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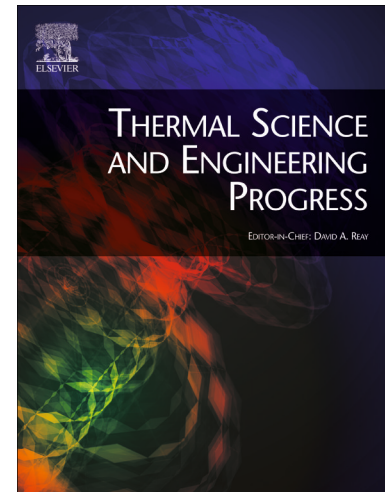
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1 **Experimental investigation on convective heat transfer** 2 **enhancement by EHD in wire to plate configuration**

3

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8

9 **Keywords:** Electrohydrodynamics, PIV, Convective heat transfer, Forced convection

10 **Abstract**

11 The purpose of this study was to experimentally investigate the enhancement of forced
12 convection heat transfer by corona wind in a channel scaled to potential future drying
13 systems. An experimental rig was designed to investigate the thermal and dynamic effects of
14 electro-hydrodynamic (EHD) induced air flow on the grounded bottom wall. The primary air
15 flow, blown into the channel at controlled temperature and velocity, was disturbed by EHD
16 secondary flow generated by a wire electrode. Using IR imaging, the heat transfer exchange at
17 the wall was calculated in several configurations (i.e. electrodes location, wire-electrode to
18 plate distance, applied voltage, primary air flow velocity), allowing the selection of optimal
19 configurations according to the objective of minimum energy consumption or homogeneous
20 transfer. Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV) characterization conducted on some configurations
21 highlighted the vortices generated by the combination of the secondary and the primary air
22 flows. Analysis of the flow patterns allowed to explain the enhancement of the local and
23 average heat transfer coefficients. Higher enhancement could be obtained in the cross-wire
24 configuration but led to heterogeneous treatment. For a more homogeneous one, the
25 longitudinal wire configuration should be preferred thanks to the development of contra-
26 rotating vortices moving in the channel.

27 **Nomenclature**

28	A	Surface area	$[\text{m}^2]$
29	b	Ion mobility	$[\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{V}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}]$
30	d	Inter –electrode spacing	$[\text{cm}]$
31	h	Heat transfer coefficient	$[\text{W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}]$
32	I	Electric current	$[\text{A}]$
33	L	Length	$[\text{m}]$
34	$NEHD$	EHD number	$[-]$
35	P	Electric power	$[\text{W}]$
36	Re	Reynolds number	$[-]$
37	ρ	Air density	$[\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}]$
38	T	Temperature	$[\text{°C}]$
39	U	Velocity	$[\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}]$
40	U_∞	Primary mean flow velocity	$[\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}]$
41	V	Voltage	$[\text{V}]$

42 **Subscripts**

43	0	reference
44	amb	ambient
45	i	threshold
46	loc	local
47	m	mean
48	p	plate
49	s	secondary
50	sup	polystyrene support
51	top	top
52	$wire$	wire
53	x	refer to x axis
54	y	refer to y axis
55	z	refer to z axis

56

57 **Abbreviations**

58	EHD:	Electro Hydro Dynamic
59	PIV:	Particle Image Velocimetry

60 DBD: Dielectric barrier discharge

61 IR: Infrared

62 **1. Introduction**

63 One of the most promising techniques to enhance convective heat transfer in air is based on the
64 use of the Electrohydrodynamic (EHD) induced air flow. The basic principle of EHD is the
65 mechanism by which an electric field is used to influence the flow pattern. The effect can be carried
66 out by corona discharge to induce flow motion (ionic wind) using either AC or DC high voltages.

67 Since EHD induced flows do not use any mechanical moving parts, they are of great interest and
68 can be used in many thermal engineering applications. The advantages of using EHD technique
69 include the reduction in size of the facility, improved control of thermal characteristics by
70 monitoring the electrical field intensity, and simplicity in setting up due to the minimal
71 requirements [1]. Moreover, their fast response and simplicity make them more attractive as the
72 electric energy is converted simply into kinetic energy and many studies have demonstrated the
73 excellent potential of EHD as a technology for improving the energy efficiency of thermal systems.
74 [2–6].

75 Several studies have been carried out concerning the use of EHD in process engineering. Large
76 varieties of geometrical configurations, operating parameters and working fluid have been the
77 subject of numerical and experimental investigations. EHD flows have been much investigated
78 for their potential applications as flow actuators [7] or electrohydrodynamic thrust [8], in heat
79 exchangers [9] and cooling devices [10], for electrosprays [11], collecting particles [12] or
80 corona-enhanced chemical reactions [13]. Some studies such as [14] and [15] demonstrated the
81 ability of corona discharges to reduce drag by modifying the boundary layer.

82 The use of EHD in the presence of a bulk flow to alter an external boundary layer has been an
83 area of growing interest in the aerospace community while has received little attention for heat
84 transfer enhancement. However, studies on this subject have shown that the increase in the heat
85 transfer coefficient can be high depending on the configuration. For example the increase can
86 reach 250% for a heated plate in air [16], 270% in a wire / plate configuration [17] and up to
87 830% for HCFC-123 boiling application [5]. A list of relevant studies using EHD in process
88 engineering applications, dealing with heat transfer enhancement, is presented in Table 1.

89

90 **Table I** Some studies carried out on the use of EHD in processes specifically dedicated to heat transfer
 91 enhancement, with varying electrodes configurations and working fluids.

Reference	Type of research	Fluid	Electrode shape	Application
[17–19]	Experimental	Air	wire / plate	Convective heat transfer
[19,20]	Numerical	Air	wire / plate	
[16,21]	Experimental	Air	multi-wires / plate	
[21,22]	Numerical	Air	multi-wires /plate	
[3]	Experimental	Air	needle-array / plate	
[23–25]	Experimental	Air	wire / tube	
[26]	Experimental	Air	Multi-rod / plate	
[27,28]	Numerical	Air	wire / cylinder	
[29]	Experimental	Air	wire / tube and 2 wires / tube	
[30]	Experimental	Air	needle / meshed plate	
[10]	Experimental	Air	wire / semi-cylindrical contour	
[31]	Experimental	Air	wire / triangular tube	
[32]	Experimental	Fe3O4 / ethylene glycol	wire / wire	
[19]	Experimental / Numerical	Oil	wire / plate	
[6,33–36]	Experimental	Air	wire / plate	Drying
[37]	Numerical	Air	wire / plate	
[4]	Numerical	Air	multi-wires / plate	
[38]	Numerical	Air	wire / mesh and periodic wire / mesh	
[39,40]	Experimental	Air	single-pin, needle / plate	
[41–43]	Experimental	Air	multi-pin, multi-needle / plate	
[44]	Experimental	Air	needle / wire	
[45]	Experimental	Air	multi-pin/wire	
[46]	Experimental	HFC-134a	wire / inner tube wall	Condensing systems
[47]	Experimental/Theoretical	HCFC-123	wire / inner tube wall	
[1]	Experimental	HFC-134a	wire / inner tube wall	
[48]	Experimental	HFC-134a	rod / inner tube wall	
[49]	Experimental	HFC-245fa	rod / inner wall	
[50]	Experimental	HCFC-123	concentric wire / cylinder	Boiling systems
[51]	Experimental	HFC-134a	concentric wire / cylinder	
[52]	Experimental	HFE 7000	rod / inner tube wall	
[5]	Experimental	HCFC-123 and CFC-11	rod / tube wall	
[53]	Experimental	N-pentane	rod / cylinder sheet	
[2]	Experimental	HCFC-123	wire mesh / tube wall	
[54]	Numerical	liquid CCl4	wire / wire	
[55]	Experimental	NaCl solutions	pin / plate	Evaporating systems
[56]	Experimental	HFC-134a	wire mesh / rectangular ribs	
[57,58]	Numerical	Water	wire / plate	
[59]	Experimental	HCFC-123 and HCFC-141b	plate multilayered /plate	

[9]	Experimental	HFE-7000	wire / inner tube wall	
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92

93 Many studies deal mainly with natural convection flow [19,21,31,32], and are rarely focused on
 94 the forced convection flow. Velkoff and Godfrey [16] reported the first experiments on heat
 95 transfer enhancement by ionic winds in the presence of external flows. They demonstrated that
 96 the heat transfer was enhanced in the low-velocity regime; however, the ionic wind was
 97 swamped by the bulk flow. Thus, it was ineffective as the bulk velocity increases. A wide range
 98 of studies either experimental [18,26,29,30], and numerical [4,20,22,28] have been conducted
 99 using EHD for heat transfer intensification in a channel. These studies have shown that the most
 100 effective EHD-induced flow can be achieved by lowering the bulk flow velocity.

101 Moreover, the EHD phenomenon in a channel depends on various parameters such as Reynolds
 102 number and applied voltage. The EHD is also a function of geometrical aspect such as the
 103 number of electrodes, the distance between electrodes, the wire radius, and the characteristics of
 104 the channel [60]. It can be noticed that many questions regarding the optimization of the
 105 operating parameters remain unanswered while the control of heat transfer remains a key factor
 106 for many industrial applications.

