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# LBM simulation of free convection in a nanofluid filled incinerator containing a hot block

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The present study explores nanofluid magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) natural convection in an incinerator shaped enclosure including a rectangular hot block situated on the bottom wall. A parametric investigation is conducted to explore the effect of different parameters such as nanoparticles volume fraction ( $\phi = 0-4\%$ ), Rayleigh number ( $Ra = 10^3-10^5$ ), external magnetic field intensity ( $Ha = 0-100$ ), incinerator tilting angle ( $\gamma = 0-360^\circ$ ) and hot block's height (0.1-0.5), width (0.1-0.8) and position on heat transfer, nanofluid flow, and entropy generation inside the incinerator. The top and bottom horizontal walls of enclosure are adiabatic; the right, left vertical and inclined walls are supposed to have cold temperature whereas the hot block is maintained at a hot temperature. The Brownian motion was also considered in calculating the effective nanofluid thermal conductivity and viscosity using Koo-Kleinstreuer-Li (KKL) correlation. The lattice-Boltzmann method is used with a D2Q9-D2Q9 double population's model as utilized CFD approach. The mesh independency study and the validation of proposed model are accomplished in several cases and very good agreement is found between present results and former experimental and numerical findings. The results showed that entropy generation is augmented by increasing height and width of heater, nanoparticles volume fraction and Rayleigh number but it is reduced by enhancing Hartmann number. However, increasing the magnetic field does not have notable influence on heat transfer, compared to other parameters. The optimum incinerator inclination angles to maximize heat transfer and minimize entropy generation are  $90^\circ$  and  $270^\circ$ .

## 1. Introduction

Control of heat transfer is crucial in energy generating systems. Various techniques of heat transfer augmentation have been proposed in the literature focusing on optimizing the geometry, swirl flow devices, use of porous media, partitioned cavities and etc., which are well documented [1]. Bergles [2] classified the techniques of heat transfer enhancement as active or passive. Active methods need external power to preserve the improvement mechanism, yet passive improvement techniques do not require external power. An advanced way of heat transfer improvement consists of using a base fluid with nanoparticles of superior thermal conductivities suspended inside. The procured solution is named nanofluid which is presented first time by Choi and Eastman [3] is classified among the passive improvement techniques. According

to Safaei et al. [4], nanofluids are mixtures formed by solid-liquid that consists of a base liquid and nanoparticles (particles with diameters less than 100 nm). Nanoparticles are fundamentally metal (Cu [5], Ag [6], Co [7], etc.), oxides (CuO [8], ZnO [9],  $Al_2O_3$  [10],  $TiO_2$  [11],  $Fe_2O_3$  [12],  $SiO_2$  [13], etc.) and some other compounds like graphene [14], single-walled [15], double-walled [16] or multi-walled [17] carbon nanotubes, diamond [18], etc. whereas base fluid frequently includes water [19], propylene glycol [20], ethylene glycol [21] and oil [22]. Nanofluids behave such normal, current working fluids-due to the small size of nanoparticles-compared to other techniques used for improving heat transfer in industrial applications. This technique can be used for the thermal machines which will be constructed in the future or even for the ones which are already functioning with little modifications [23].

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## Nomenclature

$B_0$	magnetic field, T
$c$	lattice velocity, $\text{m s}^{-1}$
$c_s$	speed of the sound, $\text{m s}^{-1}$
$c_i$	discrete particle speed, $\text{m s}^{-1}$
$C_p$	specific heat at constant pressure, $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{kg}^{-1}$
$F_i$	external forces, N
$f$	density distribution functions, $\text{kg m}^{-3}$
$f^{\text{eq}}$	equilibrium density distribution functions, $\text{kg m}^{-3}$
$g^{\text{eq}}$	internal energy distribution functions, K
$H$	incinerator height, m
$Ha$	hartmann number
$g^{\text{eq}}$	equilibrium internal energy distribution functions, K
$g$	gravity acceleration, $\text{m s}^{-2}$
$k$	thermal conductivity, $\text{W K}^{-1} \text{m}^{-1}$
$Ma$	Mach number
$L$	incinerator width, m
$m$	number of lattices in $y$ direction
$Nu$	local Nusselt number
$n$	number of lattices in $x$ direction
$P$	pressure, $\text{N m}^{-2}$
$Pr$	Prandtl number
$Ra$	Rayleigh number
$S_{\text{gen}}$	entropy generation, $\text{J K}^{-1}$
$T$	temperature, K
$\mathbf{u}(u, v)$	velocities, $\text{m s}^{-1}$
$\mathbf{x}(x, y)$	lattice coordinates, m

### Greek symbols

$\alpha$	thermal diffusivity, $\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$
$\beta_T$	thermal expansion coefficient, $\text{K}^{-1}$
$\gamma$	incinerator inclination angle
$\theta$	non-dimensional temperature
$\mu$	dynamic viscosity, $\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$
$\nu$	kinematic viscosity, $\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$
$\rho$	density, $\text{kg m}^{-3}$
$\sigma$	electrical conductivity, $\text{S m}^{-1}$
$\phi$	solid volume fraction
$\tau_\alpha$	relaxation time for flow, s
$\tau_\nu$	relaxation time for temperature, s
$\Delta x$	lattice spacing, m
$\Delta t$	time increment, s
$\psi$	non-dimensional stream function
$\omega_i$	weighting factor for flow
$\omega'_i$	weighting factor for temperature
$\Delta$	difference

### Subscript

$f$	fluid
$nf$	nanofluid
$p$	particle
$h$	hot
$c$	cold
<i>static</i>	static

A review of recent researches made with nanofluids can be found in Solangi et al. [24].

On the other hand, natural convection heat transfer due to a localized heat source in complex geometries is ubiquitous in the majority of industrial systems. It has been studied extensively because of its interest in many practical systems including cooling of electronic equipment [25], chimneys [26], heat exchangers [27], solar collectors [28], nuclear engineering [29], power plants [30], building engineering [31] and geophysical flows [32]. Sarris et al. [33] numerically investigated free con-

vection in rectangular tanks heated locally from below, using a high Prandtl number fluid. Their results demonstrated that increasing the Rayleigh number develops a local temperature enhancement at the top of the heated strip without significant temperature increment in the cold tank sections. They also found that increasing the tank aspect ratio and the heated strip width enhances the fluid temperature and intensifies the fluid flow, which results in a more homogeneous glass melt and leads to a better quality of final product. Also, the heated strip position plays a vital role on the fluid flow, the temperature distribution and the thermal diffusion. Esfe et al. [34] numerically investigated the mixed convection heat transfer of water–alumina nanofluid in an inclined lid-driven square cavity with an interior hot obstacle. They concluded that the average Nusselt number augments by the Richardson number decrement for all studied nanoparticle concentration. Mliki et al. [35] studied the influence of nanoparticle Brownian motion on MHD free convection of  $\text{CuO}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  nanofluid with uniform heat generation or absorption for a cavity with uniform or sinusoidally boundary conditions. They concluded that the Brownian motion is lessened at high Hartman or Rayleigh numbers. Also, they found the existing of a critical value for the nanoparticle volume fraction, when the Brownian motion is taken into consideration. Bairy et al. [36] made a review study on free convection in parallelogram-shaped cavities. They reviewed different shapes of cavities with considering various parameters such as cavity inclination, boundary conditions, thermal and radiative properties of the fluid and distributions of heat sources. In this regard, a critical study on various types of research methods such as experimental, numerical, analytical and inverse approaches has been carried out with a special focus on convective diode cavity. Saravanan and Sivaraj [37] numerically studied free convection in an air filled enclosure with a non-uniform heat flux which set up centrally on the bottom wall. Their results illustrated that the most influential parameters are the source length and Grashof number. Oztop et al. [38] reviewed free convection heat transfer and fluid flow in various enclosures by local heat sources. The main goal of their review paper was to survey the effect of the type and place of heat sources. They also studied the impacts of the various boundary conditions and configurations on the nanofluid flow and heat transfer of an enclosure, in their review paper. Natural convection heat transfer in enclosures with separate heat sources have been perused numerically as well as experimentally by studies in [39–42]. Paroncini and Corvaro [43] experimentally analyzed the convection heat transfer in an air filled square enclosure. Heat generation in the enclosure was performed by using a hot strip, located in the middle of enclosure, with three different heights. Their experiments showed that the natural convection heat transfer worsens with the source height increment. Mejri et al. [44] investigated laminar free convection and entropy generation of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  nanofluid in an enclosure, under a magnetic field. They used the Lattice Boltzmann Method (LBM) for the mathematical problem solving. They adjusted the controlling parameters in order to find conditions with maximum heat transfer and minimum entropy generation. Lately, a numerical investigation on free convection in a water filled inclined triangular cavity was made by Mejri et al. [45]. Their results showed that heat transfer rate augments with the increase of Rayleigh number. Minimum heat transfer is found for an inclination angle of  $135^\circ$  whereas for an inclination angle equal to zero, heat transfer is the highest. Mahmoudi et al. [46] studied free convection heat transfer and entropy generation in a cavity filled with  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles, in presence of magnetic field. Their results revealed that for  $Ra \leq 10^5$  and  $Ha \leq 30$ , heat generation/absorption coefficient has a great influence on transfer rate but it does not affect entropy generation for the studied values. Kefayati [47,48] studied the heat transfer and entropy generation of laminar free convection of non-Newtonian water/copper nanofluids in a square enclosure. He used the Finite Difference Lattice Boltzmann Method (FDLBM) as a numerical tool. The results of both studies showed that an augmentation of Rayleigh number or nanoparticles volume fraction increases heat transfer. Selimefendigil and Öztop [49] studied numerically MHD nanofluid free convection in an enclosure



