

# Influence of using innovative turbulators on the exergy and energy efficacy of flat plate solar collector with DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water nanofluid

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## ABSTRACT

This study investigates the effect of using turbulators with innovative geometrie (TIG) and DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water hybrid nanofluid (HNF) on thermal-hydraulic performance, exergy and energy efficacies of flat plate solar collector (FPSC) using a mixed two-phase model (TPM). Finite volume technique (FVT), SIMPLP algorithm and FLUENT software are used. The numerical study is performed for nano-additives concentrations ( $\phi$ ) of 1 to 3%, Reynolds numbers (Re) from 7000 to 28000, and PR of 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the proposed TIG in turbulent flow regime. The results show that the average Nusselt number ( $Nu_{ave}$ ) increases by augmenting the Re and  $\phi$ . In addition, at Re = 28,000 and  $\phi = 3\%$ , the installation of TIG with PR = 4 within the solar collector (SC) increases the  $Nu_{ave}$  by 63.46%. In the case of  $\phi = 3\%$  and by augmenting the Re from 7000 to 28000, energy and exergy efficacies increase by 22.19% and 23.26% for PR = 4 and PR = 1, respectively.

## Introduction

Solar energy is one of the most popular types of energy for human use these days. Meanwhile, the equipment for exploiting this energy is of particular interest to researchers [1–6]. One of the most extensively used equipment is solar collectors, and researchers are thinking of improving their efficiency in various ways every day [7–12]. One way to increase the efficiency of solar collectors is to focus on improving heat transfer in them. In the meantime, augmenting the heat transfer rate (HTR) using passive methods has always been the focus of researchers [13–15]. One of these approaches is to use turbulators with dissimilar shapes to enhance HTR [16–19]. The use of nanomaterials has also been highly considered by researchers in recent decades [20–27]. Afshari et al. [28] considered the influence of turbulator on thermal performance ( $\eta$ ) inside the SC, experimentally and numerically. Based on the results obtained from their study, the experimental and numerical findings were in good agreement with high accuracy. Also, the use of a turbulator increases the efficacy of the SC by 72.41%.

Rostami et al. [3] considered the influence of elliptical tubes on the exergy efficacy of water-multi-walled carbon nanotubes in a FPSC using FVT and FLUENT software. According to their results, the maximum augmentation in the efficacy of the FPSC is 17.11% when elliptical tubes are used.

Sakhaei and Valipour [29] experimentally inspected the effect of height and roughness on a parabolic solar collector (PSC). According to their results, the use of roughness and augmenting its length intensifies the  $\eta$  of the PSC. Also, the  $\eta$  increases by augmenting the roughness height. In addition, the maximum augmentation in  $\eta$  of the SC was 97.6%.

Hosseini et al. [30] experimentally examined the effect of rotary turbulators with twisted tape to increase HTR in the solar desalination system. According to their results, the use of a rotary tubulator with twisted tape can improve the output efficacy to its maximum value. Besides, in the solar desalination system, the maximum output efficacy was 87.11% lower than the solar desalination system with a rotary tubulator.

Ibrahim et al. [31] numerically measured the effect of TIG on the

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## Nomenclature

### Symbols

$c_p$	Specific heat, (J/kgK)
$D_h$	Hydraulic diameter, (m)
$f$	Friction factor
$k$	Thermal conductivity, (W/mK)
$P$	Pressure, (Pa)
$T$	Temperature (K)
$V$	Velocity

### Greek symbols

$\mu$	Dynamic viscosity (mPa.s)
$\rho$	Density ( $\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$ )
$\eta$	efficiency

### Subscriptions

$np$	Nanoparticle
$nf$	Nanofluid

### Abbreviations

FVT	finite volume technique
PEC	thermal-hydraulic performance
$\eta_{en}$	energy efficiency
$\eta_{ex}$	exergy efficiency
PR	pitch ratios
SC	solar collector
FPSC	flat plate solar collector
HNF	hybrid nanofluid

exergy efficacy of a HNF in a SC. In this study, they employed a hybrid water/aluminum oxide-multi-walled carbon nanotube nanofluid using the FVT. Their results revealed that exergy efficacy decreases with the height and twisted ratio of turbulators.

Yan et al. [32] numerically considered the influence of using U-shaped PSC tubes filled with non-Newtonian two-phase hybrid nanofluids (TPHNFs) using the FVT and FLUENT software. They used a surface-to-surface model to model radiation energy and employed a mixed TPM to model a two-phase non-Newtonian HNF. Based on their findings, the use of U-shaped absorber tubes increases the  $\eta$  of the PSC by 45.11%.

Shahsavvar Goldanlou et al. [33] considered the impact of using HNF on the flow field and HTR within a PSC FVT and the  $k-\omega$  model to examine the flow field. Their results indicated that the HTR intensifies with augmenting the nano-additive concentration. Also, the maximum augmentation in  $\eta$  of the PSC was 46.89% using HNFs more than case of water-based fluid.

Waghole et al. [34] investigated the influence of employing twisted tape on the thermal and hydraulic performance of water-silver nanofluid in a linear PSC. Their results showed that augmenting the  $\phi$  of silver nanoparticles and Re results in a substantial increase in the  $\eta$  of the linear PSC. In addition, augmenting the pitch of the twisted tape increases the HTR and  $\Delta P$ .

Nazir et al. [35] numerically inspected the influence of water/aluminum oxide nanofluid on energy efficacy and exergy of a linear PSC for Re from 500 to 1500 and volume fractions of 1 to 4%. Their results demonstrated that amplifying the Re and  $\phi$  increases energy and exergy efficacy.

The impact of using porous obstacles on the fluid flow and HTR of nanofluid inside the PSC was experimentally examined by Reddy et al. [36]. They found that augmenting the porosity of the obstacles augments the  $\eta$  of the PSC. However, augmenting the porosity increases the  $\Delta P$ . Also, the  $\eta$  of the PSC with porous obstacles increases by 57.34% compared to the SC without porous obstacles.

Ma et al. [37] numerically investigated the influence of using hot tubs on the free convection of Cu/EG-water nanofluid in the space between adiabatic cylinders for Rayleigh numbers of  $10^3$  to  $10^5$  and  $\phi$  from zero to 0.05. They reported that the  $Nu_{ave}$  enhances significantly with the Rayleigh number. Also, the use of nanofluids has shown much higher  $\eta$  than water-based fluid and ethylene glycol.

Reddy et al. [38] numerically inspected the influence of porous obstacles on the flow field and HTR of water-aluminum oxide nanofluid in a turbulent flow regime inside a PSC using  $k-\epsilon$  turbulence model. They reported that porous obstacles and nanofluid increase the  $\eta$  of the SC. Also, the maximum augmentation in HTR when porous obstacles were employed was 18.45%.

The impact of twisted tape on the fluid flow and HTR within a PSC using computational fluid dynamics was numerically inspected by Jaramillo et al. [39]. Their numerical results revealed that augmenting the Re and the pitch ratio in the twisted tape increases the  $\eta$  of the SC. Also, the maximum intensification in  $\eta$  was 19% when the twisted tape was employed.

Zhu et al. [40] used FVT and the  $k-\omega$  turbulence model for evaluating the effect of corrugated tapes in a PSC. Based on their findings, the maximum intensification in  $\eta$  of the SC at  $Re = 20,000$  was 156.51%.

Dezfulizadeh et al. [41] numerically studied the influence of a hybrid TIG on the exergy efficacy of a triple HNF in a heat exchanger exposed to a magnetic field. Their study was carried out for Re from 4000 to 16,000 and volume fractions of zero to 3%. Their findings indicated that the installation of a hybrid turbulator rises the exergy efficacy in the heat exchanger. Also, the use of hybrid turbulators in the counterclockwise direction is more suitable in terms of exergy efficacy.

In this study, a special type of turbulator with new geometries has been used. This turbulator has been studied in several of PR values. Simultaneous investigation of energy and exergy efficiencies and PEC value is of other features of this study. Also in this study, polymeric hybrid nanofluid has been used, which has been less discussed in previous studies.