107 During the past decade, EHD has undergone a growing interest in aerodynamic induced
 108 secondary flow in drying process. The literature points out that the EHD-induced flow has
 109 widely attracted the researchers' attention and they developed assisted-drying processes
 110 [37,39,42–44]. Compared to conventional hot air forced convective drying systems and freeze-
 111 drying, EHD drying systems in a channel can improve the energy efficiency by reducing energy
 112 consumption. Increasing locally, the heat and mass transfer lead to the reduction of the high inlet
 113 velocity of the drying air. This contributes to a significant reduction of the energy consumption
 114 in the whole drying process.

115 As reported by Kudra and Martynenko [61], EHD drying was recognized as an energy efficient
 116 and environmentally friendly technique: the drying time was reduced by about 15-40% with a
 117 drying rate multiplied by 1.3 to 4.52, depending on the operating conditions, type of material and
 118 amount of humidity in the sample. Ould Ahmedou et al [60] have shown that the ionic wind
 119 generated by a corona discharge could lead to weight losses equivalent to those resulted from
 120 forced convection at $4.2 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$. They concluded that EHD drying process is a promising
 121 alternative to enhance heat and mass transfer. Lai [35] was one of the first to demonstrate that
 122 EHD technology could be scaled up from laboratory bench to industrial size. The results
 123 revealed that the drying enhancement by corona wind in real applications depends on many

124 factors such as corona polarity, electrode spacing and height, conveyor moving velocity,
125 characteristics of material, etc. He concluded that an accurate tune of these factors is necessary to
126 optimize the operating conditions of the system. Regarding the electrode configuration, one can
127 notice from Table 1, that wire-plate and point-plate configuration are widely used. Lai and Wong
128 [40] have found that the wire / electrode configuration was more suitable in EHD drying when
129 compared to the needle at smaller values of supplied voltage. Defraeye and Martynenko [38],
130 based on a numerical study, recommended the wire-to-mesh configuration for drying because the
131 configuration provides a more uniform drying. It is however difficult to generalize these results
132 as the electrodes configurations also depend on the drying process type (continuous or batch...)
133 and the majority of studies have been conducted with small-size prototypes.

134 Given the simple design and reduced energy consumption, drying systems based on EHD
135 enhanced heat transfer demonstrate a promising potential for bulk and industrial drying
136 applications, especially for heat-sensitive products [62]. Nevertheless, as already raised [36,63],
137 the main obstacle is the up-scaling and optimization of the EHD process and its associated
138 system. For this reason, a parametric analysis is crucial to determine how the governing
139 parameters affect the heat transfer rate in EHD drying applications.

140 Therefore, this paper focuses on both thermal and flow structure characterization for EHD
141 induced secondary flow inside a semi-industrial scale channel using wire to plate
142 configuration. Combining both Infrared (IR) thermal imaging and Particle Imaging
143 Velocimetry (PIV) measurement technics, the influence of geometrical and operating
144 parameters involved in the process were evaluated, with the aim to optimize the heat transfer
145 intensification ratio to energy consumption.

146 Local and average convective heat transfer coefficients were calculated from the surface plate
147 temperature measured by the IR system. Using air velocities resulting from PIV post-processing,
148 the vortex structures generated by the interaction of secondary flow and primary flow were
149 related to the heat transfer intensification. The effect of the inlet air velocity, the influence of
150 geometrical parameters such as arrangement of wire-electrodes (parallel or perpendicular to
151 primary air flow), wire-electrode to plate distance (d) and applied voltage (V) were investigated
152 and discussed. From an analysis of energy consumption in each configuration, optimal
153 configurations were selected. Since the final application of this study is dedicated to drying
154 process, the analysis was extended by taking into consideration other criteria such as the
155 homogeneity of the heat transfer coefficient.

156 To our knowledge, this work is one of the first where both PIV and IR imaging were used in a
157 semi-industrial scale channel to analyze heat transfer enhancement due to EHD secondary air
158 flow.

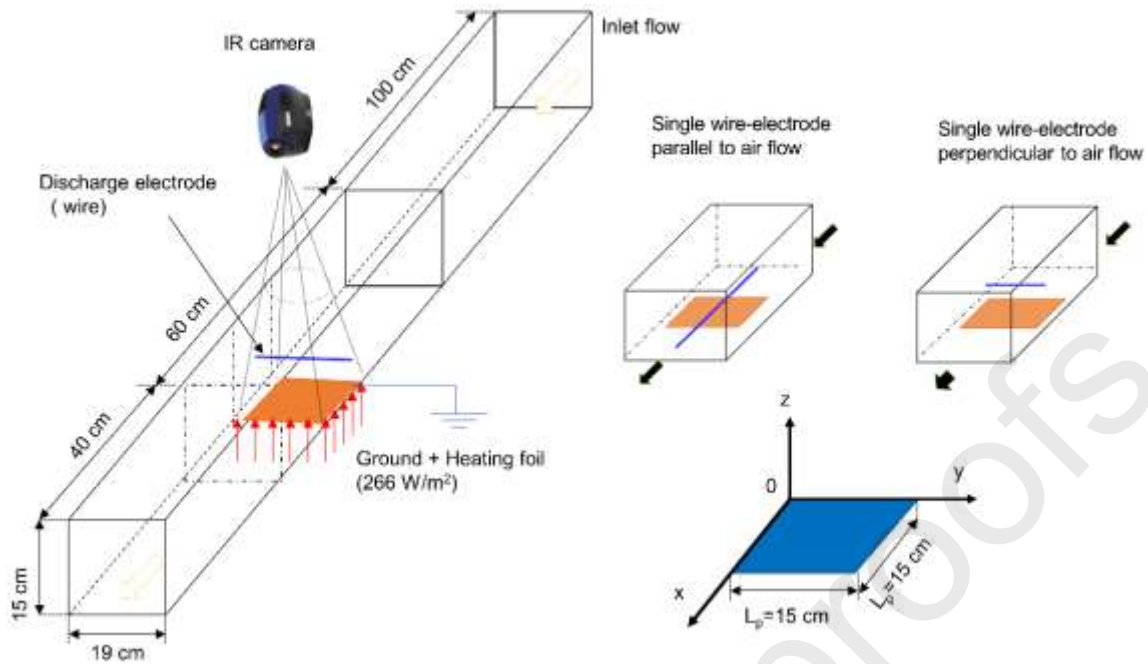
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160 **2. Material and methods**

161 **2.1. Experimental Set-up**

162 The experimental set-up consisted of a rectangular channel section (15 cm × 19 cm) as shown in
163 **Fig.1**. Air flow was introduced into the channel at a controlled humidity using an Air Handling
164 Unit (Munters ML 180, France). The inlet air temperature was adjusted by a cooling unit
165 (Hitema, Italy) and the primary air flow velocity U_∞ was controlled by valves. A honeycomb
166 filter was placed at the entrance of the channel to stabilize the air flow. The investigation area, i.e.
167 the plate, had dimensions of 15 cm × 15 cm and was mounted flush to the bottom wall of the
168 channel 100 cm downstream from the inlet. Electrically heated, the surface of the plate was
169 considered to evaluate the heat transfer coefficient. The heat was supplied by Joule effect using a
170 DC power supply (EL302, 30V 2A). A stainless-steel wire electrode ($\varnothing = 0.2$ mm) was placed
171 in the flow channel over the plate. To induce the ionic wind, a positive corona discharge was
172 applied to the wire using a high voltage supply (High voltage supplier, Spellman, USA). **Fig.1**
173 also shows two configurations for wire electrode arrangement, parallel and cross-wire. For the
174 parallel arrangement, the wire electrode was placed parallel to the primary flow direction,
175 while the wire was oriented across the air flow in the cross-wire arrangement. For both
176 arrangements, different values for inter-electrode gap, d , were considered.

177



178

179 **Figure 1.** Schematic diagram of the experimental setup and arrangement of electrodes

180

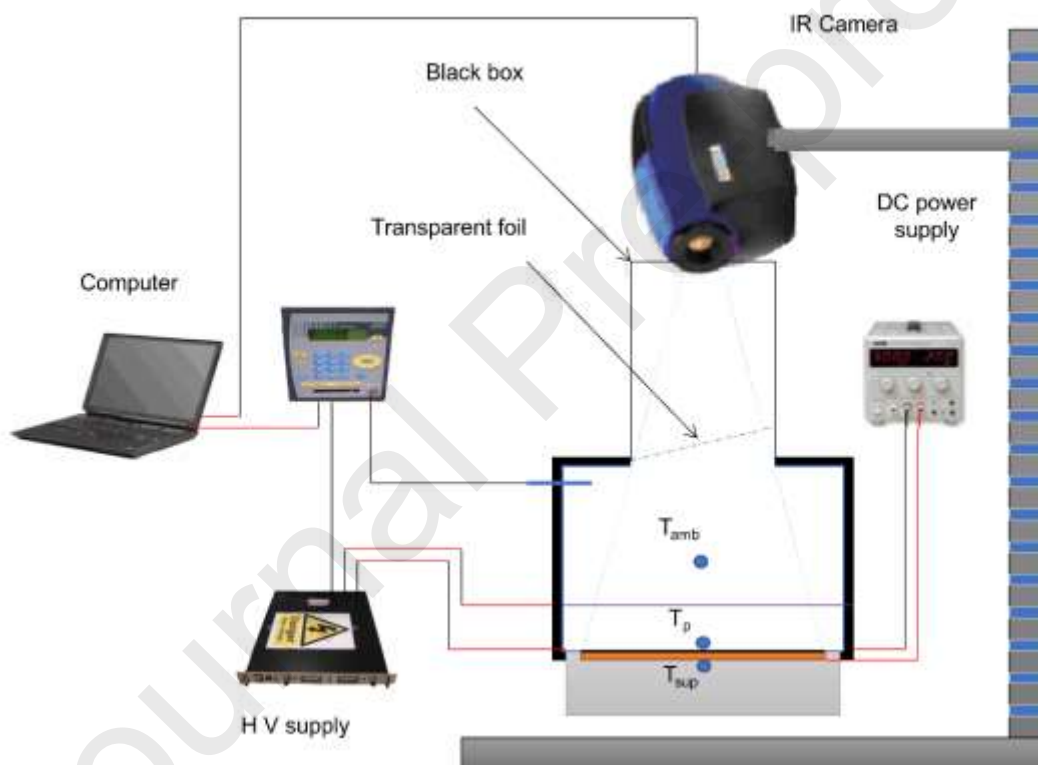
181 A humidity sensor (Vaisala HMT100, Finland), was placed right before the outlet to measure
 182 the humidity of the air flow in the channel. A velocity sensor (Velocicalc 9545, TSI, USA)
 183 was also introduced into the channel through an opening at the upper wall to measure the
 184 mean velocity of primary flow at the start of the investigation area. Moreover, temperature at
 185 different locations in the channel and the plate were recorded using several K type
 186 thermocouples. All the above-mentioned instruments were connected to a data logger (AOIP
 187 Datalog S20, France) where the measurements were acquired and recorded for further
 188 processing.