**Table 2**  
Coefficient values of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/water nanofluid [63].

a <sub>1</sub>	52.813488759
a <sub>2</sub>	6.115637295
a <sub>3</sub>	0.6955745084
a <sub>4</sub>	4.1745552786 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>
a <sub>5</sub>	0.176919300241
a <sub>6</sub>	-298.19819084
a <sub>7</sub>	-34.532716906
a <sub>8</sub>	-3.9225289283
a <sub>9</sub>	-0.2354329626
a <sub>10</sub>	-0.999063481

The nanofluid effective viscosity can be calculated from the suggested formula by Sheikholeslami and Ganji [63]. This model is valid for dilute suspensions ( $\phi \leq 4\%$ ) containing tiny spherical particles:

$$\mu_{eff} = \mu_{static} + \mu_{Brownian} = \mu_{static} + \frac{k_{Brownian}}{k_f} \times \frac{\mu_f}{Pr_f} \quad (9)$$

$$\mu_{static} = \mu_f(1 - \phi)^{-2.5} \quad (10)$$

where  $\mu_{static}$  is the nanofluid viscosity calculated from Brinkman [64] equation.

### 3. Lattice Boltzmann Method

The Lattice Boltzmann Method (LBM) is based on Ludwig Boltzmann's kinetic theory of gases. The main idea of this model is that fluids can be considered as a lot of tiny particles moving with random motions. The main variable in LBM algorithm is the density distribution function  $f_i(\mathbf{x}, t)$  of the fluid pseudo-molecules that has lattice velocity  $c_i$  at location  $\mathbf{x}$  and time  $t$  [35]. The lattice Boltzmann equation with Bhatnagar–Gross–Krook (BGK) approximation, for incompressible problems, utilizes two distribution functions;  $f$  and  $g$ , for the flow ( $f$ ) and temperature fields ( $g$ ), respectively. Concerning the flow field, the discretized LBM equations can be obtained by [63]:

For the flow field:

$$f_i(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}_i \Delta t, t + \Delta t) = f_i(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{1}{\tau_v} (f_i(\mathbf{x}, t) - f_i^{eq}(\mathbf{x}, t)) + \Delta t \mathbf{c}_i F_i \quad (11)$$

For the temperature field:

$$g_i(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}_i \Delta t, t + \Delta t) = g_i(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{1}{\tau_\alpha} (g_i(\mathbf{x}, t) - g_i^{eq}(\mathbf{x}, t)) \quad (12)$$

Where  $\Delta t$  refers to lattice time step which is set to 1. The left side of Eq. (11) is often called streaming or propagation and used for calculation of migration of fluid molecules from one node to its neighbor grid point. The collision part (right side) calculates the relaxation process of the molecules to the local equilibrium distribution  $f_i^{eq}$ , namely the truncated Boltzmann distribution when the BGK collision model is used.

$$f_i^{eq} = \omega_i \rho \left[ 1 + \frac{3(\mathbf{c}_i \cdot \mathbf{u})}{c^2} + \frac{9(\mathbf{c}_i \cdot \mathbf{u})^2}{2c^4} - \frac{3\mathbf{u}^2}{2c^2} \right] \quad (13)$$

$$g_i^{eq} = \omega_i' T \left[ 1 + 3 \frac{(\mathbf{c}_i \cdot \mathbf{u})}{c^2} + \frac{9(\mathbf{c}_i \cdot \mathbf{u})^2}{2c^4} - \frac{3\mathbf{u}^2}{2c^2} \right] \quad (14)$$

where  $u$  and  $\rho$  are the macroscopic velocity and density, respectively. The double populations D2Q9-D2Q9 thermal model is applied in this study. Thus, the discrete particle velocity vectors and the weighting factors are given as follows:

**For D2Q9**

$$\mathbf{c}_i = \begin{cases} 0 & i = 0 \\ (\cos[(i-1)\pi/2], \sin[(i-1)\pi/2])c & i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ \sqrt{2}(\cos[(i-5)\pi/2 + \pi/4], \sin[(i-5)\pi/2 + \pi/4])c & i = 5, 6, 7, 8 \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

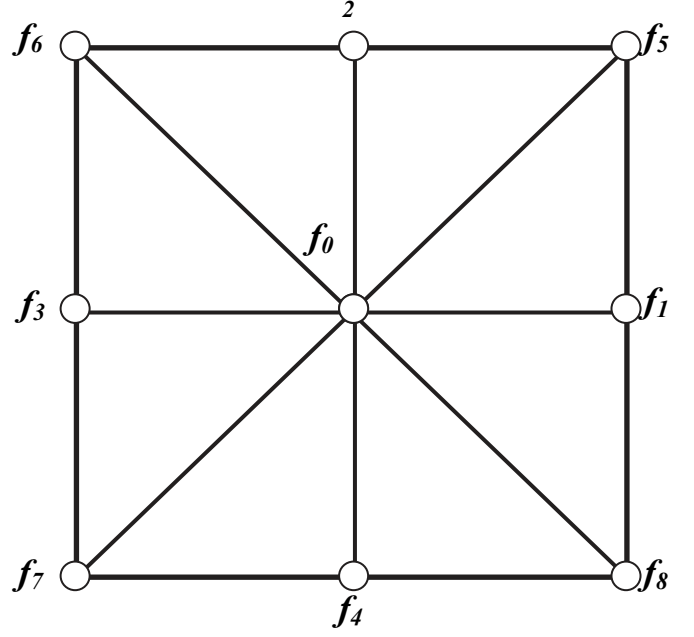


Fig. 2. Domain boundaries and direction of streaming velocities, D2Q9.

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_0 &= \frac{4}{9}, \\ \omega_i &= \frac{1}{9} \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \text{ and} \\ \omega_i &= \frac{1}{36} \text{ for } i = 5, 6, 7, 8 \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

The thermal diffusivity  $\alpha$  and kinematic viscosity  $\nu$  are respectively related to the relaxation time by equation below:

$$\alpha = \left[ \tau_\alpha - \frac{1}{2} \right] c_s^2 \Delta t, \quad \nu = \left[ \tau_\nu - \frac{1}{2} \right] c_s^2 \Delta t \quad (17)$$

where  $c_s$  is the speed of sound inside the lattice which is equal to  $c_s = c/\sqrt{3}$ .

In the case of free convection study, the external force term  $F_i$  is given by equation below:

$$F_i = \frac{\omega_i}{c_s^2} F \cdot c_i \quad (18)$$

where  $F$  is the total external body force.

Macroscopic quantities  $\rho$ ,  $u$  and  $T$  can be calculated respectively by equations below.

$$\rho = \sum_i f_i \quad (19)$$

$$\rho u = \sum_i f_i c_i \quad (20)$$

$$T = \sum_i g_i \quad (21)$$

#### 3.1. Boundary conditions

By considering Fig. 1, the boundary conditions of flow field are calculated as follows:

Incinerator walls  $AB, BC, CD, DE, EF, FG, GH, HA$ :  $U = V = 0$

Incinerator walls  $AB, BC, CD, EF, FG, GH$ :  $T = T_c$

Incinerator walls  $DE, HD_1, A_1A$ :  $\partial T / \partial y = 0$

Hot block walls,  $A_1B_1, B_1C_1, C_1D_1, D_1A_1$ :  $U = V = 0, T = T_h$

Therefore, by using the bounce-back scheme at the boundary nodes (Fig. 2), the outer distribution functions from the domain are recognized by the streaming process and the inner ones are determined as follows for the flow B.C.s:

$$AB, CD, C_1D_1: f_1 = f_3, f_5 = f_7, f_8 = f_6$$

$$BC: f_1 = f_3, f_4 = f_2, f_8 = f_6$$

$$DE: f_4 = f_2, f_8 = f_6, f_7 = f_5$$

$$EF, GH, A_1B_1: f_3 = f_1, f_7 = f_5, f_6 = f_8$$

$$FG: f_3 = f_1, f_4 = f_2, f_7 = f_5$$

$$\text{and } AH, B_1C_1: f_2 = f_4, f_5 = f_7, f_6 = f_8.$$

The thermal boundary conditions are considered as follows:

$$AB, CD: g_1 = -g_3, g_5 = -g_7, g_8 = -g_6,$$

$$BC: g_1 = -g_3, g_4 = -g_2, g_8 = -g_6,$$

$$DE: g_{4,n} = g_{4,n-1}, g_{7,n} = g_{7,n-1}, g_{8,n} = g_{8,n-1},$$

$$EF, GH: g_3 = -g_1, g_7 = -g_5, g_6 = -g_8,$$

$$FG: g_3 = -g_1, g_4 = -g_2, g_7 = -g_5,$$

$$A_1B_1: g_3 = 2/9 - g_1, g_4 = 2/9 - g_2, g_7 = 2/9 - g_5,$$

$$B_1C_1: g_1 = 2/9 - g_3, g_2 = 2/9 - g_4, g_5 = 2/9 - g_7,$$

$$C_1D_1: g_2 = 2/9 - g_4, g_5 = 2/9 - g_7, g_6 = 2/9 - g_8$$

$$\text{and } AH: g_{2,n} = g_{2,n-1}, g_{5,n} = g_{5,n-1}, g_{6,n} = g_{6,n-1}.$$