According to the researched performed so far, the thermal and hydraulic performance, exergy efficacy, and energy efficacy of DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water TPHNF turbulent flow in SCs equipped with innovative turbulators have not been studied. Consequently, in this numerical research, thermal and hydraulic performance of DWCNT-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water HNF with  $1 \leq \phi \leq 3\%$ ,  $7000 \leq Re \leq 28000$ , and the  $PR = 1, 2, 3,$  and  $4$  for turbulators is investigated for turbulent flow regime.

## Mathematical model and equations

Fig. 1 displays the schematic view of the SC containing TIG. As seen, the absorber tube is a part of the SC. The lengths of absorber tube and TIG are 800 mm and 300 mm, respectively. The TIG is installed in the middle of the absorber tube. The distance of TIG from both sides of the tube is 250 mm. For simulating the radiation, the surface-to-surface model is employed. Furthermore, the  $k-\epsilon$  turbulence model and the SIMPLEC algorithm are respectively applied to solve the turbulent flow and discretization of the equations.

Table 1 presents the geometry specification of TIG.

The DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water TPHNF is employed as the heat transfer fluid. The thermophysical characteristics of the used materials are reported in Table 2.

For simulating the DWCNT-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water HNF flow through the SC, the mixed TPM is implemented. The governing equations of the problem are expressed in Table 3.

In Equation (18)  $\dot{Q}_{HTF}$  is calculated from Equation (19). In this equation  $T_{i,HTF}$  is the fluid temperature at the inlet of heat exchanger.  $T_s$  is the surface temperature of the collector absorber pipe.  $V_f$  is also the hybrid nanofluid velocity. Also,  $\eta_p$  is the efficiency of the pump used in the parabolic solar collector cycle and its value is 80%.

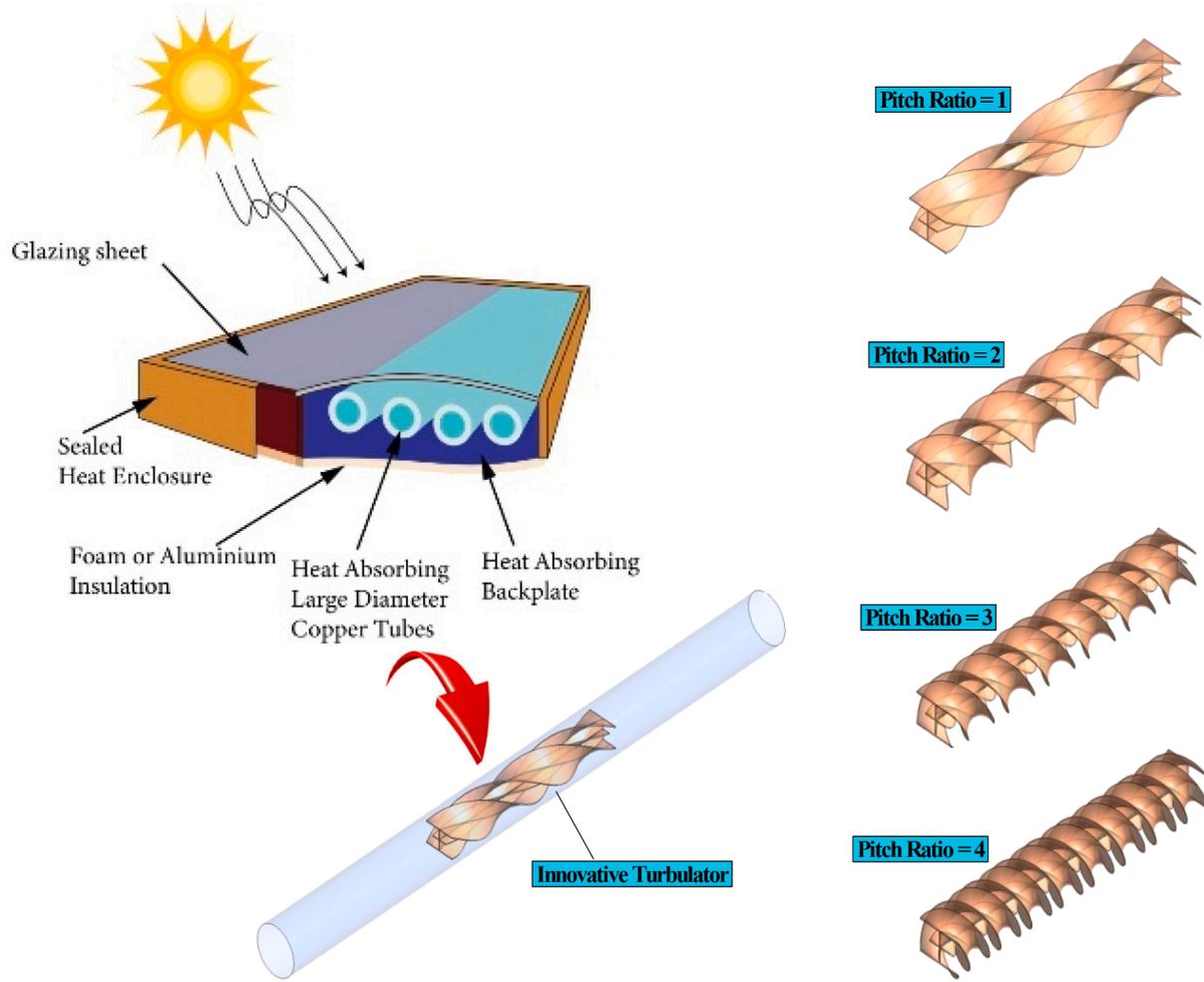


Fig. 1. Schematic of the SC equipped with TIG.

**Table 1**  
Characteristics of the considered TIG.

Dimension	Size
L	300 mm
D	60 mm
PR	1, 2, 3, 4

**Table 2**  
Thermophysical specification of water and nano-additives [42,43].

Property	Water	TiO <sub>2</sub>	DWCNT
$\rho$ (kg.m <sup>-3</sup> )	998.2	4250	2100
$c_p$ (J.kg <sup>-1</sup> .K <sup>-1</sup> )	4182	686.2	710
$k$ (W.m <sup>-1</sup> .K <sup>-1</sup> )	0.6	80.2	3000
$\mu$ (kg.m <sup>-1</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup> )	0.001003	-	-

## Numerical modeling

Past research has shown that using numerical methods to solve complex fluid flow and heat transfer equations can be very useful. In fact, using numerical methods or computational fluid dynamics can reduce the time and cost of performing experiments [49–53]. In the present study, FLUENT software version 18.2 is used for numerical simulations. First, the geometry of the SC is prepared in three

dimensions using the design modeler module. In order to discretize the computational area into a number of control volumes, the geometry of the SC is gridded. After performing the grid independence test and ensuring the number of elements in the computational area, the grid geometry is exported into FLUENT software. The problem is solved on the steady assumption and the solver is pressure-based. The DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water HNF flow is simulated using a mixed TPM. In order to model the turbulent flow, the standard k- $\epsilon$  turbulence model is used. The boundary conditions at the input of the PSC are  $7000 \leq Re \leq 28000$ , the  $\phi = 1$  to 3% of TiO<sub>2</sub> and DWCNT nanoparticles, and twisted ratios of 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the TIG. The Least Squares Cell-Based model is applied for discretization. The standard model is applied to discretize the pressure, and the power-law model is employed for momentum, turbulent kinetic energy, and volume fraction equations.

## Grid independence assessment

In Fig. 2, for grids with different number of points, the  $Nu_{ave}$  is calculated to select the best grid in order to make the results independent of the grid. In order to obtain a proper grid that leads to the independence of the findings from the number of grid points, the  $Nu_{ave}$  for DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water HNF inside a SC with a TIG is calculated (Fig. 2). It can be concluded that the grid with 2132044 nodes is appropriate for a SC with a TIG. Further intensification of this grid resolution does not change the values of the  $Nu_{ave}$ . Therefore, the grid resolution of 2132044 is selected for the present simulations.