189 2.1.1. Thermal instrumentation

190 The heating plate, shown in **Fig. 1**, consisted of a heating foil (17.02Ω) insulated on both sides
 191 by a thin layer of Kapton ($50 \mu\text{m}$) and covered with a $30 \mu\text{m}$ aluminum layer on the upper face.
 192 The surface was used as both the ground electrode and the heat transfer surface. This surface was
 193 painted matt black (Electrotube, France) in order to achieve an emissivity close to 1. The
 194 assembly was placed on a 4 cm thick polystyrene insulating plate. The temperature field of the
 195 plate was measured with an infrared camera (Silver 450M Cedip, France) in the range of 3-5
 196 μm . The camera had an accuracy of $\pm 0.01 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ with a spatial resolution of 0.428 mm/pixel . The
 197 acquisition frequency was chosen at 50 Hz with a maximum resolution of 1280×800 . The
 198 control and data recording of the camera were provided by a specific software. The camera

199 was installed on a vertical support and adjusted vertically at the correct focal distance. A
 200 rectangular box, made with thick black matt paper, was placed between the camera and the
 201 channel to avoid reflections. Temperature measurement was conducted through a circular
 202 opening of 12 cm diameter at the top wall of the channel. To avoid air escaping from the
 203 channel, which could have affected the heat transfer on the surface plate, the hole was covered
 204 with a plastic foil, transparent at the working wavelength, and positioned at an angle $> 35^\circ$
 205 to avoid any reflections. The circular opening did not provide access to the temperature of the
 206 heating plate corners. The cross section shown in **Fig.2** illustrates the thermal instrumentation
 207 in the cross-wire arrangement.

208



209

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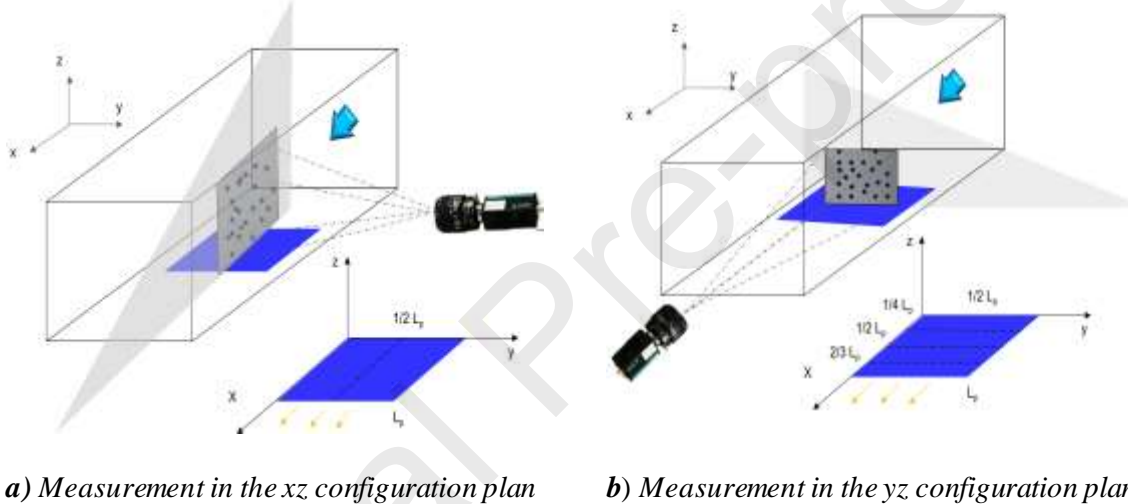
211 **Figure 2.** Cross-sectional view of the experimental set-up in cross-wire-electrode configuration

212

213 Prior the beginning of the acquisition, about 15 minutes waiting time was required to allow
 214 the thermal equilibrium of the heating plate to be reached. By performing an energy balance
 215 under uniform heat flux, the local and mean steady-state heat transfer coefficients were
 216 evaluated from the local surface temperature and the mean temperature, respectively.

217 *2.1.2. PIV Instrumentation*

218 The experimental rig used above was adapted for 2D PIV measurements by making some
 219 technical modifications. Close to the investigation area, the upper and lateral walls were
 220 replaced by glass walls of 4 mm thickness. The main flow entered the viewing area and
 221 passed over the upper surface of the plate. The same reference point xyz defined in **Fig.1** was
 222 retained. Measurement in the xz plan was performed by positioning the laser sheet parallel to
 223 the primary flow and perpendicular to the plate. The camera (Flow-Sens, Dantec Dynamics,
 224 Denmark), focused in the direction of the y -axis and was placed perpendicularly to the laser
 225 sheet as shown in **Fig. 3-a**. For measurement in yz plan, the laser sheet was generated in the
 226 direction of the y -axis perpendicular to the primary flow while the camera was placed at the
 227 outlet channel in the direction of x -axis as shown in **Fig. 3-b**.



228

229 **Figure 3.** PIV measurement in the xz and yz configuration plans

230

231 The flow seeding was carried out by incense particles of diameter of $0.8 \mu\text{m}$ [64]. To generate
 232 seeding a combustion box was designed and placed at the air intake channel where several
 233 incense sticks were burned simultaneously. As reported in [64], seeding the flow with incense
 234 smoke particles is suitable for EHD flows. The particles concentration in the channel was
 235 measured by an optical particle counter (Grimm: model G1.10, Austria) and was of the order
 236 of $10^5 \text{ particles.L}^{-1}$, giving a particles density suitable for PIV measurement. The values of the
 237 measurement parameters are shown in **Table II**.

238

239 **Table II.** PIV acquisition parameters

Acquisition frequency	5 Hz
Number of snapshots	300
Size of the interrogation area	32×32
Time between two laser pulses	300 μs
Post-processing algorithm	Adaptive correlation

240

241 **3. Results and discussions**

242 For the purpose of heat transfer optimization in the channel, energy balance must be
 243 performed. The heat flux generated by Joule effect in the heating plate is mainly evacuated by
 244 convection with air through the upper face. The remaining heat is evacuated by irradiation
 245 with the channel walls and conduction through the downwardly polystyrene. The local and
 246 mean heat transfer coefficient respectively designated by h_{loc} and h_m were calculated for
 247 different configurations with the change in the electric power consumed P (W) for EHD
 248 generation. The power P was defined from the current and the voltage ($P = VI$).

249 The EHD number “ N_{EHD} ” introduced by [65] was defined by relation (1) which expresses the
 250 ratio of electrostatic forces to the inertial forces. This number is interesting to characterize the
 251 EHD flow configuration.

$$N_{EHD} = \frac{U_s}{U_\infty} = \frac{IL_{wire}}{\rho b A_p U_\infty^2} \quad (1)$$

252 The secondary flow velocity U_s was estimated from the experimentally measured electrical
 253 current value. Analytical relationship to calculate the velocity is given by equation (2). This
 254 relationship is described in the literature by [66] and [67].

$$U_s = \left[\frac{IL_{wire}}{\rho b A_p} \right] \quad (2)$$

255 Experimental investigations for varying arrangement of wire-plate electrode under different
 256 values of the mean primary flow velocity U_∞ and the applied voltage V have been conducted.

257 **Table III** shows either cross wire and longitudinal wire configurations under varying primary
 258 flow velocity, electrode gap and applied voltage.