### 3.2. Nusselt number calculation

In LBM simulations, the Rayleigh, Prandtl and Mach numbers are attributed constants values. Consequently, the viscosity is calculated as shown in equation below.

$$\nu = n \times Ma \times c_s \times \sqrt{\frac{\text{Pr}}{\text{Ra}}} \quad (22)$$

where  $n$  is the number of lattice nodes in  $y$ -direction. To guarantee the flow incompressibility, the Mach number was chosen as  $Ma < 0.1$  [65]. Therefore, the heat transfer coefficient is calculated as follows:

$$h = \frac{q_w}{T_h - T_c} \quad (23)$$

Local Nusselt number can be obtained by [66]:

$$Nu_l = \frac{hH}{k_f} \quad (24)$$

The nanofluid thermal conductivity is expressed as [67]:

$$k_{nf} = -\frac{q_w}{\partial\theta/\partial x} \quad (25)$$

The local Nusselt number along the left wall can be expressed as a function of nanofluid and pure fluid conductivities and dimensionless temperature gradient:

$$Nu_l = -\frac{k_{nf}}{k_f} \left( \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial X} \right) \Big|_{\text{Hot block}} \quad (26)$$

The average Nusselt number is obtained by integrating the local Nusselt number along the hot block, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{Nu}_l = & -\frac{1}{b} \int_{A_1}^{B_1} \frac{k_{nf}}{k_f} \left( \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial X} dY \right) \Big|_{X=(L-a)/2} - \frac{1}{a} \int_{B_1}^{C_1} \frac{k_{nf}}{k_f} \left( \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial Y} dX \right) \Big|_{Y=b} \\ & - \frac{1}{b} \int_{C_1}^{D_1} \frac{k_{nf}}{k_f} \left( \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial X} dY \right) \Big|_{X=(L+a)/2} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

### 3.3. Entropy generation equations

In the case of natural convection of magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) nanofluid flow, the associated irreversibilities are consisted of three terms [42]:

The first term ( $s_{gen,h}$ ) is the local entropy generation because of heat transfer:

$$s_{gen,h} = \frac{k_{nf}}{T_0^2} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right]$$

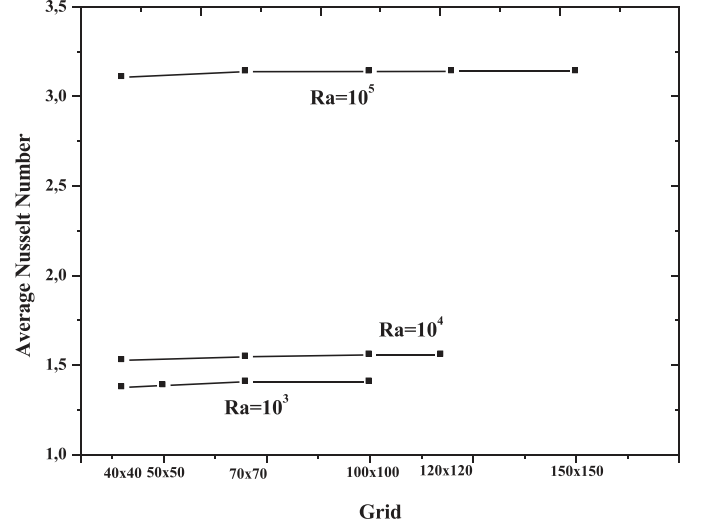


Fig. 3. Grid independency test.

Table 3

Comparison of the average Nusselt number with results of Refs. [54,68–71].

Rayleigh	10 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>4</sup>	10 <sup>5</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>
Present work	1.124	2.273	4.563	8.775
Dixit and Babu [54]	1.121	2.286	4.546	8.625
Moumni et al. [68]	1.117	2.244	4.521	8.824
Kuzink et al. [69]	1.117	2.246	4.518	8.792
De Vahl Davis [70]	1.118	2.243	4.519	8.800
Djebali et al. [71]	1.115	2.226	4.508	8.713

Second term is entropy generation because of fluid friction ( $s_{gen,v}$ )

$$s_{gen,v} = \frac{\mu_{nf}}{T_0} \left[ 2 \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^2 + 2 \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right]$$

The last term ( $s_{gen,M}$ ) is local entropy generation because of the magnetic field

$$s_{gen,M} = \frac{\sigma_{nf} B_0^2}{T_0} v^2$$

The total entropy generation is the sum of three aforementioned entropy generations:

$$s_{gen} = s_{gen,h} + s_{gen,v} + s_{gen,M} \quad (28)$$

$$T_0 = (T_h + T_c)/2$$

The entropy generation is dimensionless using the following parameter:

$$S_{gen} = s_{gen} \frac{T_0^2 H^2}{k_f (T_h - T_c)^2} \quad (29)$$

The dimensionless entropy generation averaged on the total studied medium is given by:

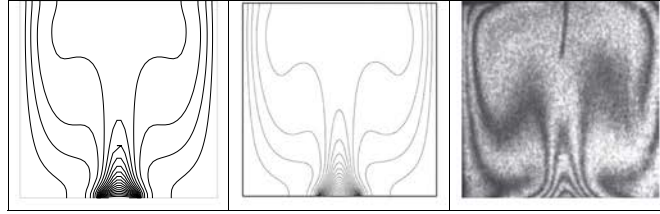
$$S = \frac{1}{V} \int_V S_{gen} dV \quad (30)$$

where  $V$  is the total volume of studied incinerator.

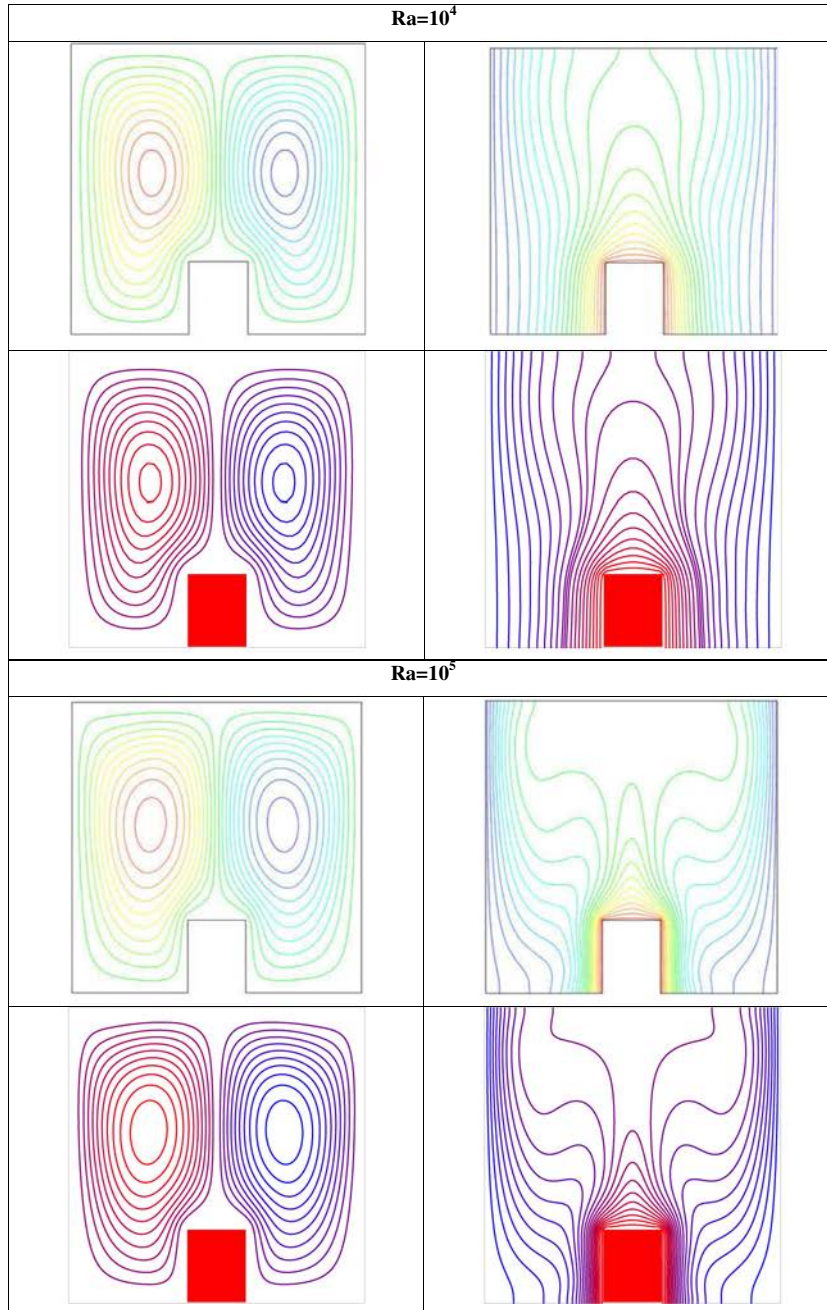
### 3.4. Grid independency study and validation

To ensure the grid independence, the sensitivity of present results is examined for five different uniform grids: 50×50, 80×80, 100×100, 120×120 and 150×150. It is found that a grid of 100×100 can be





(a) Comparison of temperature distribution: (left) Present code, (middle) CIP thermal lattice-Boltzmann method[72] and (right) experimental[43] ( $Ra = 2.02 \times 10^5$ ).