**Table 3**

Governing equations [44–48].

Equation name	Formula	Eq. No.
continuity equation	$\nabla \left( \rho_m \vec{U}_m \right) = 0$	(1)
mixture velocity or mass-averaged velocity	$\vec{U}_m = \frac{\rho_s \phi_s \vec{U}_s + \rho_{bf} \phi_{bf} \vec{U}_{bf}}{\rho_m}$	(2)
mixture density	$\rho_m = \rho_s \phi_s + \rho_{bf} \phi_{bf}$	(3)
momentum equation	$\rho_m \left( \vec{U}_m \nabla \vec{U}_m \right) = -\nabla \vec{P} + \mu_m \left( \nabla \vec{U}_m + \left( \nabla \vec{U}_m \right)^T \right) + \nabla \left( \rho_{bf} \phi_{bf} \vec{U}_{dr,bf} + \rho_s \phi_s \vec{U}_{dr,s} \right) + \rho_m \vec{g}$	(4)
drift velocity of particles	$\vec{U}_{dr,bf} = \vec{U}_{bf} - \vec{U}_m$	(5)
base fluid drift velocity	$\vec{U}_{dr,s} = \vec{U}_s - \vec{U}_m$	(6)
energy equation	$\nabla \left( \rho_{bf} \phi_{bf} \vec{U}_{bf} h_{bf} + \rho_s \phi_s \vec{U}_s h_s \right) = \nabla \left( \left( \phi_{bf} k_{bf} + \phi_s k_s \right) \nabla T \right)$	(7)
volume fraction equation	$\nabla \left( \rho_s \phi_s \vec{U}_m \right) = -\nabla \left( \rho_s \phi_s \vec{U}_{dr,s} \right)$	(8)
slip velocity	$\vec{U}_{bf,s} = \vec{U}_{bf} - \vec{U}_s$	(9)
drift velocity and relative velocity	$\vec{U}_{dr,s} = \vec{U}_{s,bf} - \frac{\rho_s \phi_s}{\rho_m} \vec{U}_{bf,s}$	(10)
velocity is through the Schiller and Naumann	$\vec{U}_{bf,s} = \frac{d_p^2}{18 \mu_{bf}} \frac{\rho_s - \rho_m}{\rho_s} \vec{\alpha}$ $\vec{\alpha} = \vec{g} - \left( \vec{U}_m \nabla \vec{U}_m \right)$	(11)
Reynolds number	$Re_s = \frac{\vec{U}_m d_p \rho_m}{\mu_m}$	(12)
describe the k-ε model	$\nabla \left( \rho_m \vec{U}_m k \right) = \nabla \left[ \left( \mu_m + \frac{\mu_{Lm}}{\sigma_k} \right) \nabla k \right] + G_{k,m} - \rho_m \epsilon$ $\nabla \left( \rho_m \vec{U}_m \epsilon \right) = \nabla \left[ \left( \mu_m + \frac{\mu_{Lm}}{\sigma_\epsilon} \right) \nabla \epsilon \right] + \frac{\epsilon}{k} \left( c_1 G_{k,m} - c_2 \rho_m \epsilon \right)$	(13)
turbulent viscosity	$\mu_{Lm} = C_\mu \rho_m \frac{k^2}{\epsilon}$	(14)
production rate	$G_{k,m} = \mu_{Lm} \left( \nabla \vec{U}_m + \left( \nabla \vec{U}_m \right)^T \right)$	(15)
Thermal energy	$\eta_c = \frac{E_c}{I \cdot A} = \frac{Q_{in} \cdot \rho_{in} \cdot c_{p,in} \cdot (T_{out} - T_{in})}{6 \cdot 10^4 \cdot 1 \cdot A}$	(16)
efficacy	$\eta_n = \frac{E_n}{I \cdot A} = \frac{p_{fo} \cdot Q_{in} \cdot \rho_{in} \cdot c_{p,in} \cdot (T_{fo,out} - T_{in}) + (1 - p_{fo}) Q_{in} \cdot \rho_{in} \cdot c_{p,in} \cdot (T_{fi,out} - T_{in})}{6 \cdot 10^4 \cdot 1 \cdot A}$	(17)
Exergy efficacy	$\eta_{ex} = \frac{\dot{Q}_{HTF} - \dot{m}_{HTF} c_p \ln \left( \frac{T_\infty}{T_{i,HTF}} \right)}{-\dot{Q}_{HTF} - \dot{m}_{CF} c_p \ln \left( \frac{T_{o,CF}}{T_{i,CF}} \right) + V_t \eta_p}$	(18)
Heat transfer rate	$\dot{Q}_{HTF} = h(T_{i,HTF} - T_s)$	(19)

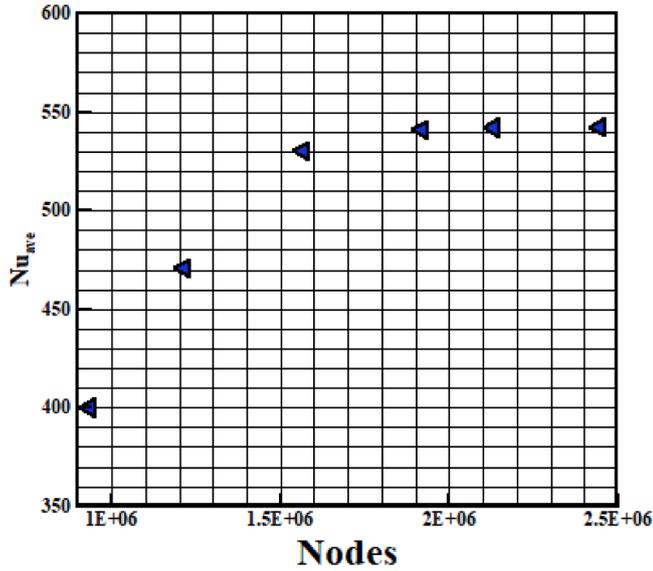


Fig. 2.  $Nu_{ave}$  for DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water hybrid nanofluent in SC containing a TIG for  $Re = 28000$ ,  $\phi = 3\%$ ,  $PR = 4$ , and different grid resolutions.

### Verification

The numerical findings is verified according to the similar model

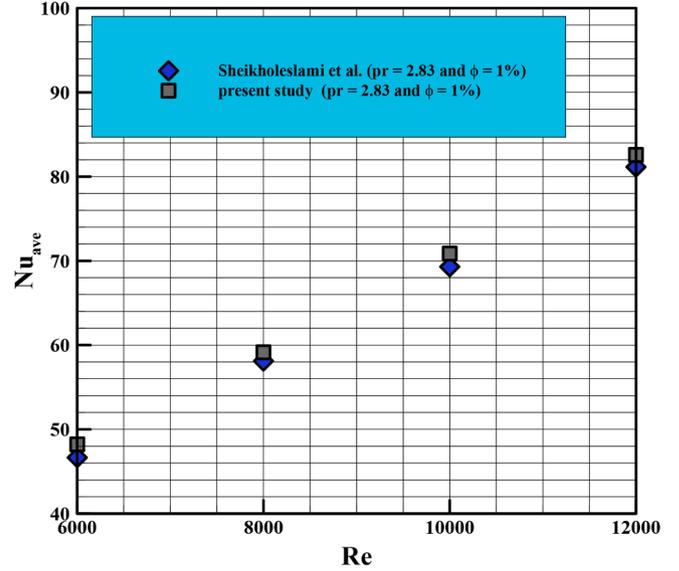


Fig. 3.  $Nu_{ave}$  versus  $Re$ : comparison between the results obtained from the present simulations and the ones reported by Sheikholeslami et al. [54].

presented by Sheikholeslami et al. [54] and the  $Nu_{ave}$  are compared (Fig. 3). As observed, the difference between the amounts of the  $Nu_{ave}$  gained in the present solutions is minor (about 3.11%) compared to the