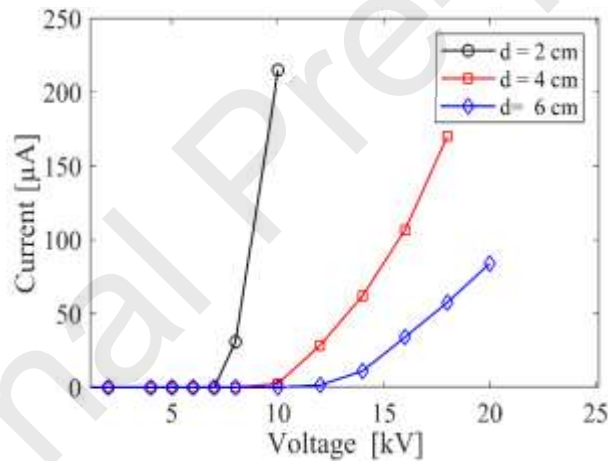
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260 **Table III.** Experimental configurations

Configuration	Primary air flow Velocity U_∞ (m/s)	Electrode gap d (cm)	Voltage V (kV)
Cross wire	0.3	2	0 to 11
	0.6	4	0 to 18
	1.0	6	0 to 20
Longitudinal wire	0.3	2	0 to 11
	0.6	4	0 to 16
	1.0	6	0 to 18

261

262 From **Table III**, it can be noticed that the maximum applied voltage was limited due to the
 263 electrical arcing which mainly depends on the electrode gap. In the case of cross wire
 264 configuration and primary flow velocity of 0.3 m.s^{-1} ($Re = 3525$), **Fig.4** shows the
 265 corresponding current voltage characteristic curve for three different electrode gaps.



266

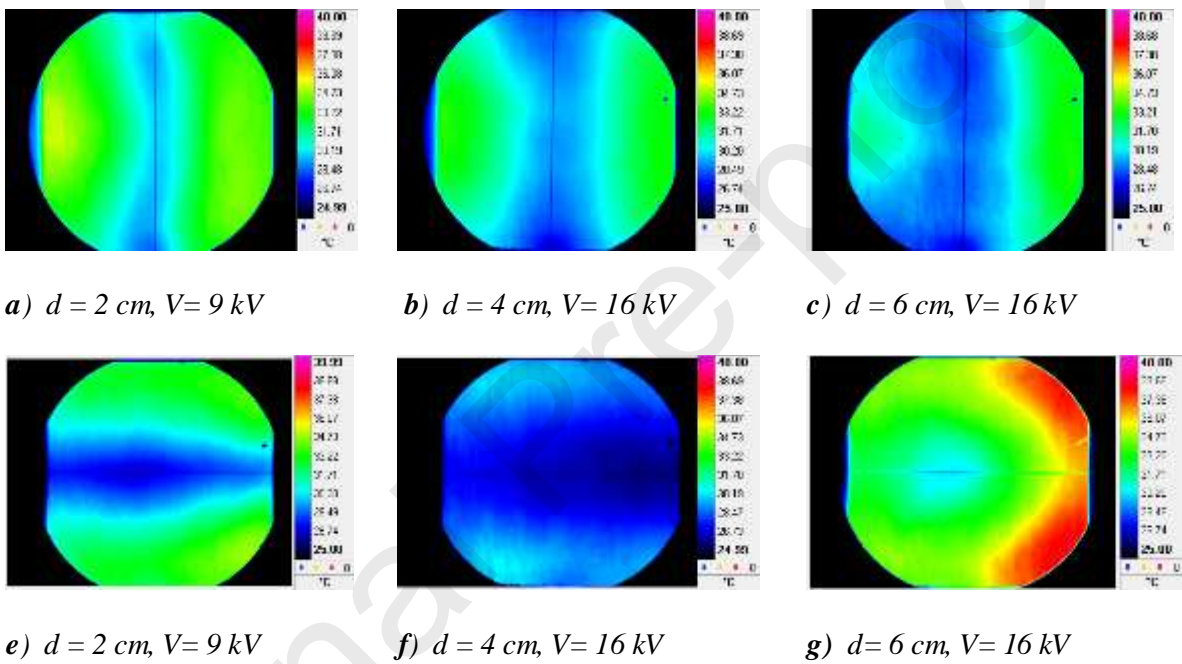
267 **Figure 4.** Current-Voltage characteristic curve in cross wire configuration for varying electrode gap
 268 ($U_\infty = 0,3 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$)

269

270 Increasing the electrode gap (from $d = 2 \text{ cm}$ to $d = 6 \text{ cm}$), led to the increase of the
 271 corresponding threshold voltage (from $V_i = 7.8 \text{ kV}$ to $V_i = 12 \text{ kV}$). As the electrode gap
 272 increased, the slope of the increase on current/voltage decreased and the value of the voltage
 273 limit increased. As a result, the corona discharge application range increased.

274 3.1. Temperatures and heat transfer enhancement

275 **Fig.5** shows the temperature distribution on the plate given by infrared thermal camera
 276 images of both cross wire (**5a-c**) and longitudinal wire (**5e-g**) configurations for varying
 277 electrode gap and for a primary air flow velocity $U_\infty = 0.3 \text{ m/s}$. The blue vertical (**5a-c**) or
 278 horizontal (**5e-g**) lines in these figures correspond to the location of the wire electrode. It can
 279 be distinguished easily that the cooling of the plate mainly took place in portions just beneath
 280 the wire. When comparing between cross wire configuration and longitudinal wire, it can be
 281 noticed that in longitudinal wire the cooling effect was more homogeneous compared to the
 282 cross-wire case.

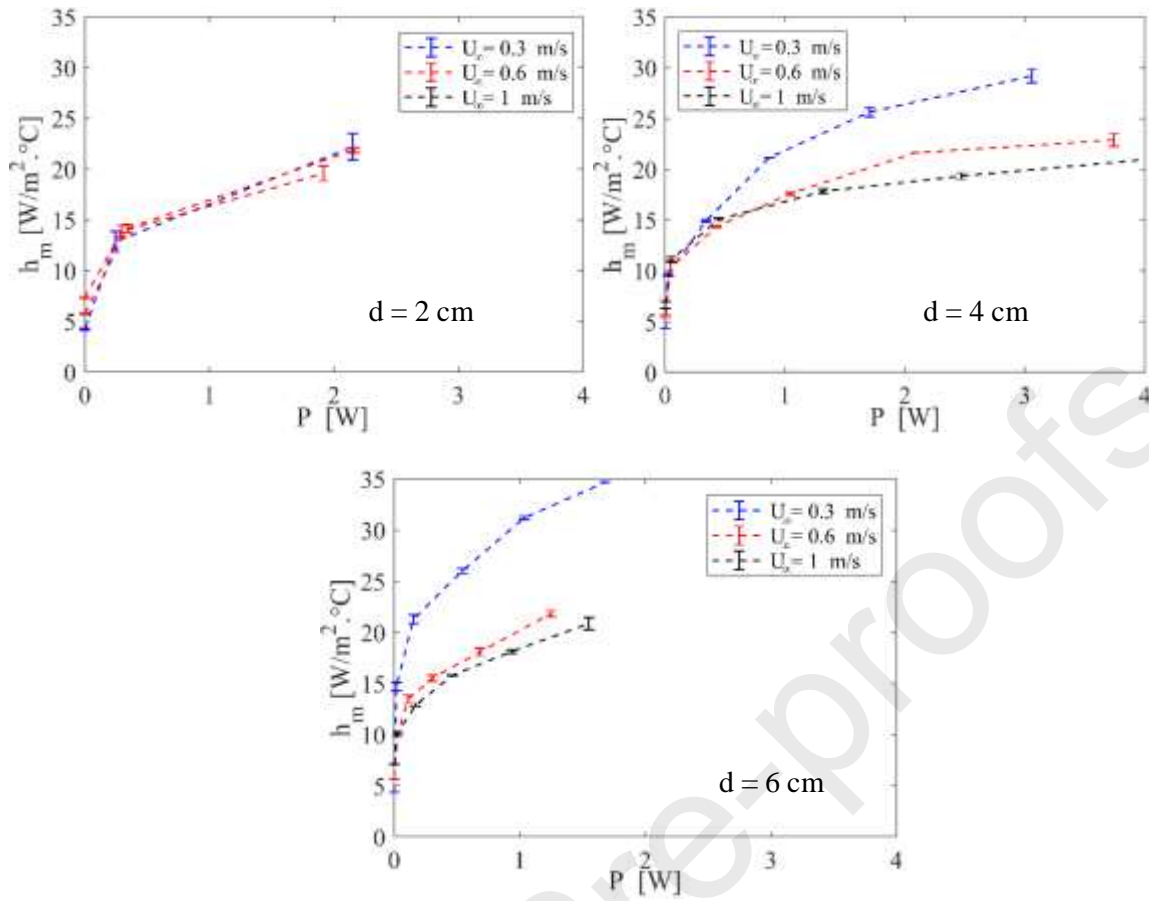


283 **Figure 5.** Temperature distribution mapping of: (a,b,c) cross-wire configuration and (e,f,g)
 284 longitudinal wire configuration for $U_\infty = 0.3 \text{ m/s}$.

285

286 Because the power supplied to the plate may be slightly different between each experiments,
 287 as well as air temperature, it was not possible to evaluate the heat transfer enhancement
 288 directly from the temperature distribution. Only the determination of the mean heat transfer
 289 coefficient makes it possible the comparison of the different configurations.