(b) Comparison of the streamlines and isotherms between the present LBM results and the numerical results of AlAmiri, Khanafer and Pop [73].

Fig. 4. Validation with previous studies.

used for Rayleigh numbers equal to  $Ra = 10^3$  and  $Ra = 10^4$ . In case of higher Rayleigh numbers, a more refined mesh is needed to obtain a grid independent solution (Fig. 3). For  $Ra = 10^5$ , the chosen grid is equal to  $120 \times 120$ .

Table 3 Gives the comparison of average Nusselt number for free convection inside a cavity with results of references [54, 68–71]. It is clear from the table that the present simulations are in acceptable agreement with previous LBM, FVM and FDM numerical findings. Fig. 4(a) demonstrates the capability of present code to peruse the laminar natural convection of air in an enclosure, in comparison with experimental data (Paroncini and Corvaro [43]) and Cubic-Interpolated-Pseudo-Particle (CIP) numerical results (Mussa et al. [72]) with minimum error. Fig. 4(b) demonstrates the comparison of isotherms and streamlines obtained from present LBM code with results of AlAmiri et al. [73]. In that work, they have investigated the laminar free convection heat transfer in a partially divided square enclosure using finite element method. Comparisons have been done for Rayleigh numbers equal to  $10^4$  and  $10^5$ . It is clear from the figure that the predictions of present model are in good agreement with AlAmiri et al. [73].

#### 4. Results and discussion

Heat transfer inside the incinerator cavity with a hot block located on the bottom wall can be divided into three zones; the first is between the right side of the hot block and the right side of the incinerator vertical wall where it is considered as the case of differentially heated cavity opened at the top, the second zone is similar to the first one but located on the left part. The third zone is placed on the top of the heated block which can be considered as the Rayleigh–Bénard convection.

Fig. 5 presents the influence of Rayleigh number on streamlines, and isotherms inside the incinerator, filled with distilled water ( $\phi = 0\%$ , dashed lines) and  $Al_2O_3$ –water nanofluid ( $\phi = 4\%$ , solid lines), and for three values of Hartmann number ( $Ha = 0, 40, 100$ ). The results demonstrated that if Hartmann number enhances, the intensity of clockwise recirculating cell inside the cavity weakens for either fluids or nanofluids. This decrease is more accentuated for higher Rayleigh numbers. The thickness of thermal boundary layer near the hot block vertical walls has a direct, ascending relation with Hartmann number, due to the magnetic field which is weakening the flow. The convection mechanism on the hot block walls vanishes as the intensity of magnetic field increases.

For  $Ra = 10^3$ , the isotherms are parallel to the hot block faces showing pure conduction heat transfer regime and adding more nanoparticles to base fluid do not have any considerable influence on temperature profiles. Inside the incinerator, two symmetric vortexes are created. The left cell is rotated counterclockwise and the value of stream function is  $2.601 \times 10^{-2}$  for distilled water. The right cell is rotated clockwise and the value of its stream-function is equal to  $-2.601 \times 10^{-2}$  for the same working fluid. For nanofluid, the shape of streamlines (with a slightly extension at the top of vortexes) is the same as distilled water, although the lowest and highest values of stream-function are decreased to  $\Psi_{max,nf} = 2.246 \times 10^{-2}$  and  $\Psi_{min,nf} = -2.246 \times 10^{-2}$ . This is because of the fact that the viscosity of water is lower than the viscosity of  $Al_2O_3/H_2O$  nanofluid. Therefore, the resistance of nanofluid to the flow is amplified and the friction inside the nanofluid is reinforced. The studied subject is always symmetric and the calculation of local Nusselt number shows analogous findings on the right and left walls of the block. These results are in agreement with Mliki et al. [35] findings.

Fig. 6 (a–c) depicts the local Nusselt number at the three faces of hot block as function of the Rayleigh and Hartmann numbers and for distilled water and  $Al_2O_3$ /water nanofluid. Fig. 6(a) shows that local Nusselt number is an ascending function with curvilinear abscissa on the left and right sides of hot block. This increase means that when the curvilinear abscissa leaves the adiabatic bottom, it is approached the cold sides of incinerator and therefore, the temperature gradient is augmented. Therefore, heat exchanges are augmented between hot block and the medium, whereas on the top side of hot block, the local Nusselt

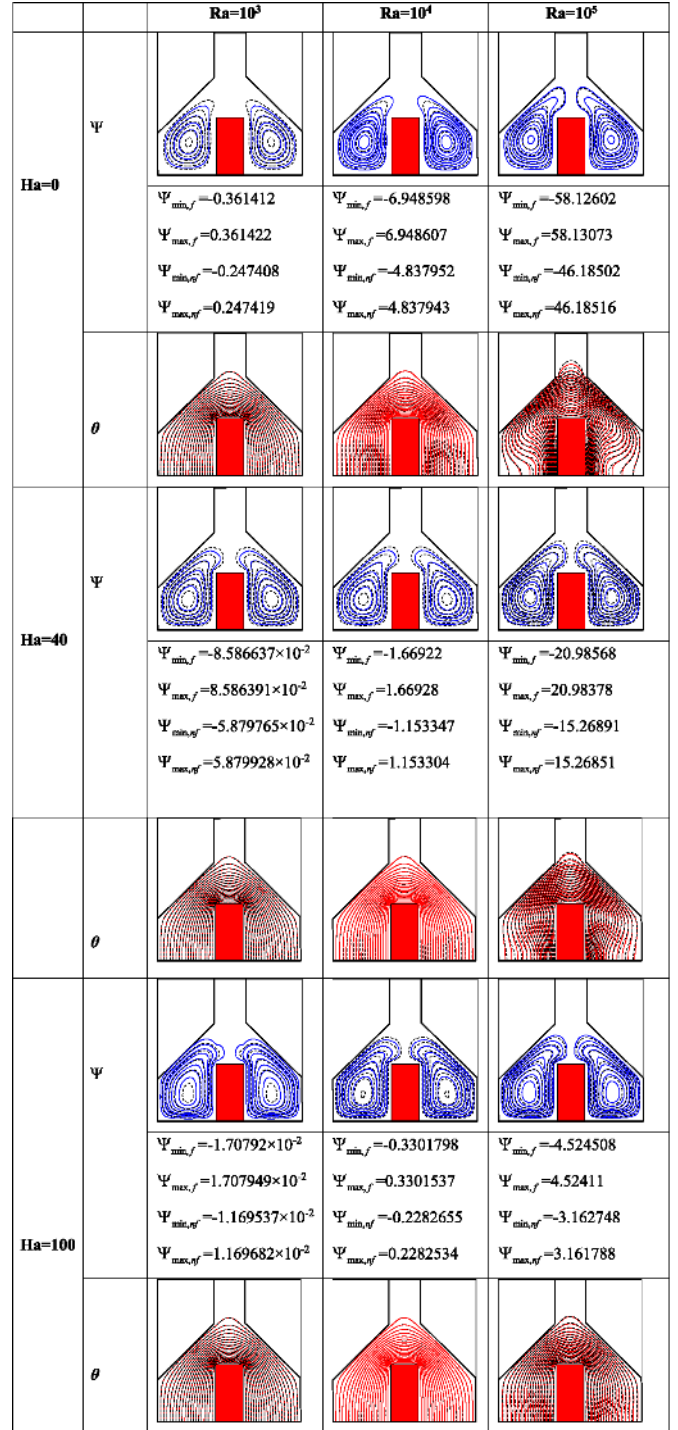


Fig. 5. Streamlines and isotherms for distilled water (dashed lines) and 4%  $Al_2O_3$ /water nanofluid (solid lines) at different Hartmann and Rayleigh numbers.

number has a parabolic form. The maximum heat transfer is on the top corners of the hot block ( $B_1, C_1$ , Fig. 1) whereas heat transfer is minimum on the bottom corners of heated block ( $A_1, D_1$ , Fig. 1) and on the middle of top face of hot block; because the middle of top wall of hot block is far from cold regions. Therefore, heat exchanges are minimum, compared to those between hot block vertical walls and vertical cavity cold walls. Stream function intensity is maximal on the two vortexes situated on the right and left of the hot block. In Fig. 5 and for  $Ha = 0$ , the streamlines occupy the total region on the right and left side