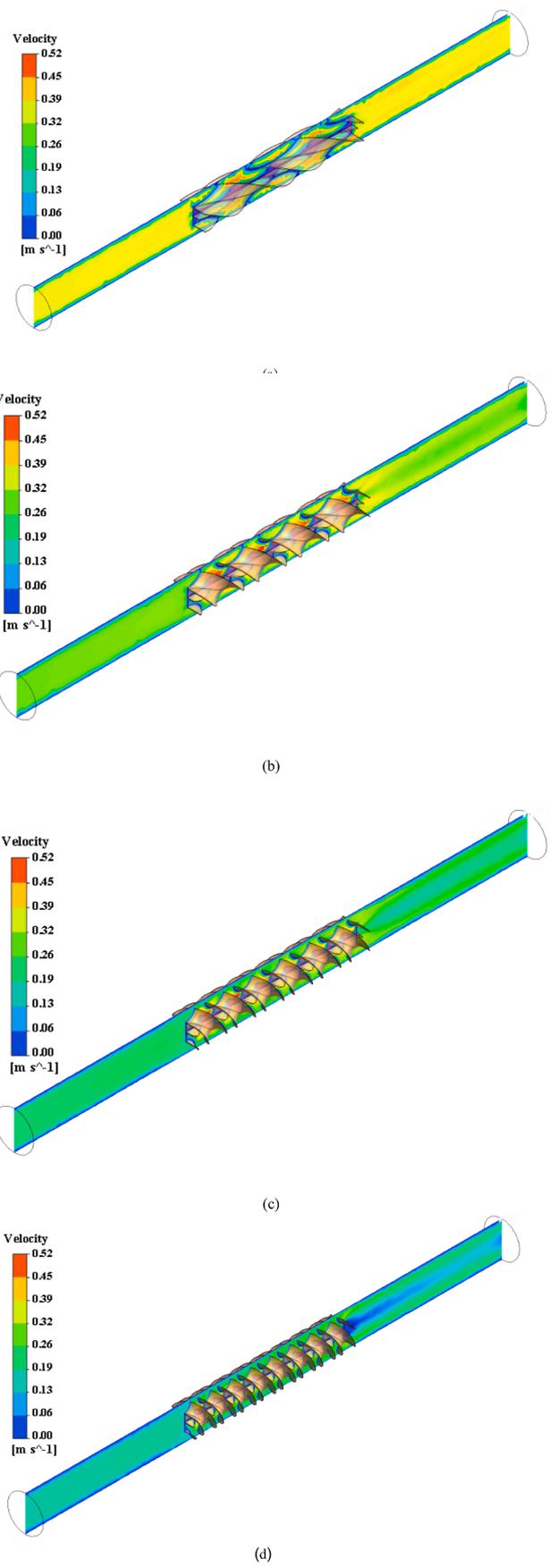
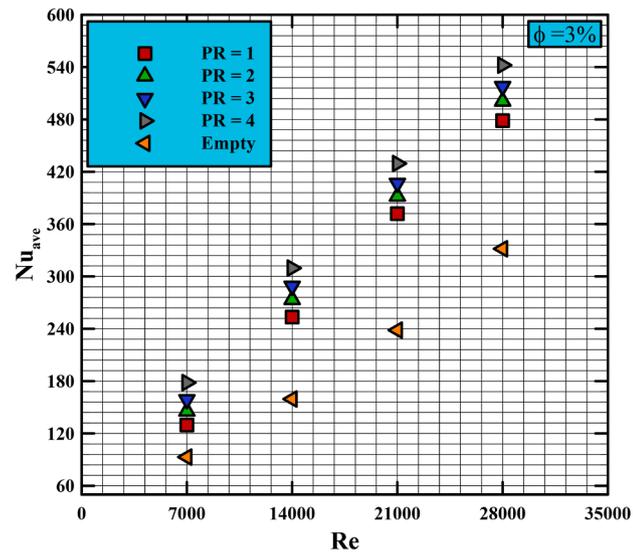
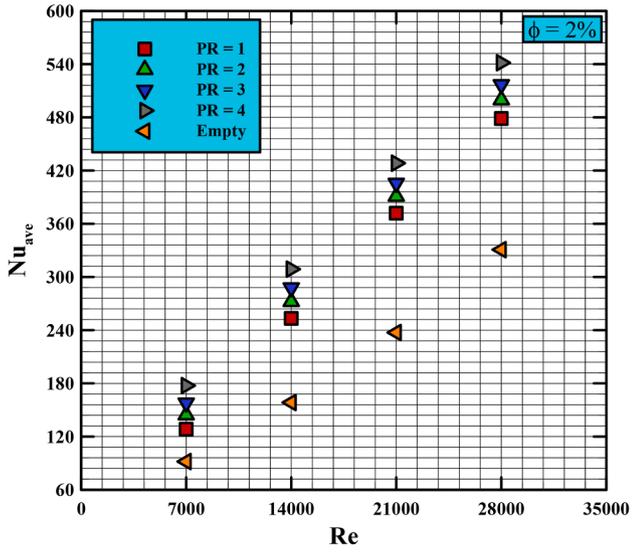
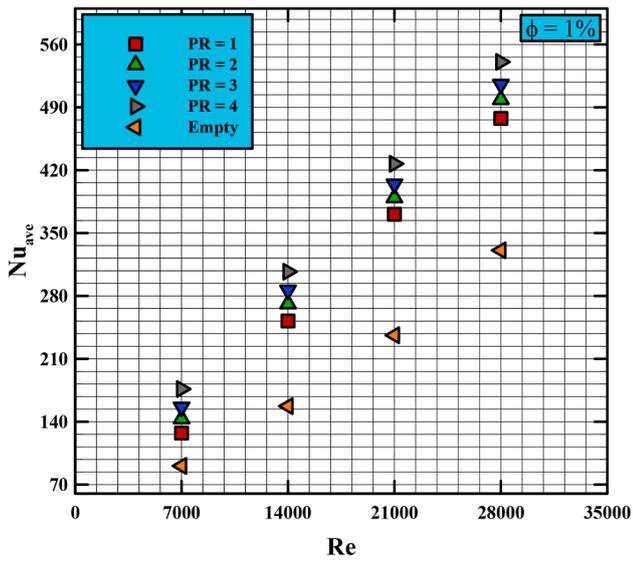
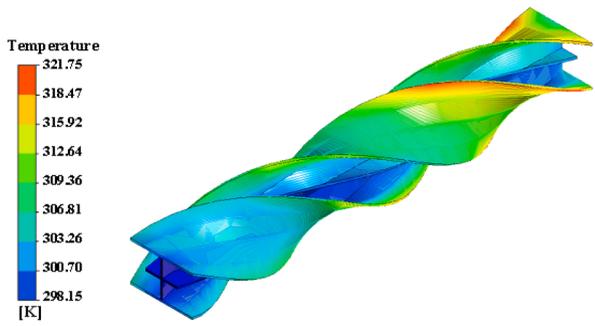
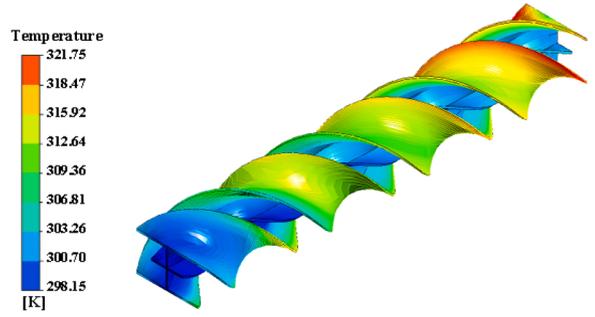


Fig. 4.  $Nu_{ave}$  versus  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG with various twisted ratios for different nano-additives concentrations.