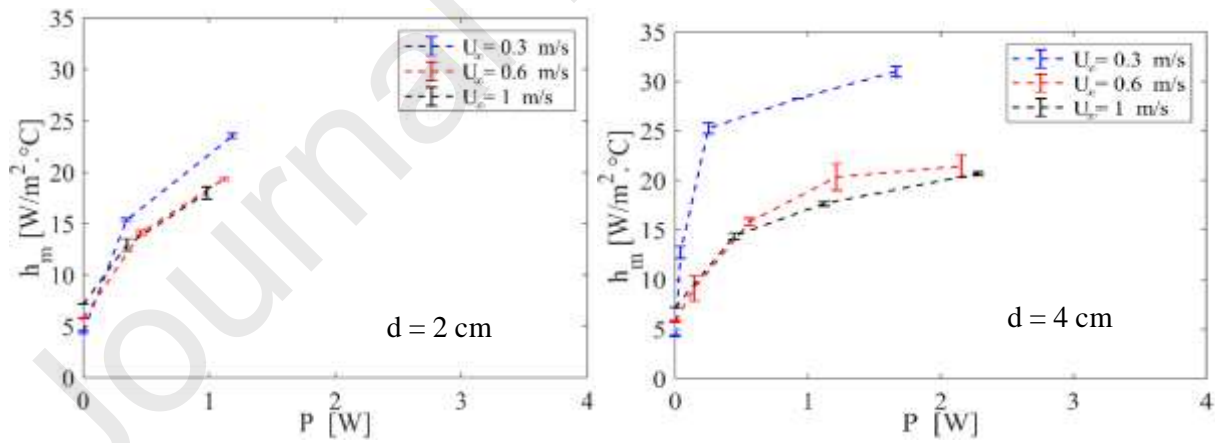
290 **Fig.6 and Fig.7** displays the evolution of the mean heat transfer coefficient h_m as a function of
 291 the power consumption in cross wire and longitudinal wire configurations, respectively, for
 292 three primary air flow velocities.



293

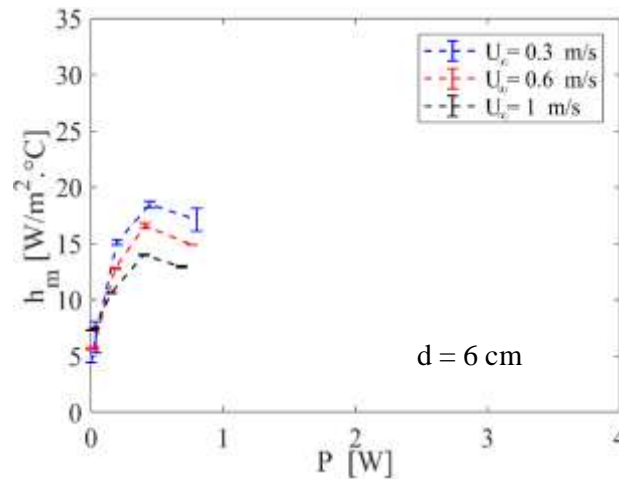
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295 **Figure 6.** Evolution of the mean heat transfer coefficient (h_m) as a function of power consumption in cross
 296 wire configuration



297

298



299

300 **Figure 7.** Evolution of the mean heat transfer coefficient (h_m) as a function of power consumption in
 301 longitudinal wire configuration

302

303 As the cases of forced convection without EHD correspond to $P = 0$ W, **Fig.6** and **Fig.7**
 304 confirm first of all the benefit of EHD to enhance the heat transfer coefficient in all the
 305 studied configurations. Moreover, the mean heat transfer enhancement due to EHD was, as
 306 expected, significant at low primary air flow velocity in most cases. Whatever the inter-
 307 electrode gap, the primary air flow velocity value of $U_\infty = 0.3$ m/s provided a greater value of
 308 the mean heat transfer coefficient h_m as compared to other velocities. At this low value of U_∞ ,
 309 inertial forces are reduced and electrostatic forces take over.

310 The influence of the electrode gap also clearly appears on these figures. At the lowest value of
 311 d , the primary air flow velocity had no influence on the heat transfer coefficient. Electrostatic
 312 forces were so high that they generated an impinging jet that blocked the primary air flow. It can
 313 also be noticed that the power consumption in all cases was slightly higher when the electrode
 314 gap was set to 4 cm. In one hand, the maximum voltage was limited to 9 kV for $d = 2$ cm due
 315 to potential arcing. On the other hand, the ions collected by the plate for $d = 6$ cm were lower
 316 than for $d = 4$ cm due to the increased wire-electrode distance.

317 From **Fig.6**, the optimal configuration in the cross-wire configuration is selected for the
 318 primary air flow velocity of 0.3 m/s and an electrode gap set to 6 cm. It offered the largest
 319 heat transfer coefficient ($h_m = 34.6$ W.m².K⁻¹) corresponding to an intensification of the mean
 320 heat exchange of the order of 8 times greater than the case of forced convection without EHD.
 321 Moreover, this maximum of heat transfer enhancement was obtained with a low value of the
 322 electric power ($P = 1.68$ W).

323 From **Fig.7**, the optimal configuration in the longitudinal wire case is selected also for the
 324 primary air flow velocity of 0.3 m/s but for the electrode gap of 4 cm . This case allowed to
 325 reach a high heat transfer coefficient ($h_m = 30.9 \text{ W.m}^{-2}.\text{K}^{-1}$) which was 7 times greater than the
 326 case without EHD, with a low electric power ($P = 1.66 \text{ W}$). It can be noticed that at the larger
 327 electrode gap ($d = 6 \text{ cm}$), the heat transfer enhancement was relatively small and presented a
 328 peak value at the intermediate electric power. This is due to the fact that the origin of the jet
 329 generated by the ionic wind was far from the plate. The jet then expanded beyond this latter,
 330 was more spread out and had a lower cooling effect. All these results confirmed the need to
 331 investigate the modification of the flow pattern by the ionic wind.

332

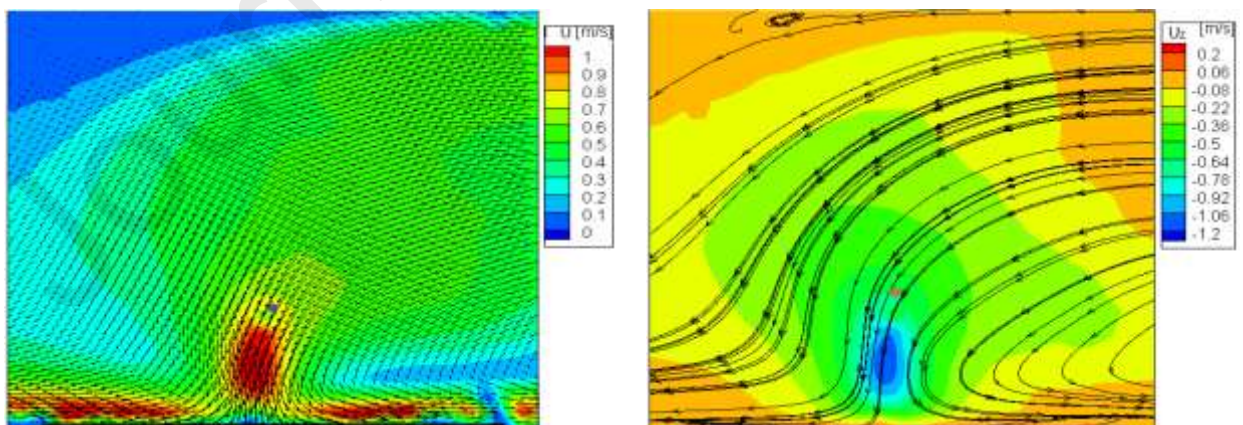
333 3.2. Flow structure

334 In this section, the dynamic behavior of the flow structures involved in heat transfer
 335 intensification were investigated. Cross wire and longitudinal configurations with $d = 4 \text{ cm}$ and
 336 $U_\infty = 0.3 \text{ m/s}$ were firstly analyzed and compared. For both configurations at $V = 16 \text{ kV}$, the
 337 values of the heat transfer coefficients were similar: $h_m = 25 \text{ W.m}^{-2}.\text{K}^{-1}$.

338 3.2.1. Cross wire configuration

339 PIV measurement was performed in a plan positioned parallel to the primary air flow and
 340 perpendicular to the wire electrode located at distance $L_x = 1/2 L_p$. **Fig.8-a** displays the mean
 341 velocity field and **Fig.8-b** both the streamlines mapping and U_z velocity.

342



a) Mean velocity field U

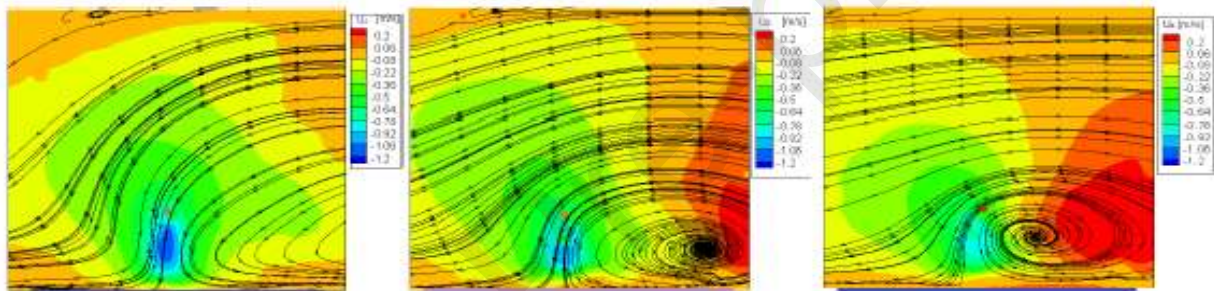
b) Streamlines and velocity contour U_z

343 **Figure 8.** Mapping of mean velocity field U (a) and streamlines velocity contour of U_z component (b)

344

345 **Fig.8** illustrates the mappings of the flow generated by EHD combined with primary air flow
 346 directed from right to left. In the investigation area, it is clearly shown that the bulk flow,
 347 strongly altered by electrostatic forces, has been modified. It has taken the shape of an air jet
 348 that impinges the plate on an area located underneath the wire and then expands in both sides.
 349 Furthermore, the IR images previously shown in **Fig.5** demonstrates that intense cooling took
 350 place specifically in the area underneath the wire. It is obvious from **Fig.8a** that the velocity
 351 component " U_z " had a major effect for cooling the plate. Consequently, the use of the velocity
 352 component " U_z " was considered as a relevant criterion of characterization that can be very
 353 appropriate to obtain a link with the heat transfer coefficient.