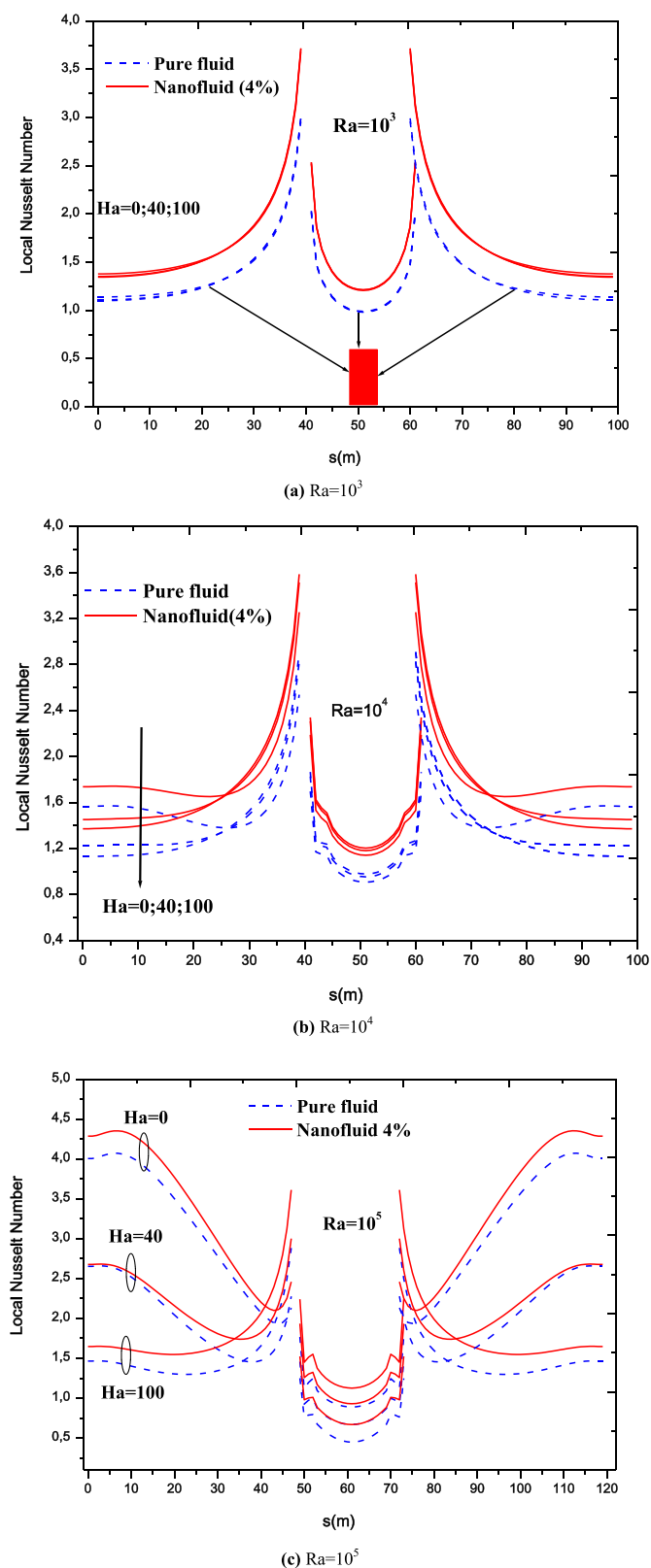


Fig. 6. Effect of Hartmann number on local Nusselt number for distilled water (dashed lines) and 4%  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ -water nanofluid (solid lines).

of hot block. Therefore, heat transfer become important which its influence can be seen on local Nusselt number in Fig. 6. On the upper face of hot block, the streamlines intensity is diminished, the distance between streamlines is augmented and there is no remarkable motion on this region. Therefore, heat transfer is reduced and consequently, Nusselt number is lessened. This effect is seen for the other studied values of Hartmann number ( $Ha=40$  and  $100$ ) but only the shape of streamlines are different a bit. Heat transfer rate is not influenced by the magnetic field intensity and is only sensible to nanoparticle volume fraction. The variation of local Nusselt number on the hot block walls is symmetric (plane  $x=0.5$ ) due to the geometry, thermal and flow symmetry. Increasing the Rayleigh number to  $Ra=10^4$ , the local Nusselt number has similar trend as the case of  $Ra=10^3$ , but the influence of Hartmann number becomes more important showing a transition from a conductive regime to convective one. If the Hartmann number is equal to zero ( $Ha=0$ ), the local Nusselt number on the left wall presents a minimum value at the position  $s=22$  m for the nanofluid and  $s=27$  m for the distilled water. On the top of hot block, the local Nusselt number has a parabolic shape which turns its concavity to the incinerator bottom.

When the Rayleigh number is equal to  $Ra=10^5$  and Hartmann numbers are equal to  $Ha=0$  or  $40$ , the local Nusselt number has a descending trend with respect to curvilinear abscissa. The local Nusselt number increases when the horizontal hot wall is approached. But, if the Hartmann number is equal to  $Ha=100$ , the profile of local Nusselt number is the same as the case for  $Ra=10^3$ . The regime is a pure convective for  $Ha=0$  and  $40$ , while the magnetic field is applied ( $Ha=100$ ), the strong effect of magnetic field can be perfectly seen. In fact, the heat exchanges are reduced while the Hartmann number is enhanced to  $100$  and the local Nusselt number for this case shows a pure conductive regime even when the Rayleigh number is equal to  $Ra=10^5$ .

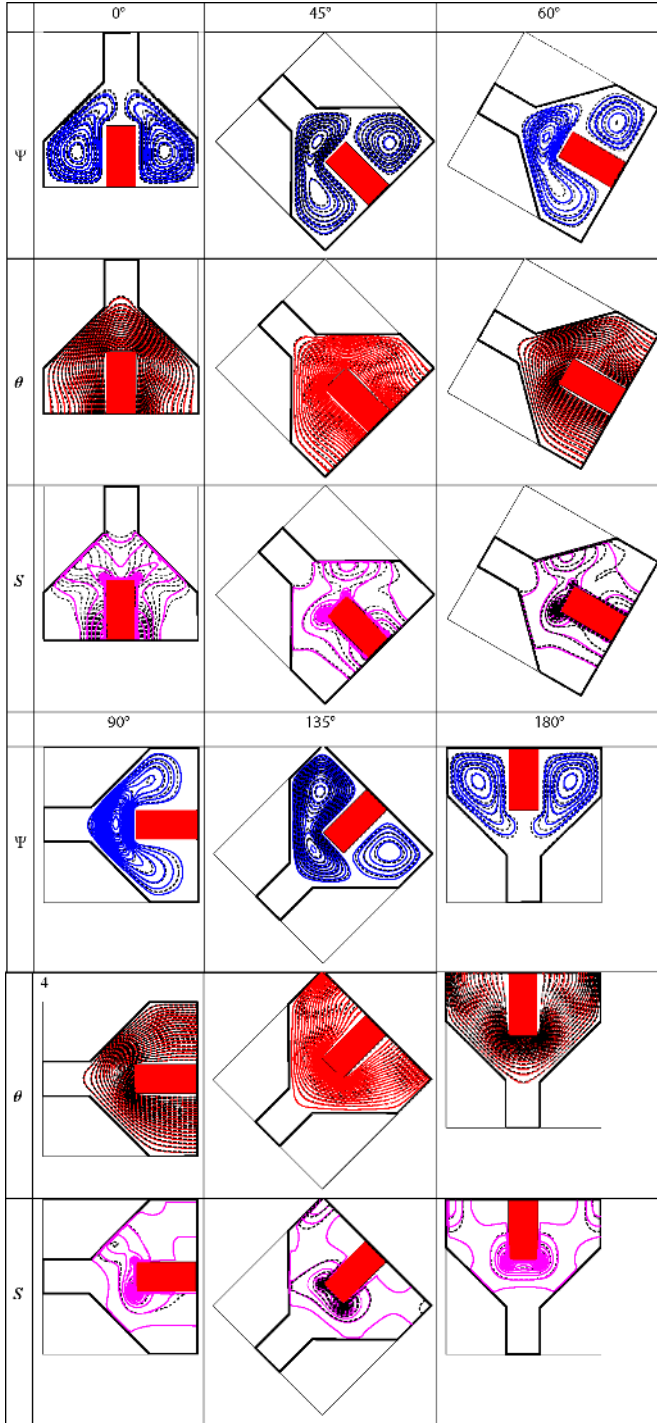
Table 4 gives the average Nusselt number for distilled water and nanofluid on the left wall of hot block, as a function of Hartmann and Rayleigh numbers. It is resulted from this table that the Nusselt number is a descending function with the Hartmann number. This decrement is well pronounced for higher Rayleigh numbers where the convection heat transfer mode is predominant. For all considered Hartmann and Rayleigh numbers, the Nusselt number is an ascending function with nanoparticle volume fraction. Also, the average Nusselt numbers have higher values for nanofluids, compared to distilled water.

Fig. 7 presents the influence of the incinerator inclination angle ( $\gamma$ ) and solid volume fraction ( $\phi$ ) on the isotherms and streamlines. The Rayleigh number and hot block height are chosen equal to  $Ra=10^5$  and  $0.4$ , respectively, while the inclination angle varies from  $0$  to  $180^\circ$ . For  $\gamma=45^\circ, 60^\circ$ , the dynamic structure is typified by three cells of different shapes and dimensions at the left, right and top of hot block. The left and top cells are linked and rotate counter clockwise. The right cell takes the form of surrounding space and is clockwise rotating. Compared to the  $\gamma=0^\circ$  case, the thermal structure has widely changed at right of hot block, for inclined cases. Besides, it is worth noting that adding nanoparticles does not affect the pure dynamic and thermal structure for  $\gamma=45^\circ, 60^\circ$  tilting cases. For a quarter turn rotation ( $\gamma=90^\circ$ ), the streamlines for the distilled water are formed by two eddies, whereas for nanofluid, these two eddies are merged on one big eddy occupying the whole medium. Increasing continuously the inclination angle, two eddies are obtained again for the distilled water and nanofluid and the head of top cell begins to merge with the right cell and form a large cell extended from right to top of the heater. The dimension of the large cell diminishes as the inclination angle approaches  $180^\circ$  where two equal, symmetric cells are obtained.