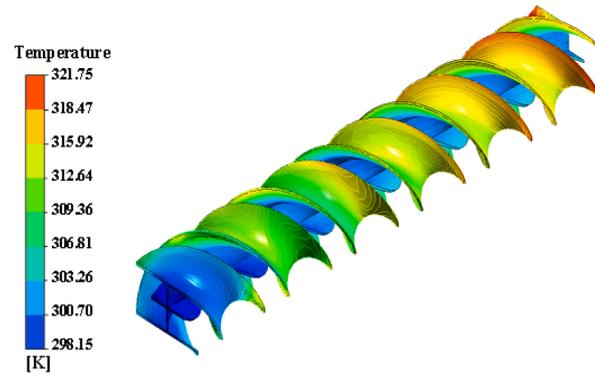
Fig. 5. Contours of velocity for TPHNFs for  $\phi = 3\%$ ,  $Re = 28000$ , and (a) PR = 1, (b) PR = 2, (c) PR = 3, and (d) PR = 4.



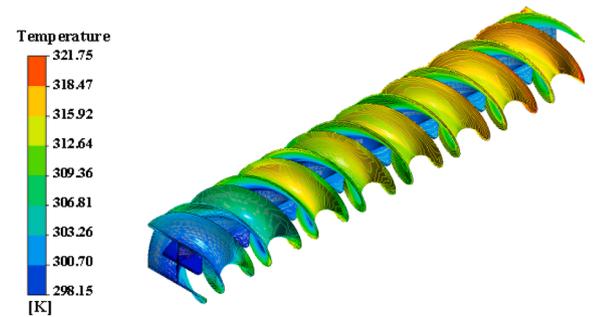
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Fig. 6. Temperature contours for TPHNFs for  $\phi = 3\%$ ,  $Re = 28000$ , and (a)  $PR = 1$ , (b)  $PR = 2$ , (c)  $PR = 3$ , and (d)  $PR = 4$ .

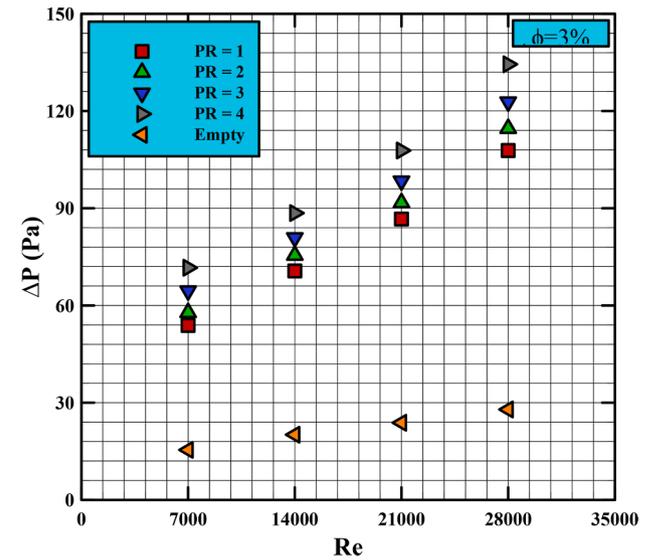
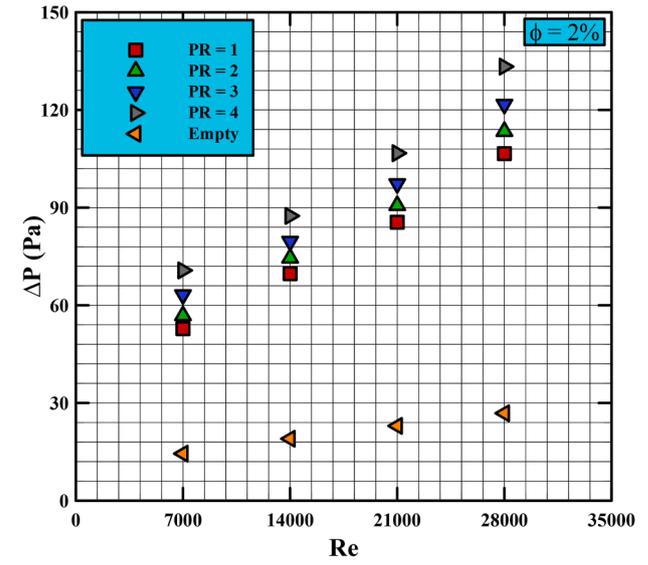
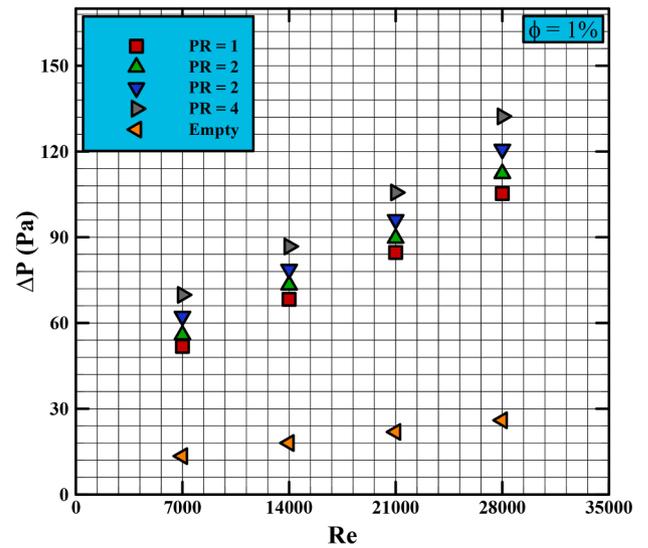
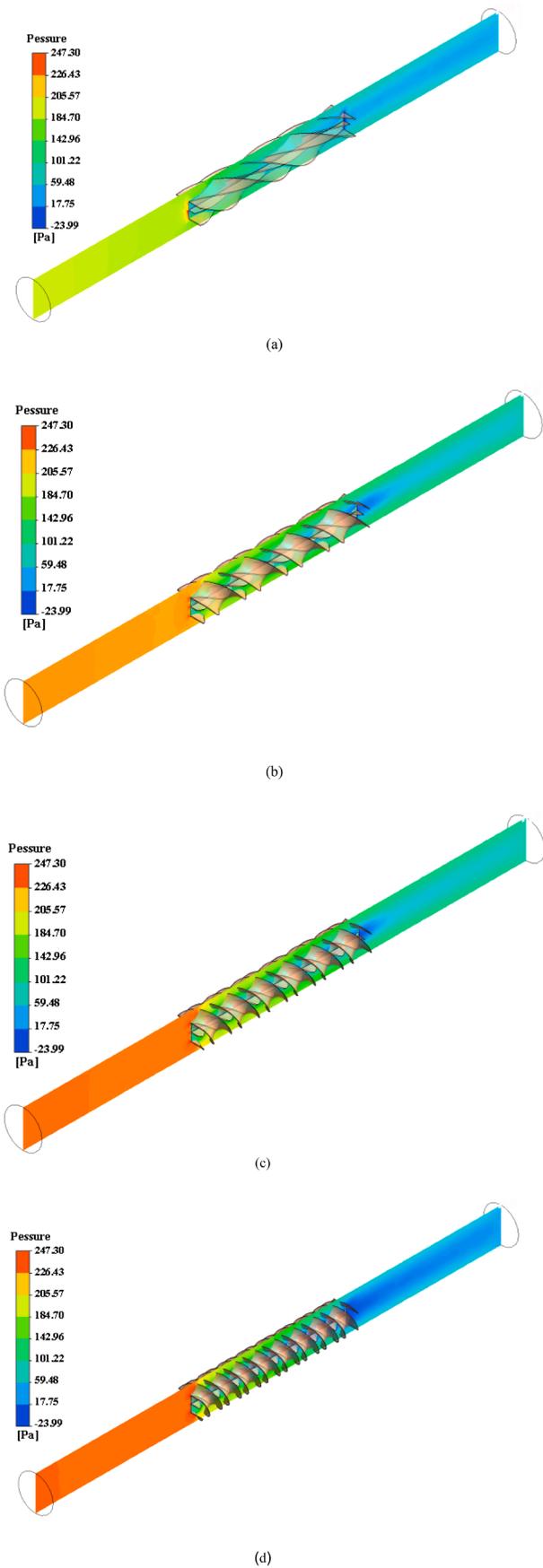


Fig. 7.  $\Delta P$  against  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG with various PRs for  $\phi = 1\%$ ,  $2\%$  and  $3\%$



**Fig. 8.** Pressure-related contours for TPHNFs at  $\phi = 3\%$  and  $Re = 28000$  within the SC at (a)  $PR = 1$ , (b)  $PR = 2$ , (c)  $PR = 3$ , and (d)  $PR = 4$ .

results of Sheikholeslami et al. [54]. Therefore, the accuracy of the simulations is ensured.

