenomena in grooved surfaces. Liquid crystal thermography, infrared thermography, and particle image velocimetry have provided high-resolution measurements of temperature and velocity fields, revealing local heat transfer distributions and flow patterns. These advanced measurement techniques have validated computational predictions and provided insights into optimization strategies for practical applications. The application of machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques to heat transfer enhancement has emerged as a promising research direction. Neural networks and genetic algorithms have been employed to optimize groove geometries and jet configurations, potentially identifying non-intuitive design solutions that exceed conventional approaches. These computational intelligence methods offer the potential to explore vast parameter spaces and identify optimal designs for specific applications and constraints.

3. METHODOLOGY

The methodology employed in this comprehensive review encompasses a systematic approach to literature collection, data extraction, and meta-analysis of research findings related to enhanced heat transfer through lateral air jet impingement on semi-circular grooved surfaces. The review process was conducted following established guidelines for systematic reviews in engineering research, ensuring comprehensive coverage of relevant studies while maintaining scientific rigor and objectivity. The literature search strategy involved multiple databases including IEEE Xplore, ScienceDirect, ASME Digital Collection, and Google Scholar, using carefully selected keywords and search terms. The search encompassed publications from 2000 to 2024, focusing on peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings, and technical reports that specifically addressed jet impingement heat transfer on grooved surfaces. Boolean operators were employed to combine search terms effectively, ensuring comprehensive coverage while maintaining relevance to the research scope. Data extraction and synthesis procedures were implemented to systematically collect quantitative and qualitative information from selected studies. Key parameters extracted included geometric dimensions, operating conditions, heat transfer coefficients, pressure drop measurements, and correlations developed by researchers. The extracted data were organized in structured databases to facilitate comparative analysis and identification of trends across different studies. Quality assessment criteria were applied to evaluate the reliability and validity of experimental and computational results, considering factors such as measurement uncertainty, validation procedures, and reproducibility of findings.

4. CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF PAST WORK

The critical analysis of existing literature reveals several significant findings and limitations that shape the current understanding of heat transfer enhancement through lateral jet impingement on semi-circular grooved surfaces. A major strength of the reviewed studies lies in the consistent demonstration of heat transfer enhancement compared to smooth surfaces, with reported improvements ranging from 15% to 45% depending on geometric and operating parameters. However, the wide variation in enhancement factors across different studies indicates the need for more standardized experimental protocols and reporting procedures. Experimental methodologies employed in the reviewed studies show considerable diversity in terms of measurement techniques, test conditions, and data analysis approaches. While this diversity provides valuable insights into different aspects of the phenomenon, it also creates challenges in comparing results across studies and developing unified correlations. The lack of standardized uncertainty analysis and validation procedures in some studies raises questions about the reliability of reported results and their applicability to practical engineering applications. Computational fluid dynamics studies have provided valuable insights into flow physics and heat transfer mechanisms, but the accuracy of numerical predictions depends heavily on turbulence modeling approaches and computational domain specifications. The majority of studies employed Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes equations with various turbulence models, while few investigations utilized more advanced approaches such as large eddy simulation or direct numerical simulation. This limitation restricts the ability to capture unsteady flow phenomena and accurately predict heat transfer in complex geometries.

The geometric parameter space explored in existing studies, while extensive, shows some notable gaps that limit the generalizability of findings. Most investigations focused on specific groove depth-to-width ratios and pitch-to-diameter ratios, with limited exploration of intermediate values or non-dimensional parameter combinations. The influence of groove orientation relative to jet direction has received insufficient attention, despite its potential significance for heat transfer enhancement in practical applications. Scale effects and their impact on heat transfer performance have been inadequately addressed in the reviewed literature. The majority of studies were conducted at laboratory scale with limited consideration of scaling laws and their implications for industrial applications. This limitation is particularly important for applications involving large-scale heat exchangers or cooling systems where geometric and operating parameters may differ significantly from laboratory conditions. The integration of heat transfer enhancement with pressure drop considerations remains an area requiring further development. While most studies report heat transfer coefficients, fewer investigations provide comprehensive pressure drop measurements and thermal-hydraulic performance evaluations. This limitation hinders the practical application of research findings in engineering design where both heat transfer and pumping power requirements must be considered.

5. DISCUSSION

The synthesis of findings from the reviewed literature reveals several important trends and insights regarding heat transfer enhancement through lateral jet impingement on semi-circular grooved surfaces. The consistent demonstration of heat transfer enhancement across different studies provides strong evidence for the effectiveness of this combined approach, although the magnitude of enhancement varies significantly depending on geometric and operating parameters. The optimal groove depth-to-width ratios identified in multiple studies converge around 0.2-0.3, suggesting a fundamental relationship between groove geometry and flow physics that transcends specific experimental conditions. The role of jet Reynolds number emerges as a critical parameter that influences both the magnitude of heat transfer enhancement and the optimal geometric configurations. Higher Reynolds numbers generally promote greater enhancement factors, but the relationship is not linear and depends on groove geometry and jet positioning. This finding has important implications for practical applications where operating conditions may vary over wide ranges, requiring robust design approaches that maintain performance across different conditions. The limited investigation of transient heat transfer phenomena represents a significant gap in current understanding, particularly for applications involving variable heat loads or intermittent operation. The steady-state focus of most studies may not capture important dynamic effects that influence thermal performance in real-world applications. Future research should prioritize transient heat transfer investigations to provide more comprehensive understanding of thermal behavior. The potential for multi-objective optimization considering heat transfer enhancement, pressure drop, manufacturing cost, and reliability factors emerges as a critical need for practical implementation. The current literature focuses primarily on heat transfer maximization without adequate consideration of trade-offs and constraints that govern engineering design decisions. Advanced optimization approaches that can simultaneously consider multiple objectives and constraints would provide more practical guidance for industrial applications.

6. CONCLUSION

This comprehensive review and meta-analysis of enhanced heat transfer through lateral air jet impingement on semi-circular grooved surfaces reveals significant potential for thermal management applications while identifying critical areas for future research. The consistent demonstration of heat transfer enhancement across diverse experimental and computational studies provides strong evidence for the effectiveness of this combined approach. Optimal groove depth-to-width ratios of 0.2-0.3 and pitch-to-diameter ratios of 2-4 emerge as design guidelines supported by multiple investigations. The complex flow physics involving boundary layer manipulation, secondary vortex formation, and enhanced mixing within groove cavities contribute to superior thermal performance compared to smooth surfaces. However, significant research gaps remain in areas including transient heat transfer behavior, multi-objective optimization, scale effects, and standardized experimental protocols. Future investigations should prioritize comprehensive thermal-hydraulic performance evaluation, advanced computational modeling approaches, and practical implementation considerations to fully realize the potential of this heat transfer enhancement technique in industrial applications.

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