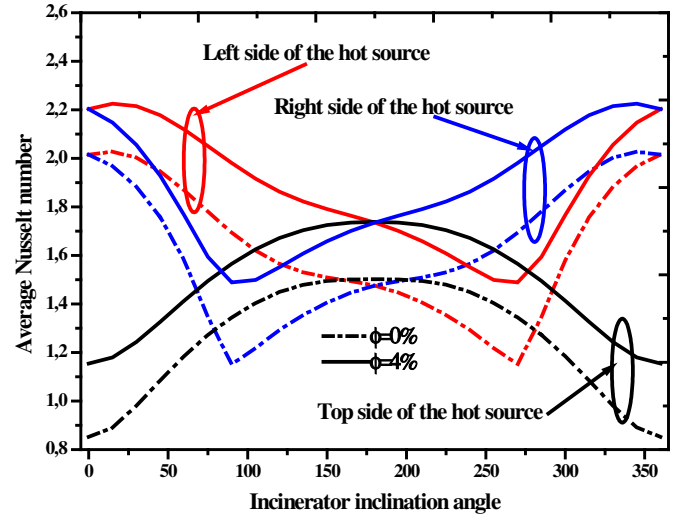
Fig. 8 demonstrates the impact of inclination angle on average Nusselt number around the heater for both cases of base fluid and nanofluid ( $\phi=4\%$ ). In the top side of heat source, three zones are distinguished: for  $0 \leq \gamma \leq 150^\circ$ , the average Nusselt number enhances as the inclination angle augments.  $150^\circ \leq \gamma \leq 220^\circ$ , the average Nusselt number is nearly constant with the inclination angle. For  $220^\circ \leq \gamma \leq 360^\circ$ , the av-

**Table 4**  
Average Nusselt number on the left wall of heated block.

Ha		$Nu_{av}$					
		0	20	40	60	80	100
$10^3$	Distilled water	1.416633	1.412893	1.410053	1.408839	1.408276	1.407975
	Nanofluid	1.733509	1.730459	1.728035	1.727018	1.726529	1.726285
$10^4$	Distilled water	1.556125	1.481316	1.436567	1.421496	1.415005	1.411618
	Nanofluid	1.836309	1.781176	1.747206	1.735139	1.729791	1.726943
$10^5$	Distilled water	3.144289	2.666786	2.015617	1.694949	1.565028	1.506712
	Nanofluid	3.373514	2.830573	2.203377	1.946752	1.849503	1.805766



**Fig. 7.** Effect of incinerator inclination angle ( $\gamma$ ) on streamlines, isotherms and local entropy generation,  $Ha = 40$  and  $Ra = 10^5$  (—  $\varphi = 4\%$  nanofluid (solid lines); ---- Base fluid (dashed lines)).



**Fig. 8.** Effect of incinerator inclination angle ( $\gamma$ ) on average Nusselt number at the left, right and top sides of the hot block for  $Ha = 40$  and  $Ra = 10^5$  (—  $\varphi = 4\%$  nanofluid (solid lines); ---- Base fluid (dashed lines)).

average Nusselt number reduces with the inclination angle increase. The Nusselt number in the case of the right and left sides diminishes with expanding inclination angle for  $0^\circ \leq \gamma \leq 90^\circ$  and enhances when the inclination angle is increased for  $270^\circ \leq \gamma \leq 360^\circ$ . In  $90^\circ \leq \gamma \leq 270^\circ$ , the Nusselt number varies sinusoidally as the inclination angle raises for the left or right side of heat source. Besides, it is observed that the inclination angle is a key factor on heat transfer in the three sides of heat source.

Fig. 9 depicts local entropy generation ( $S_{gen}$ ) for distilled water and 4% alumina/Water nanofluid, at different  $Ra$  and  $Ha$ . For  $Ra = 10^3$ , the entropy generation is maximum at the top corners of the hot block. It is discovered that for all the cases, the entropy generation raises by nanoparticles volume fraction augmentation due to the increase of irreversibility factor. This can be explicated by the augmentation of effective thermal conductivity, viscosity and electrical conductivity which appear in total entropy generation formula (Eq. (28)). For  $Ha = 0$ , if the Rayleigh number is increased from  $10^3$  to  $10^5$ , the maximum values of total entropy generated for distilled water are decreased from  $2.014 \times 10^{-2}$  to  $7.195 \times 10^{-3}$ , respectively. The maximum entropy generated for nanofluid is greater than its value for distilled water for all studied Rayleigh numbers. Also, it can be concluded that total entropy generation augments by Hartmann number reduction or enhancing the Rayleigh number.

Fig. 10 shows the effect of Hartmann number on normalized entropy generation ( $S_{gen}(Ha)/S_{gen}(Ha=0)$ ) for different Rayleigh numbers. For low Rayleigh numbers, it is shown that the normalized entropy generation slightly decreases with the Hartmann number. If the Rayleigh number is increased to  $Ra = 10^5$ , the rate of decrement becomes faster and the normalized total entropy generation becomes a descending function with Hartmann number.

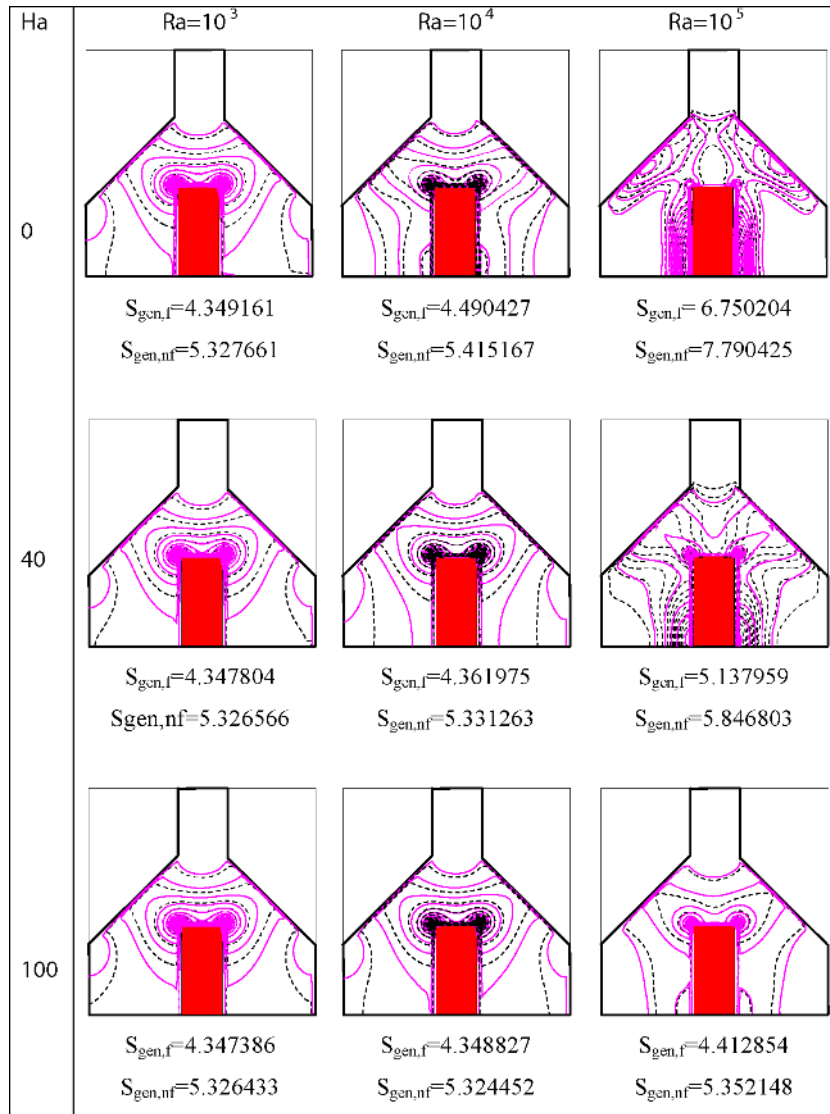


Fig. 9. Local entropy generation for distilled water (dashed lines) and 4% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/water nanofluid (solid lines) at different Rayleigh and Hartmann numbers.

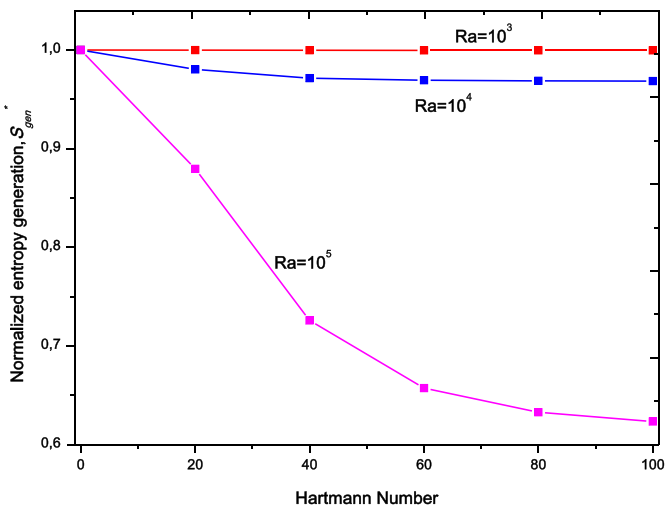


Fig. 10. Effect of Hartmann number on normalized entropy generation for different Rayleigh numbers.