## Results and discussion

The findings of simulation are presented in the following. The effect of dissimilar twisted ratios of the TIG inside the SC on the  $Nu_{ave}$ ,  $\Delta P$ , thermal-hydraulic evaluation index, and energy efficacy are examined. Moreover, the counters related to velocity, streamlines, pressure, and temperature inside the SC consisting of the TIG with twisted ratios of 1, 2, 3, and 4 are provided for the volume fraction of 3% and  $Re = 28000$ .

### Effect of TIG twisted ratio on average Nusselt number

Fig. 4 shows the variations of the  $Nu_{ave}$  in terms of  $Re$  in a SC containing the TIG for various twisted ratios and nano-additives concentrations. As seen, the  $Nu_{ave}$  enhances with the  $Re$ . In fact, the flow velocity augments by augmenting the  $Re$  and consequently, the heat transfer coefficient intensifies, leading to intensification in the  $Nu_{ave}$ . At a constant  $Re$ , augmenting the turbulent twisted ratio intensifies the mean Nusselt number [33]. Placing the TIG in the SC increases the mixing and turbulence of the DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water HNF flow, resulting in an enhancement in the  $\eta$  of the SC. At  $Re = 28,000$ , the installation of TIG with  $PR = 4$  increases the  $Nu_{ave}$  by 61.23%, 62.87% and 63.46% for  $\phi = 1\%$ , 2% and 3%, respectively.

In general, with increasing  $PR$  value, turbulence and fluctuations in nanofluid flow would be enhanced and heat exchange increases. As a result, the average value of Nusselt number increases [33].

Velocity contours for TPHNF are shown in Fig. 5 for  $Re = 28000$ ,  $\phi = 3\%$ , and various  $PR$ s. As observed, neighboring the walls, the fluid velocity is equal to the wall velocity because of the no-slip boundary condition. Therefore, the velocity near the wall is zero and increases to touches its highest value at the collector center. According to the velocity contours, it can be observed that the density of streamlines intensifies by augmenting the TIG twisted ratio, leading to amplification in the velocity [33]. As fluid flow hits the TIGs, a separation phenomenon arises; which leads to the creation and rotation of vortices, and consequently  $\eta$  is improved.

Fig. 6 demonstrates the contours of temperature for the TPHNF for  $\phi = 3\%$ ,  $Re = 28000$ , and various  $PR$ s. As seen, the surface temperature of the TIG increases with the collision of the nanofluid flow and the effect of radiation from sunlight.

### Effect of innovative turbulator twisted ratio on pressure drop number

Fig. 7 shows the  $\Delta P$  against  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG with various twisted ratios of 1, 2, 3, and 4. As seen, the  $\Delta P$  is always increased for all cases by augmenting the  $Re$  and TIG twisted ratio. In addition, the  $\Delta P$  increases with the nano-additive concentration. At  $Re = 28000$ , adding the TIG with  $PR = 4$  increases the  $\Delta P$  by 309.40%, 311.21% and 314.77% for cases of  $\phi = 1\%$ , 2% and 3%, respectively [33].

The contours of pressure for the TPHNF at  $Re = 28000$  and  $\phi = 3\%$  are shown in Fig. 8 for different twisted ratios of 1, 2, 3, and 4. As seen, the streamlines concentration intensifies with augmenting the twisted ratio, leading to an enhancement of the pressure. In addition, the fluid flows between the turbulator blades, causing streamlines to contract. Moreover, with increasing the length of the SC, the pressure reduces. In all cases of turbulator inside the SC, the inlet pressure has its highest amount. The cause for the high pressure in these areas is the flow stagnation because of its hit with the turbulators. Hence, the velocity alters to pressure and then the pressure gradually decreases as the flow passes through the TIG blades.

In general, with increasing  $PR$  value, the flow becomes more distorted and turbulent. On the other hand, with increasing  $PR$ , the contact surface of the fluid with the TIG wall increases and the amount of shear stress would be more. With increment shear stress, the pressure drop