354 The effect of the primary flow velocity on the flow pattern neighboring the plate was
 355 investigated. **Fig.9** displays the contour maps showing the value of the " U_z " component and
 356 the streamlines for varying primary flow velocities.

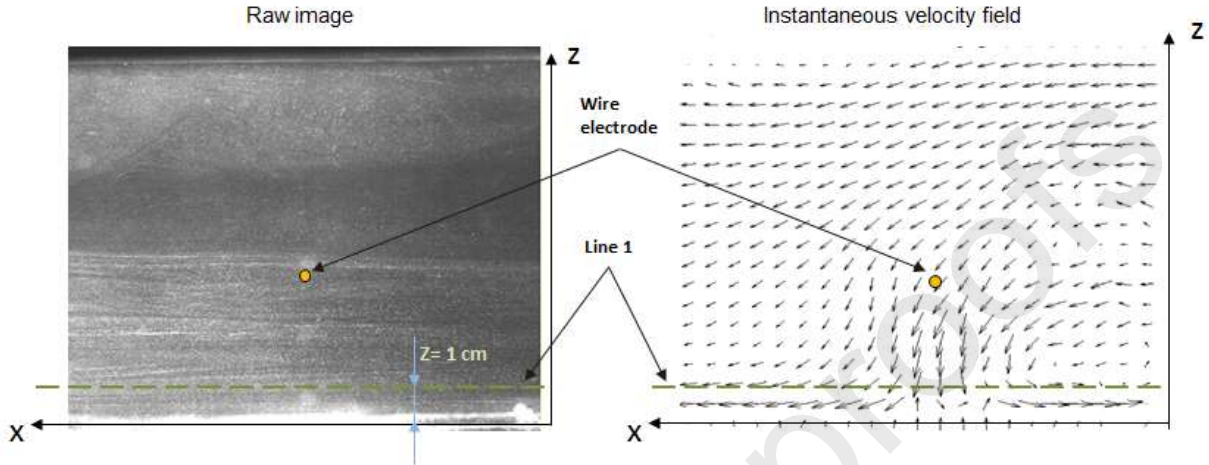


357
 358 **a)** $U_\infty = 0.3 \text{ m/s}$ **b)** $U_\infty = 0.6 \text{ m/s}$ **c)** $U_\infty = 1 \text{ m/s}$

359 **Figure 9.** U_z contour mapping and streamlines for varying primary flow velocities: **a)** $U_\infty = 0.3 \text{ m/s}$, **b)**
 360 $U_\infty = 0.6 \text{ m/s}$, **c)** $U_\infty = 1 \text{ m/s}$

361 When analyzing the velocity field mapping of the U_z component, it can be seen that the
 362 maximum values of $|U_z|$, about 1 m/s , was localized in the air jet zone underneath the wire and
 363 decreased with the increase of the primary flow velocity as described by many authors [50], [4].
 364 For a primary flow velocity of 0.3 m/s , the air jet was clearly visible and directed from the wire
 365 to the plate. By increasing the primary flow velocity to 0.6 m/s , the air jet was driven downstream
 366 of the plate. A flow vortex could be clearly recognized at the leading edge of the plate in the
 367 investigation area (**Fig.9-b**). By increasing again the primary flow velocity to 1 m/s as shown in
 368 **Fig.9-c**, the primary flow became dominant making the air jet less relevant but still existing. As a
 369 result, the center of the vortex moved towards the jet location and blocked the upstream half-
 370 zone of the plate. A similar flow structure was obtained for the other electrode gaps set to $d = 2$
 371 cm and $d = 6 \text{ cm}$. Therefore, the evolution of the flow structures when varying the primary
 372 velocity for these cases can be explained in the same way.

373 For a deeper analysis, the velocity profiles of the U_z component were plotted along the line **1**
 374 shown in **Fig.10**. This line parallel to the x -axis is located at distance $z = 1 \text{ cm}$ above the plate in
 375 such a way to be as much as possible close to the plate while keeping a threshold distance away
 376 from the surface plate to avoid laser reflections.



377

378 **Figure 10.** Position of the line **1** on the xz plan (cross-wire configuration, $d = 4 \text{ cm}$)

379

380 **Fig.11** illustrates the variation of vertical component of primary flow velocity, U_z , lengthwise the
 381 **line 1** as a function of the non-dimensional distance of the plate length, L_p . Temperature profiles
 382 resulting from infrared thermography measurement were used to support the dynamic flow
 383 characterization as shown in **Fig.12**. Please note that the sharp peaks depicted in **Fig.12** are
 384 measurement artefacts as they correspond to the reflection of the wire observed by IR camera.

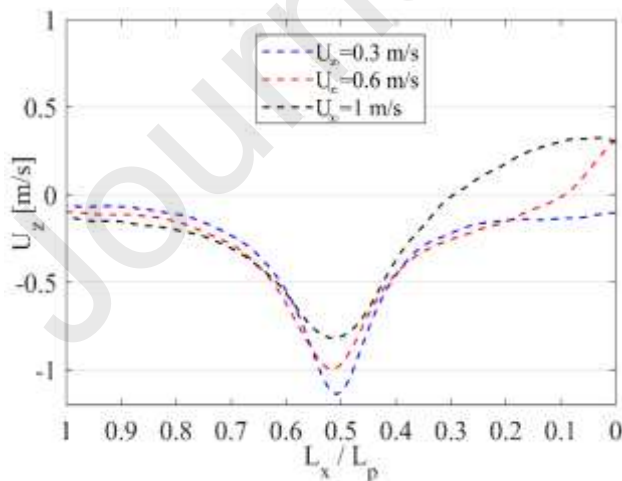


Figure 11. Velocity component U_z along the line **1**

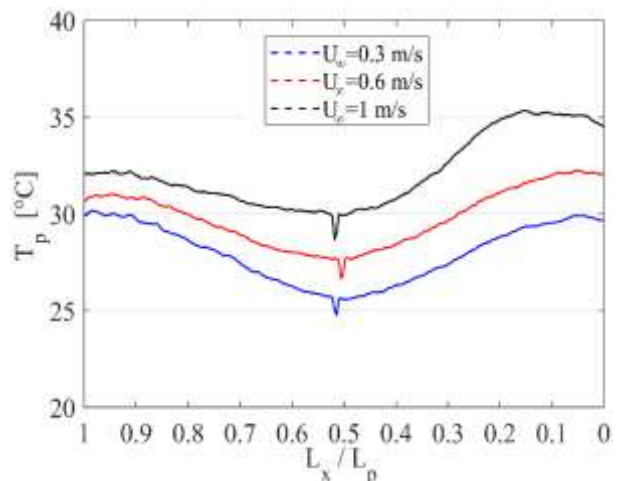


Figure 12. Surface temperature profiles T_p

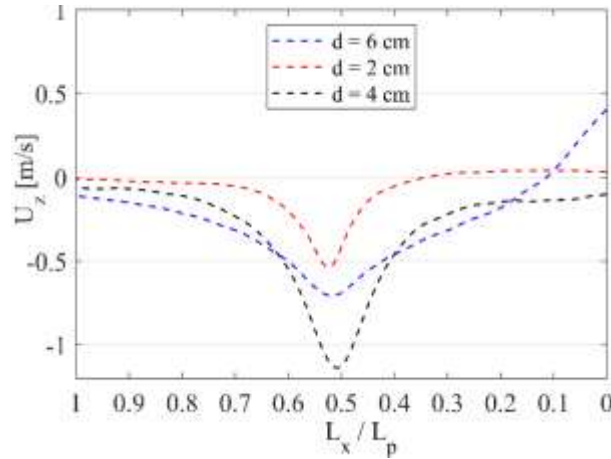
385 Results show that $|U_z|$ reached its maximum value in the area located just underneath the wire (L_x
386 $= 1/2 L_p$). When increasing the primary flow velocity from 0.3 to 1 m/s, the magnitude of $|U_z|$
387 component decreased. Increasing the primary flow velocity disrupted and weakened the
388 secondary flow that initially impinged the plate. The maximum $|U_z|$ for primary flow velocity of
389 0.3, 0.6 and 1 m/s were 1.2, 1 and 0.7 m/s, respectively. The location of maximum $|U_z|$ also
390 experienced a shift to the left side of plate from the original position at $L_x = 1/2 L_p$.