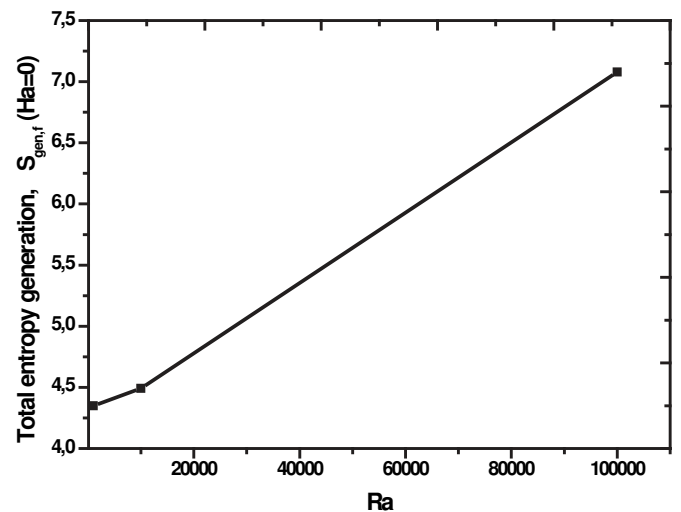


Fig. 11. Variation of total entropy generation versus Ra ( $\phi = 4\%$ ).

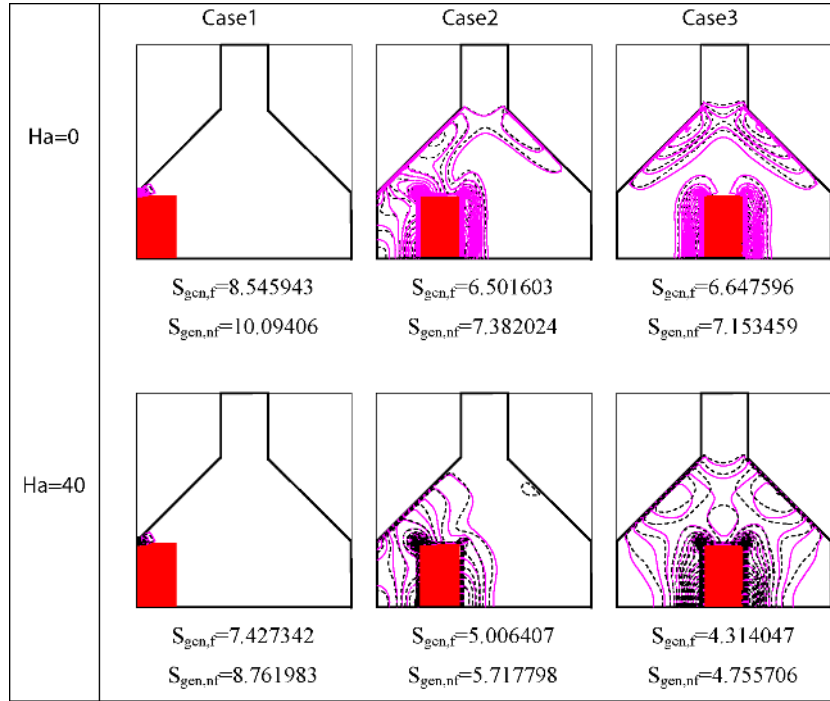


Fig. 12. Effect of hot block position on local entropy generation at  $Ra = 10^5$ ; for distilled water (dashed lines) and 4%  $Al_2O_3$ /water nanofluid (solid lines).

Fig. 11 illustrates the variation of total entropy generation versus Rayleigh number for  $Ha = 0$ . As can be seen from the figure, total entropy generation is an increasing function with  $Ra$ . In fact, as the Rayleigh number augments, the conduction mechanism gradually transits to a convection mechanism, the streamlines intensity boosts and a stronger temperature gradient is constructed inside the incinerator domain. As a result, the fluid friction irreversibility and heat transfer irreversibility impacts become more visible and therefore, the total entropy generation amplified [74]. The curve slope between  $Ra = 10^4$  and  $10^5$  is greater than the curve slope between  $Ra = 10^3$  and  $10^4$ . It means that entropy generation is enhanced more intensively in higher Rayleigh numbers.

Fig. 12 depicts the impact of hot block position on local entropy generation at Rayleigh number =  $10^5$ . The figure depicted that the maximum entropy generated is for case 1 (heater attached to the left wall of incinerator) and the minimum entropy generated is found for case 3 (heater located at the middle of lower wall). All this can be explicated by the fact that for case 1, the hot block is located near the cold and non-slip wall. Therefore, temperature and velocity gradients are considerable, whereas for case 3, the hot block is situated far from the cold wall. Therefore, velocity and temperature gradients are minimized. For all considered cases, entropy generation augments with Hartmann number decrement and nanoparticle volume fraction increment.

Fig. 13 depicts the effect of incinerator inclination angle ( $\gamma$ ) on local entropy generation for  $Ra = 10^5$  and  $Ha = 40$ . Diagrams are symmetric with respect to  $\gamma = 180^\circ$  and it can be divided into three zones. The first is situated between  $0^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$ , where the total entropy generation has a descending trend with respect to incinerator inclination angle. Then, in the range between  $90^\circ$  and  $270^\circ$ , it has a parabolic shape which turns its concavity to the top of incinerator with a maximum at  $\gamma = 180^\circ$ . The third zone is located between  $270^\circ$  and  $360^\circ$  where the total entropy generation is a boosting function with the inclination angle. This curve represents three maximums which are on  $\gamma = 15^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$ , and  $345^\circ$  and two minimums at  $\gamma = 90^\circ$  and  $270^\circ$ . The total entropy generation for nanofluid is superior to the case of distilled water. This curve associated with Fig. 8 shows that for the top wall of hot block, the best compromise between maximum heat transfer and entropy generation minimization is to take  $\gamma = 90^\circ$  or  $270^\circ$ ; whereas, for the left and right walls of hot

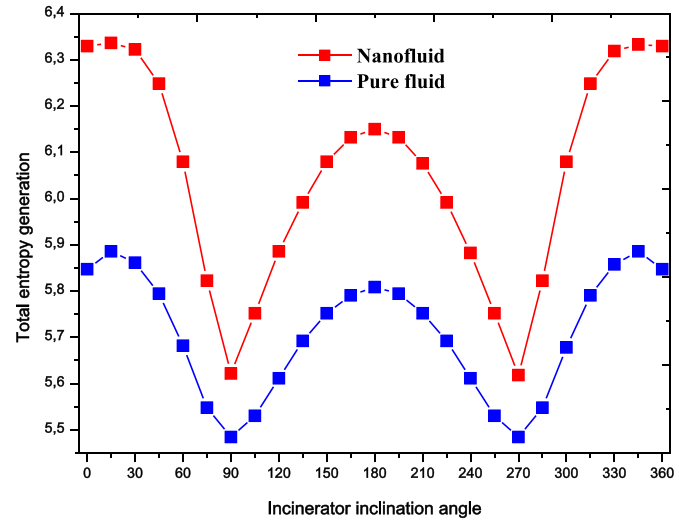
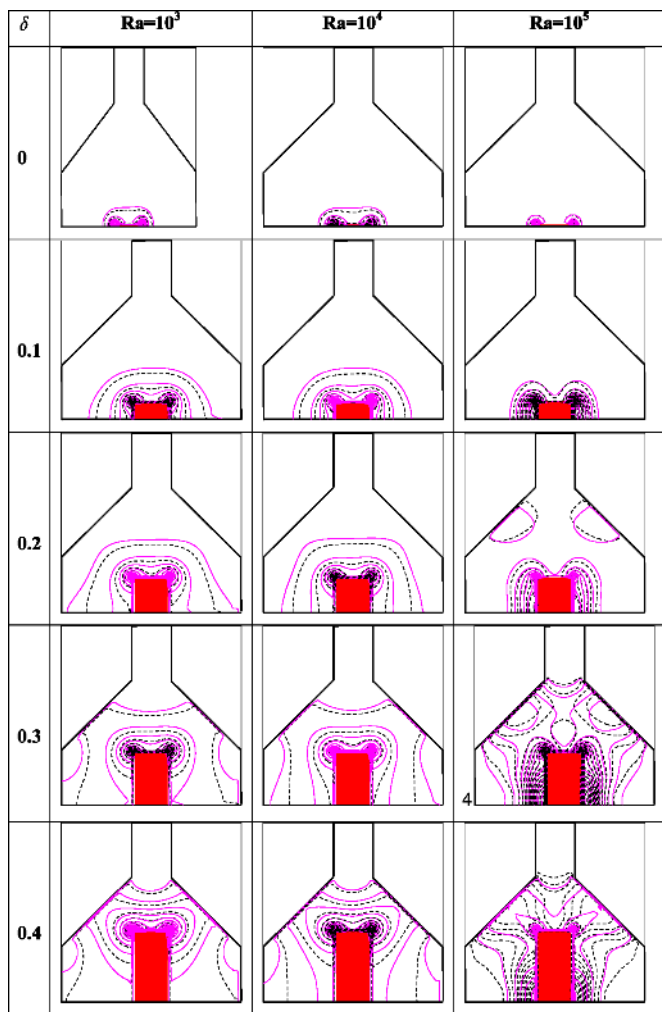


Fig. 13. Effect of incinerator inclination angle ( $\gamma$ ) on total local entropy generation of distilled water and 4% alumina/water nanofluid at  $Ha = 40$  and  $Ra = 10^5$ .