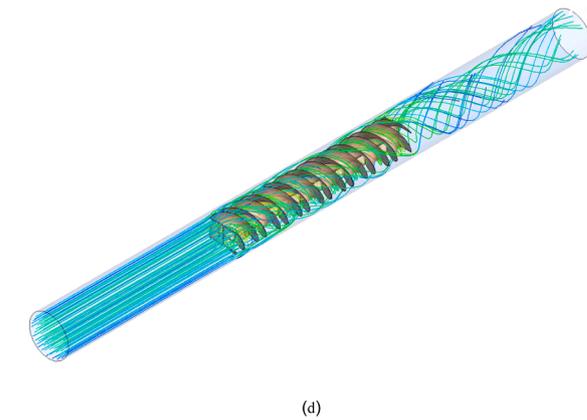
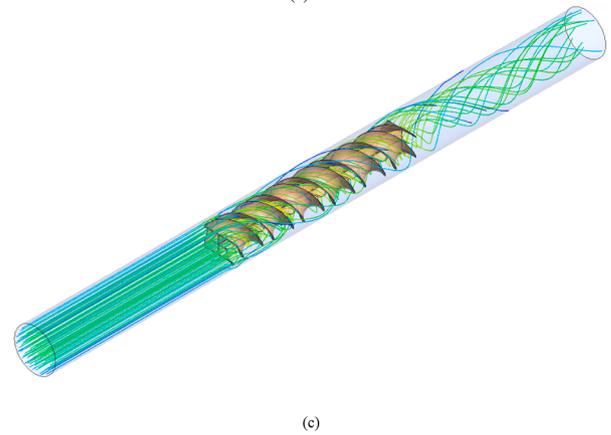
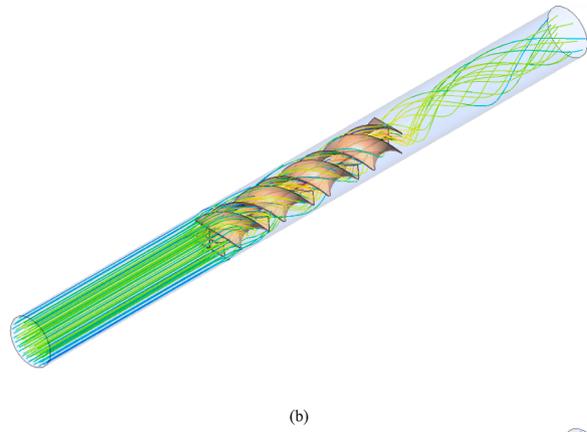
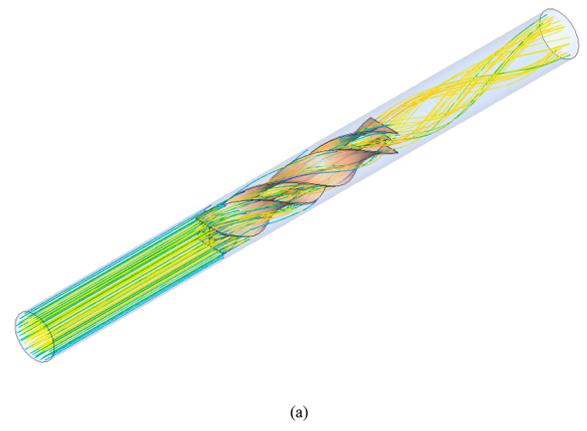
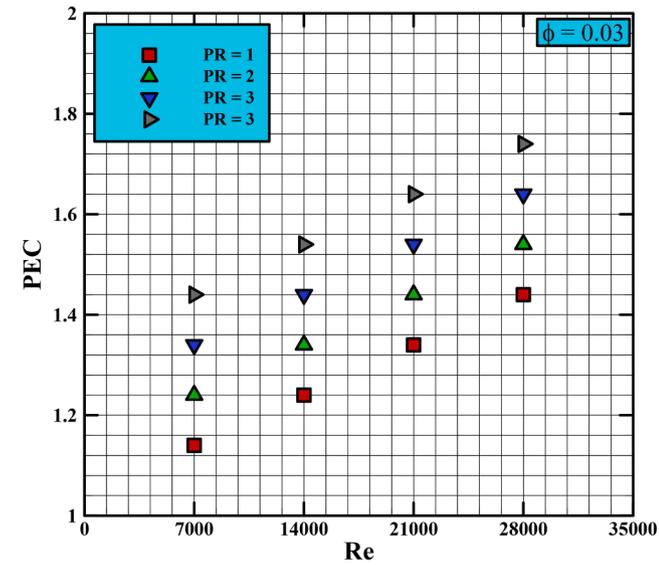
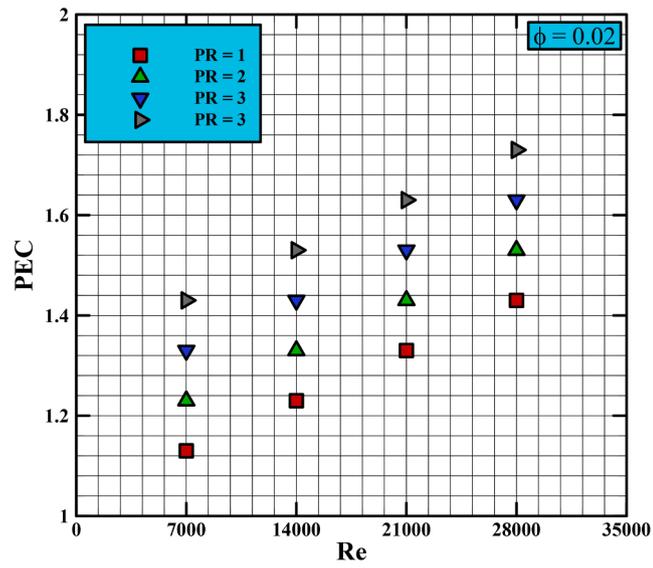
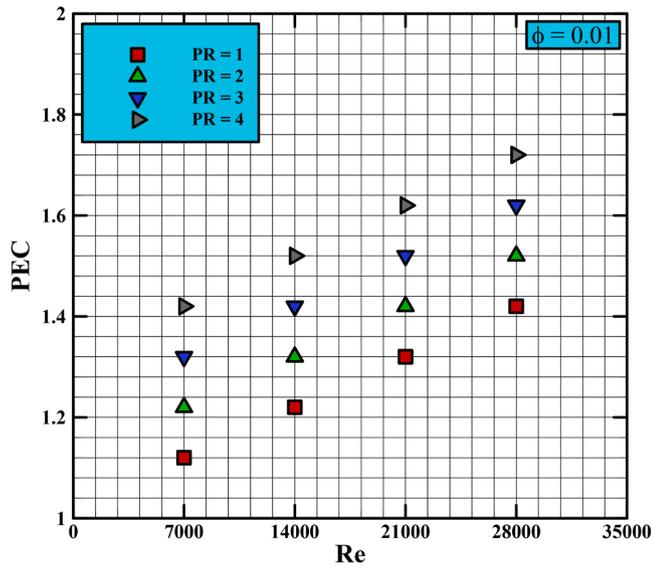


Fig. 9. Thermal hydraulic performance against Re for a SC containing a TIG with various twisted ratios and different nano-additives concentrations.

Fig. 10. Streamline contours for TPHNFs at  $Re = 28000$  and  $\phi = 3\%$  at (a) PR = 1, (b) PR = 2, (c) PR = 3, and (d) PR = 4.

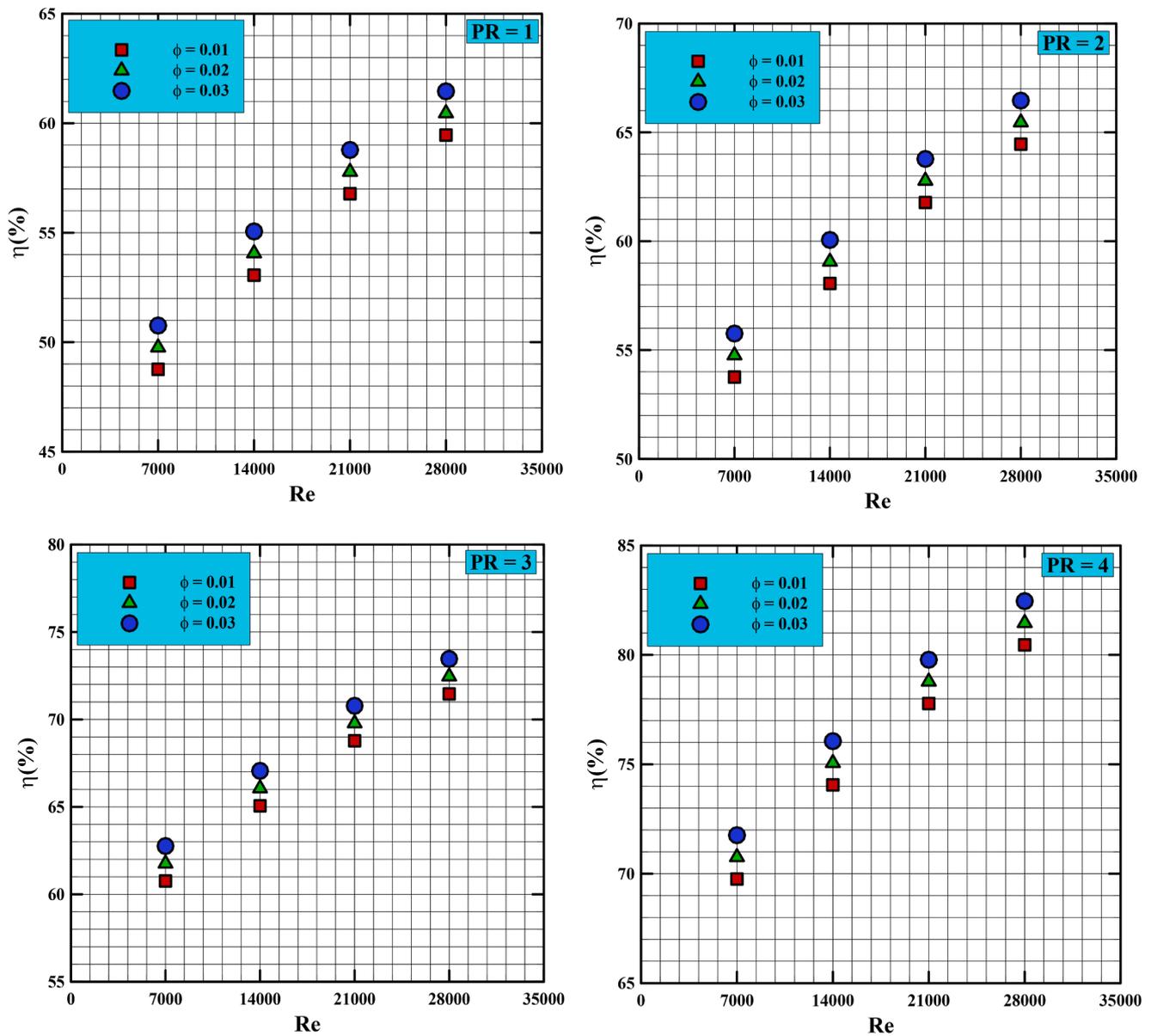


Fig. 11. Energy efficacy against  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG with different twisted ratios and volume fractions.

increases [33].