391 For $U_\infty = 0.3$ m/s, U_z values remained negative in the whole range over the line 1. The N_{EHD}
392 number was equal to 7.56 in this case. It was also observed that the increase in the primary flow
393 velocity for $U_\infty = 0.6$ m/s leads to the appearance of the positive values of the U_z component at
394 the leading edge of the plate. Thus, the effect of the recirculation flow structures on the plate,
395 shown in **Fig.9**, became less relevant. As a result, the N_{EHD} number decreased due to the
396 decrease of the electrostatic forces to the detriment of the inertial forces. The N_{EHD} number was
397 calculated to be 3.22. By increasing the primary flow velocity to $U_\infty = 1$ m/s, the area of positive
398 U_z component shifted to the left illustrating the driving of the recirculation by the primary flow.
399 This reduced the N_{EHD} to a value of 2.10.

400 These profiles of the U_z component describe perfectly the surface temperatures distribution of the
401 plate surface, as shown in **Fig. 12**. In this figure, the plate surface temperature profile, T_p , was
402 measured on a line, which is projected from line 1 on xy plane ($L_x = 1/2 L_p$). The cooling of the
403 plate was significant underneath the wire due to high values of $|U_z|$. Based on these results, it can
404 be concluded that the higher $|U_z|$ the better heat transfer intensification. Therefore, the highest
405 amount of heat transfer exchange could be expected to be achieved at $U_\infty = 0.3$ m/s.

406 Similar behaviors were obtained $d = 2$ cm and $d = 6$ cm concerning the evolutions of the U_z
407 component and the temperature profiles. These results confirm those obtained on the convective
408 heat transfer coefficient measurement by infrared thermography, where it has been shown that
409 maximum heat transfer coefficient was achieved for the lowest primary flow velocity value.

410 To obtain the optimum electrode gap distance, the velocity profiles of U_z component were
411 compared for the optimal primary flow velocity of $U_\infty = 0.3$ m/s. **Fig. 13** shows the velocity
412 profiles of U_z component along line 1 for different electrode gaps.



413 **Figure 13.** U_z component profiles, along line 1 for primary flow velocity of $U_\infty = 0.3$ m./s at different
 414 electrode gaps.

415

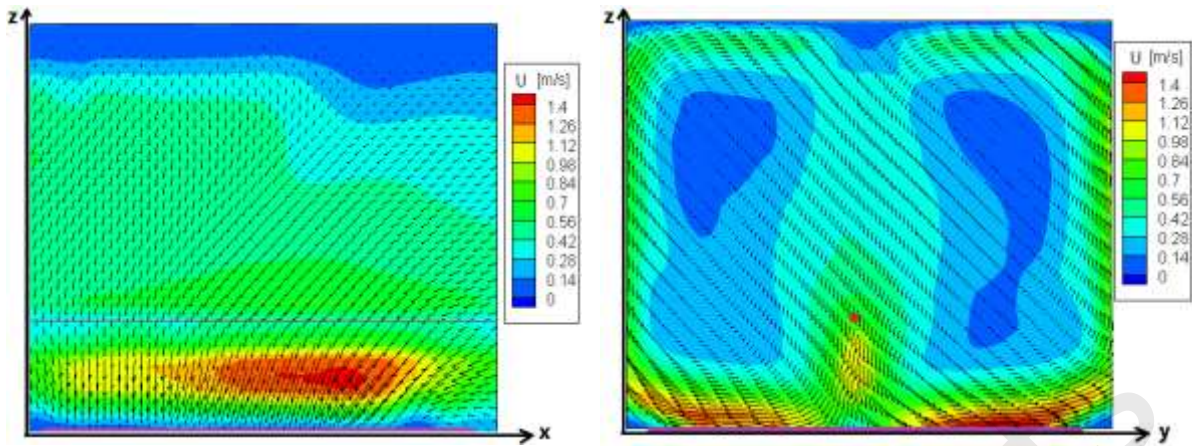
416 From **Fig.13**, it appears that, compared to cases $d = 4$ cm and $d = 6$ cm, the case of $d = 2$ cm
 417 had the lowest values of $|U_z|$, because in this case the voltage was limited to 9 kV to avoid
 418 arcing phenomenon.

419 At wire position of $L_x = 1/2 L_p$, and when $d = 4$ cm, the U_z component profile was
 420 characterized by high values compared to the case when $d = 6$ cm which resulted in a greater
 421 heat transfer intensification. However, for $d = 6$ cm it can be noticed that in areas located
 422 upstream and downstream the wire, the U_z profile component was more spread out and
 423 exhibited greater values comparing to the case where $d = 4$ cm. Therefore, if the local heat
 424 transfer underneath the wire was better for $d = 4$ cm, the configuration with $d = 6$ cm gave
 425 rise to the highest average heat transfer coefficient (**Fig.6c**). These results show the necessity
 426 to take into account other aspects related to process application (homogeneous treatment vs
 427 local treatment) to conclude on both cases regarding the optimal heat transfer intensification
 428 case.

429 3.2.2. Longitudinal wire configuration

430 For the case of longitudinal wire configuration, PIV measurement was carried out basically in
 431 the two distinct planes, xz and yz at positions of $L_y = 1/2 L_p$ and $L_x = 1/2 L_p$, respectively.

432 The analysis focused on the optimal configuration ($d = 4$ cm, $U_\infty = 0.3$ m/s) giving rise to a
 433 maximum mean heat transfer coefficient $h_m = 25$ W.m⁻².K⁻¹.



a) Mapping in xz plane

b) Mapping in yz plane

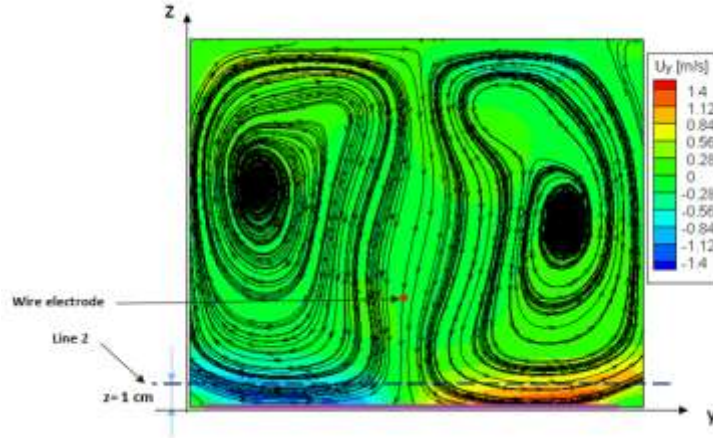
434 **Figure. 14** Mean velocity vector and contour mapping for the optimal configuration in: a) in xz plane and
 435 b) yz plane

436

437 **Fig.14** shows the mean velocity vector field in xz and yz plane. As shown in both planes, the
 438 EHD-generated flow combined with the primary air flow formed an air jet that impinged the
 439 plate. The air jet was located along the plate, underneath the wire (**Fig.14-a**) and formed two
 440 parietal jets developing on both sides of impinging zone (**Fig.14-b**). As a result, both velocity
 441 components U_z and U_y could be considered as the most relevant components influencing the
 442 cooling of the plate.

443 Therefore, in longitudinal wire configuration, one can consider the velocity component along
 444 y axis, U_y , as a relevant means of characterization in addition to U_z . For a better exploitation
 445 of U_y and U_z , the **line 2** displayed in **Fig.15** was used as reference for plotting the velocity
 446 profiles.

447 PIV measurement conducted in the yz plane, shown in **Fig.15**, reveals that the $|U_y|$ component
 448 presented relatively high values in an area very close to the plate on both sides the air jet.
 449 Therefore, the U_y component of the spreading air jet might have a major influence on cooling
 450 effect, say heat transfer intensification, on both sides of the plate.



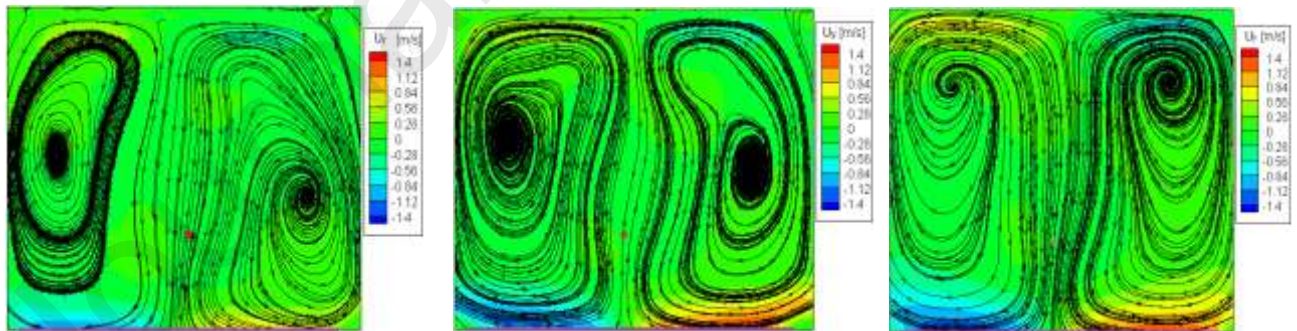
451 **Figure .15** Mapping of the U_y contours component and streamlines in xz plan

452

453 It was found previously in **Fig.5** that, for longitudinal wire configuration, the cooling of the
 454 plate along the wire was more homogeneous for $d = 4$ cm. This tendency might be explained
 455 by the change in the vortices shape structures of the secondary flow (swirl) along the plate.

456 To better understand the evolution of the flow structures, PIV measurements were carried out
 457 in the yz plane at different positions along the x axis: Position 1: $L_x = 1/4 L_p$, Position 2: $L_x =$
 458 $1/2 L_p$, and Position 3: $L_x = 3/4 L_p$. The mapping of the streamlines and the velocity profiles of
 459 both U_y and U_z components lengthwise **line2** are shown in **Fig.16** and **Fig.17**, respectively.