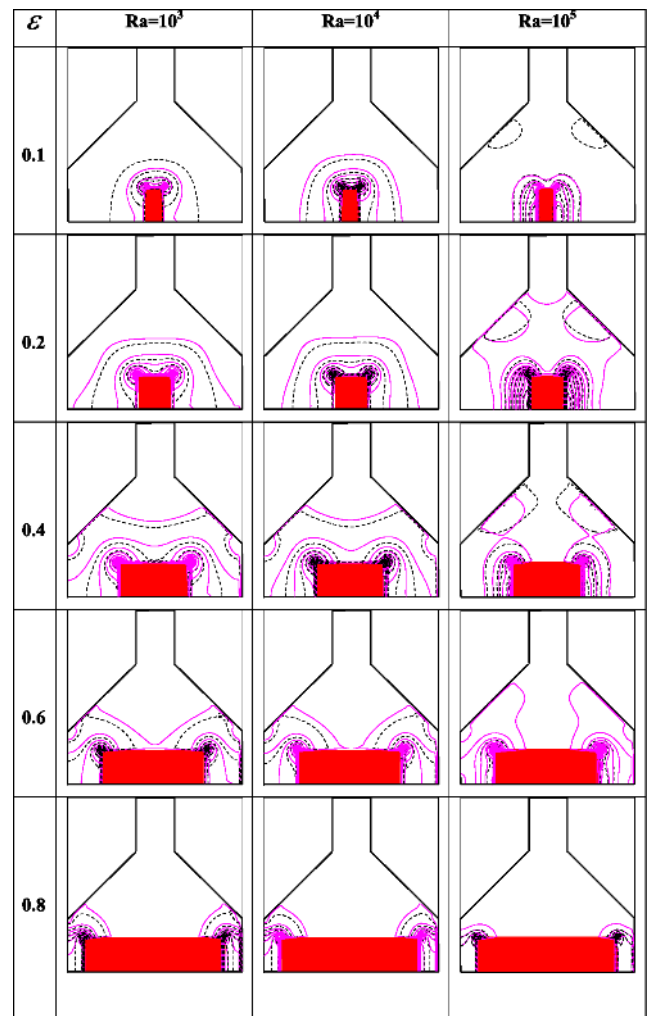
block, a maximum heat transfer is accompanied by a maximum entropy generation.

Fig. 14(a) shows the influence of relative heat source height on local entropy generation for  $Ha = 40$ ,  $Ra = 10^3$ – $10^5$  and for distilled water and nanofluid. The relative heat source is varied from 0.1 to 0.5. It can be seen that the entropy generation is an ascending function with the relative heat source height as well as Rayleigh number. This increment is well pronounced for high Rayleigh numbers. This can be explained by the fact that if the hot block relative height is increased, the hot walls approach the cold one. Due to more energy which will be transferred to the cold walls, temperature and velocity gradients increase. This is also well explained by Fig. 14(b).

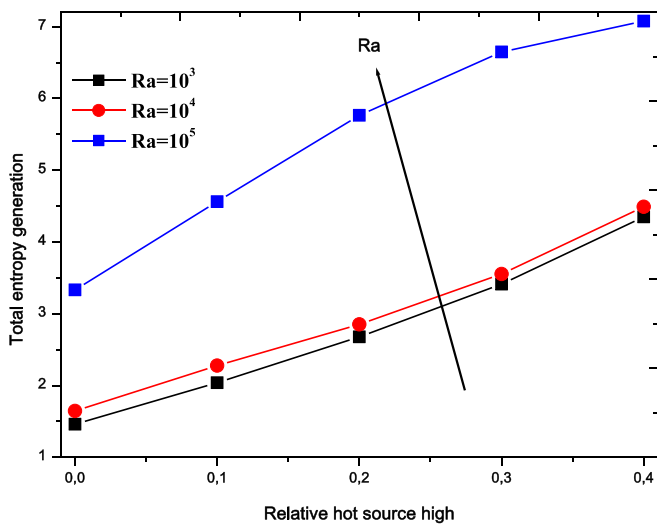
Fig. 15(a) illustrates the influence of relative hot source width on local entropy generation for  $Ra = 10^3$ – $10^5$  and  $Ha = 40$ . The relative hot



(a) Contours (—4% alumina/water nanofluid; ---- Base fluid)

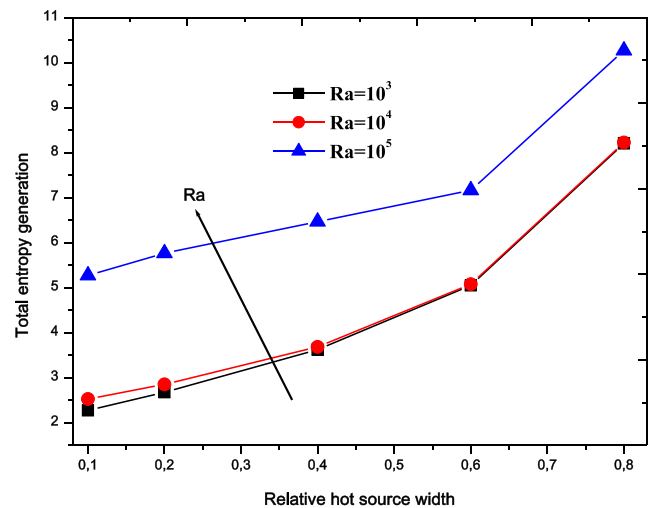


(a) Contours (—4% alumina/water nanofluid; ---- Base fluid)



(b)

Fig. 14. Effect of relative hot block height on total entropy generation ( $Ha = 40$ ).



(b)

Fig. 15. Effect of relative hot block width on total entropy generation ( $Ha = 40$ ).

source width is varied from 0.1 to 0.8. Here, the total entropy generation is a growing function with Rayleigh number and relative hot block width. This result is confirmed by Fig. 15(b). For all studied Rayleigh numbers, trends of diagrams are same. The entropy generation increases gradually for the relative hot source width varying from 0.1 to 0.6, then,



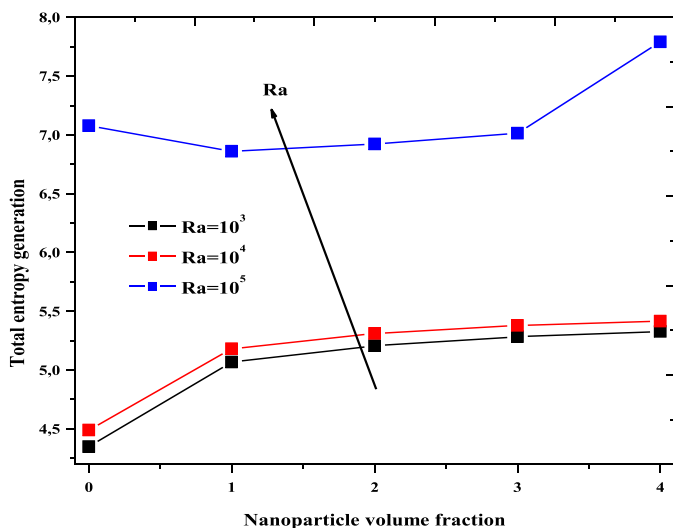


Fig. 16. Effect of nanoparticle volume fraction on total entropy generation ( $Ha = 0$ ).

the increasing trend becomes faster due to the temperature and velocity steep gradients, when approaching cold faces.

Fig. 16 shows the total entropy generation for different Rayleigh numbers, volume fraction of nanoparticles and  $Ha = 0$ . Total entropy generation enhances as the volume fraction of nanoparticles augments. This increase is due to the augmentation of the effective viscosity and thermal conductivity of the nanofluid which leads to heat transfer and fluid friction enhancement. This increment becomes more considerable by Rayleigh number augmentation.

## 5. Conclusion

A numerical study using the Lattice Boltzmann Method has been accomplished to determine the fluid flow, thermal and entropy generation characteristics associated with the MHD natural convection in an incinerator shaped enclosure containing a hot rectangular block. Results were presented and discussed for flow structure, isotherms, local and average Nusselt number, and local as well as total entropy generation. Parametric study was carried out for different parameters such as Rayleigh number, nanoparticles volume fraction, hot block dimensions (height and width), hot block position, Hartmann number, and incinerator inclination angle. The most substantial results of the present study are as follows:

- If the Hartmann number augments, the intensity of clockwise recirculating cell inside the cavity weakens for either fluids or nanofluids. This decrease is more accentuated for higher Rayleigh numbers.
- The thickness of thermal boundary layer near the vertical walls of hot block has a direct, ascending relation with the Hartmann number, due to the magnetic field which is weakening the flow.
- Heat transfer rate is not influenced by the magnetic field intensity and is only sensible to nanoparticle volume fraction.
- Applying magnetic field, convection heat transfer is reduced. This phenomenon is more pronounced for higher Rayleigh numbers.
- Nusselt number is a descending function with the Hartmann number.
- Maximum heat transfer is on the top corners of hot block. Whereas heat transfer is minimum on the bottom corners of heated block.
- The incinerator inclination angle is found to be a key parameter to control the heat transfer for both distilled water and nanofluid. The best compromise between maximum heat transfer and entropy generation minimization is to take  $\gamma = 90^\circ$  or  $270^\circ$ .
- Increasing the hot block height or width causes an enhancement of the heat transfer for all tested cases.

- The total entropy generated is an ascending function with relative hot block height, relative hot block width, nanoparticle volume fraction and Rayleigh number. This increase is well pronounced for higher Rayleigh numbers. However, entropy generation decreases with increasing Hartmann number.

## Conflict of interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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