#### Effect of TIG twisted ratio on thermal and hydraulic performance coefficient

Changes in thermal-hydraulic coefficient versus  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG with various twisted ratios are shown in Fig. 9 for different twisted ratios of 1, 2, 3, and 4. As seen, in all cases the value of the thermal-hydraulic performance coefficient is more than 1. Thus, it can be understood that installation of a TIG and augmenting its twisted ratio is desirable to enhance thermal-hydraulic index.

Streamline contours for TPHNFs are displayed in Fig. 10 for a  $\phi = 3\%$  and  $Re = 18000$  within the SC at different PRs. They have been given. As observed, the streamlines concentration intensifies with augmenting twisted ratio in the illuminated TIG.

#### Effect of TIG twisted ratio on energy efficacy

Energy efficacies against  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG with different twisted ratios and volume fractions are illustrated in Fig. 11. As seen, for

all twisted ratios, the energy efficacy is always increased with augmenting  $Re$  and nano-additive concentration. Also, the maximum energy efficacy at all  $Re$  and volume fractions is related to the state in which the PR = 4 is used. At  $\phi = 3\%$ , by augmenting the  $Re$  from 7000 to 28000, the amount of energy efficacy increases by 21.08%, 21.47%, 21.81 and 22.19% for cases of TIGs with PR = 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively [41].

#### Effect of TIG twisted ratio on exergy efficacy

Exergy efficacy against  $Re$  in a SC containing a TIG are shown in Fig. 12 for dissimilar volume fractions and twisted ratios. As seen, the exergy efficacy has an upward trend with augmenting  $Re$  and nano-additive concentration, and a decreasing trend with augmenting twisted ratio. At  $\phi = 3\%$ , by amplifying the  $Re$  from 7000 to 28000, the amount of exergy efficacy increases by 23.26%, 23.13%, 23.07 and 22.90% for cases of TIGs with PR = 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

In general, with increasing Reynolds number, the  $Nu_{ave}$  which is an indicator of heat transfer rate, increases. On the other hand, also increment the volume fraction increases the heat conduction coefficient

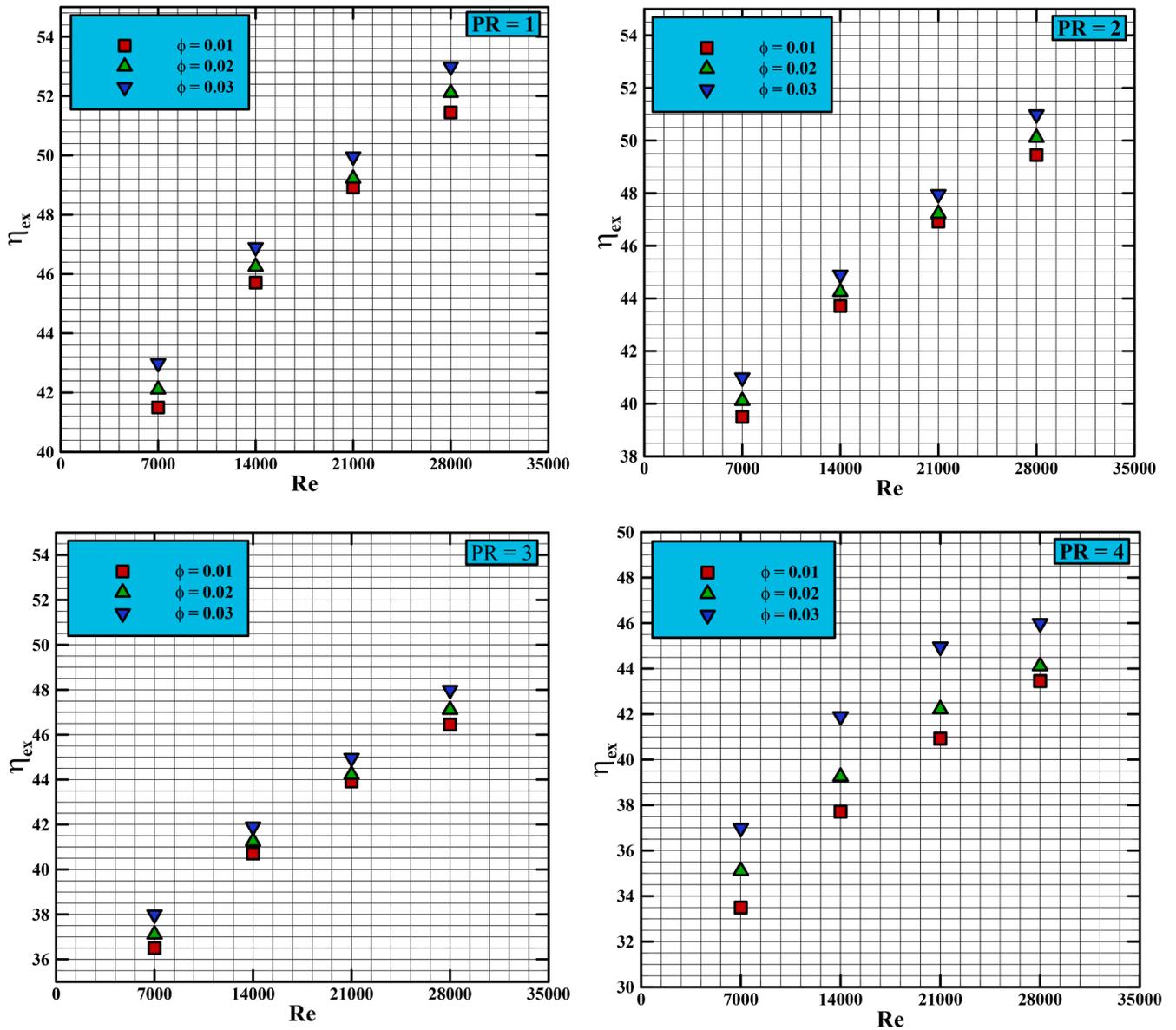


Fig. 12. Exergy efficacy versus Re in a SC containing a TIG with different twisted ratios and volume fractions.

and grows up the heat exchange. As a result, the efficiency of exergy increases. Also, enhancement of PR value increases the pressure drop and thus reduces the performance. As a result of reducing performance ability, the exergy efficiency decreases [33].

## Conclusions

In this study, a special type of TIG with new geometries has been used. This TIG has been studied in several of PR values. The influence of TPHNF and TIGs on thermal-hydraulic performance, as well as exergy and energy efficacy of a SC in turbulent flow regime was investigated. A numerical study was performed for DWCNTs-TiO<sub>2</sub>/water HNF with  $1 \leq \phi \leq 3\%$ ,  $7000 \leq Re \leq 28000$ , and twisted ratios of 1, 2, 3, and 4. The results are as follows:

- At highest Re and  $\phi$ , the installation of TIG with PR = 4 increases the  $Nu_{ave}$  and  $\Delta P$  by 63.46% and 314.77%, respectively.
- The results revealed that the use of a novel TIG is desirable for the range of Re between 7000 and 28,000 and  $\phi$  of 1% to 3%.
- Energy efficacy enhances by augmenting the twisted ratio of the TIG.

- In the case of  $\phi = 3\%$  and by augmenting the Re from 7000 to 28000, energy and exergy efficacies increase by 22.19% and 23.26% for PR = 4 and PR = 1, respectively.

## CRediT authorship contribution statement

**Yacine Khetib:** Formal analysis, Writing – original draft. **Ali Alzaed:** Writing – original draft. **Ahamd Tahmasebi:** Writing – review & editing. **Mohsen Sharifpur:** Conceptualization, Writing – review & editing. **Goshtasp Cheraghian:** Writing – review & editing.

## Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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