460



$L_x = 1/4 L_p$

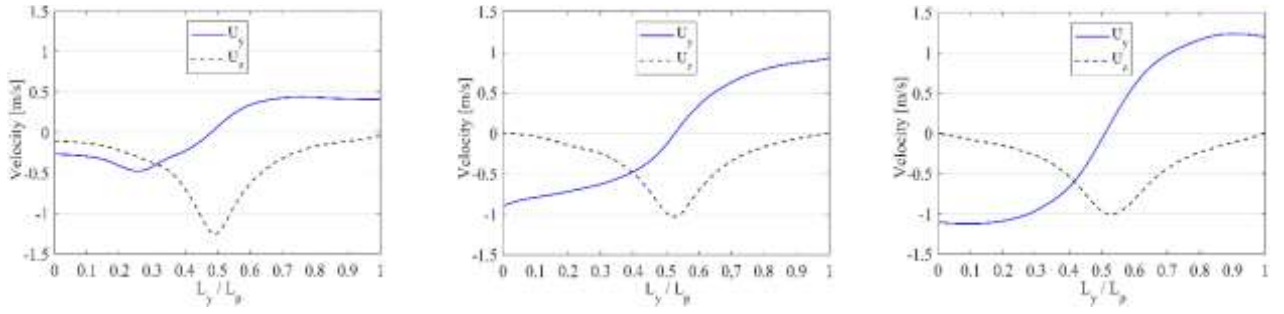
$L_x = 1/2 L_p$

$L_x = 3/4 L_p$

Figure. 16 Mapping of the U_y contours component and streamlines on the yz plan at positions:

(a) $L_x = 1/4 L_p$, (b) $L_x = 1/2 L_p$ and (c) $L_x = 3/4 L_p$

461



a) $L_x = 1/4 L_p$

b) $L_x = 1/2 L_p$

c) $L_x = 3/4 L_p$

462 **Figure. 17** Velocity profiles component of U_z and U_y lengthwise line 2 on the yz plan at positions:

463 (a) $L_x = 1/4 L_p$, (b) $L_x = 1/2 L_p$ and (c) $L_x = 3/4 L_p$

464

465 According to the streamlines cartography displayed in **Fig.16**, it can be noticed that the
 466 vortices centers increased in height along the x axis. The velocity profile of U_y component
 467 plotted along **line 2** shows that the amplitude of U_y increased from 0.3 m/s at the first plane to
 468 1.2 m/s at the last plane (**Fig.17c**). As the primary flow passed over the plate, it interacted
 469 with the EHD air jet to form two growing counter-rotating vortices. This growth resulted in
 470 the increase of transverse velocity, U_y in the direction of the primary flow (x axis). **Fig.17** also
 471 shows the profiles of U_z component plotted on **line 2**. This figure illustrates that the maximum
 472 absolute values decreased along the plate from 1.3 m/s at $L_x = 1/4 L_p$ to 0.6 m/s at $L_x = 3/4 L_p$.
 473 This tendency was confirmed with the results shown in **Fig.18**. The measurement performed
 474 on xz plane, at $z = 1 \text{ cm}$ shows that position $L_x = 1/4 L_p$ was characterized by the maximum
 475 velocity value of $|U_z|$. The results shown in **Fig.18**, explain clearly the concordance between
 476 the evolution of the U_z velocity component and the surface plate temperature profile presented
 477 in **Fig.19**: the minimum surface plate temperature, close to $30 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, occurred at $L_x = 0.4 L_p$
 478 where vertical component of velocity reached its maximum, $|U_z| = 1.3 \text{ m/s}$. Similar behavior
 479 discussed in **Figs.18-19** was observed for other electrode gap values, $d = 2 \text{ cm}$ and $d = 6 \text{ cm}$,
 480 but with different magnitudes.

481

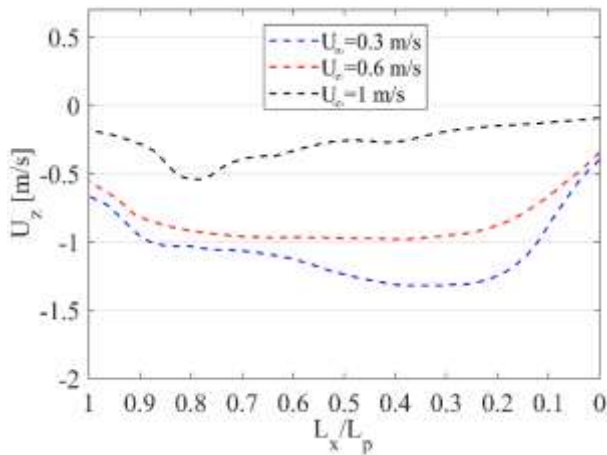


Figure 18. Velocity profiles of U_z component, along a line located at $z = 1$ cm in xz plane

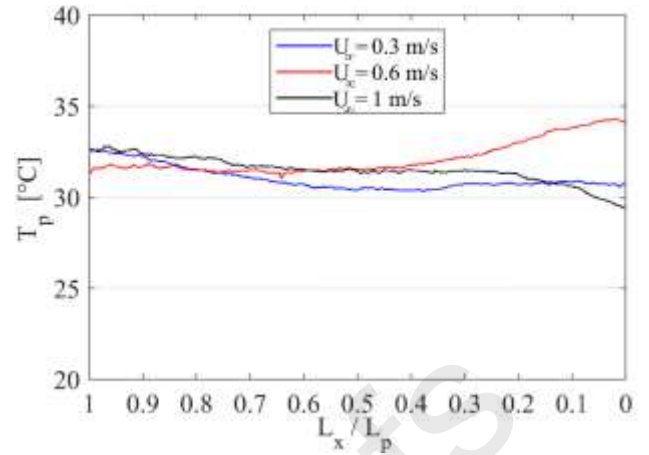


Figure 19. Surface temperature profiles T_p , just beneath the wire

482

483 4. Conclusion

484 The present study is one of the first where both PIV and IR thermography were performed to
 485 investigate the heat transfer enhancement by ionic wind in a rectangular channel, which
 486 dimensions correspond to real size of potential future drying systems.

487 The experiments clearly demonstrated that such an approach is necessary to understand, in
 488 different wire-to plate electrode configurations, the results of heat transfer enhancement versus
 489 flow structure alteration.

490 Thermal characterization essentially made possible to identify and select optimal configurations
 491 according to different aspects like transfer enhancement, thermal homogeneity and energy
 492 consumption. The study of flow characterization by PIV figured out the relationship between the
 493 geometric and operating parameters with the heat transfer intensification distribution. It enabled
 494 the understanding of the mechanisms of secondary flows structures combined with the primary
 495 flow (air jet, vortex...). The following conclusions were derived:

496 In all cases, the highest heat transfer enhancement by EHD was obtained for the smaller primary
 497 air flow velocity (0.3 m/s). As expected, at low Reynolds number, primary air flow provided the
 498 most efficient use of the secondary air flow induced by EHD. This in fact corresponds to a large
 499 EHD number.

500 For the single wire-electrode arranged perpendicular to the primary air flow, the greatest increase
 501 in heat transfer occurred when the wire-electrode was set at the highest distance from the plate

502 ($d = 6 \text{ cm}$) where it provided the best intensification ($h_m/h_0 = 8$). For the minimum value of wire
503 to plate distance, the heat transfer enhancement was localized over a very limited area beneath
504 the wire. In this case, the generated secondary flow was similar to an impinging jet that caused a
505 strong intensification on an area located beneath the wire. Such a configuration should be
506 selected when the objective consists in getting local heat/mass transfer enhancement without any
507 necessity to get homogeneous treatment.

508 For the case of single wire-electrode arranged parallel to primary air flow, the highest increase in
509 heat transfer enhancement was achieved for wire to plate distance of 4 cm which provided the
510 most efficient combination of primary and secondary air flow where the intensification was
511 improved 7 times ($h_m/h_0 = 7$). In this case, the air jet was generated along the wire where the
512 maximum velocity was similar to that achieved with the cross wire. It was shown that contra-
513 rotating vortices appeared and were developing as progressing in the channel. Such a
514 configuration should be selected when the objective consists in getting an homogeneous
515 treatment due the change in the vortices shape structures of the secondary flow along the
516 plate.

517 Whatever the configuration, results indicated that such a deep analysis of heat transfer
518 enhancement and flow structure is required for a correct design of future system (geometrical
519 parameters and applied voltage) according to the objective. High local enhancement can be
520 reached when decreasing the electrode gap but the enhancement is then limited by arcing
521 phenomenon. A more homogeneous enhancement requires a larger inter-electrodes gap that lead
522 to a larger jet with lower impacting velocities.

523

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734 **Highlights**

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- 736 • Using EHD in thermal process leads to heat transfer enhancement and reduces energy
737 consumption
- 738 • EHD induced secondary flow disturbs the thermal boundary layer and increases heat transfer
- 739 • Wire /plate electrode arrangement is efficient for combined secondary flow generation with
740 primary flow in a channel
- 741 • Longitudinal wire configuration improves the homogeneity of heat transfer compared to cross
742 wire configuration
- 743 • Combination of thermal and dynamic flow characterization is the main key for EHD process
744 optimization

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