

**Programa de Investigación Interdisciplinaria**

**Informe final del proyecto:  
Desarrollo de modelos semi-empíricos para el diseño de  
intercambiadores compactos auto-limpiadores.**



Presentado por los responsables del proyecto:



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## 1 Actividades realizadas

### 1.1 Equipo experimental

#### 1.1.1 Adecuación de las instalaciones experimentales.

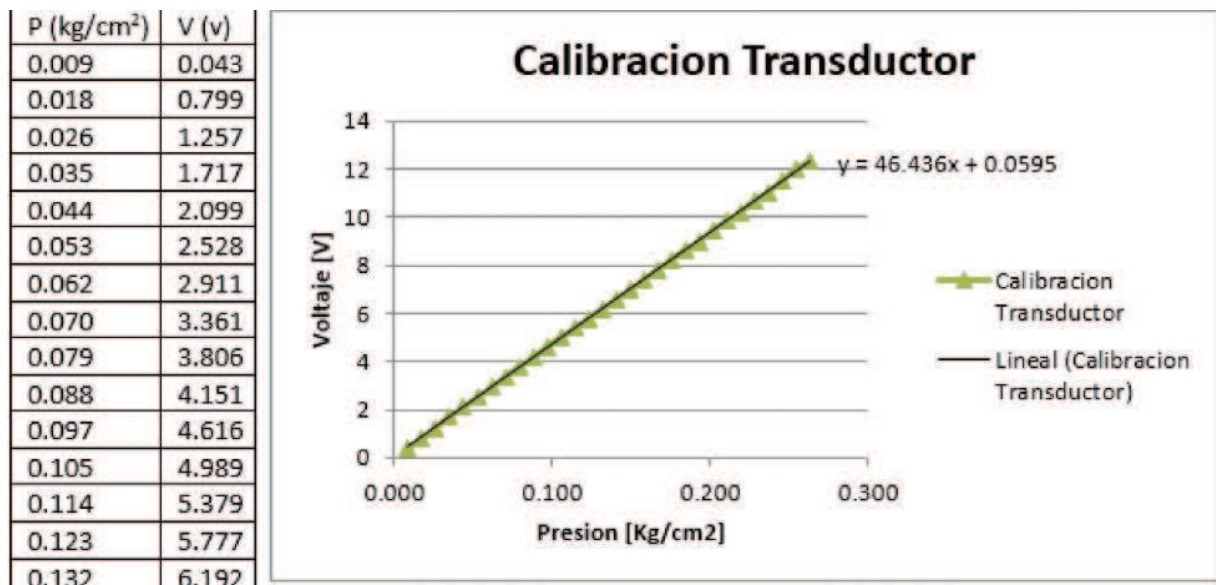
Los principales adquisiciones de equipo experimental fueron relacionados con mantener y adecuar la instalación experimental: sistema de termografía, calentadores eléctricos con envoltorio de silicio, medidores de flujo de calor y un oxímetro.



**Figura 1** Calibración de un transductor de presión.

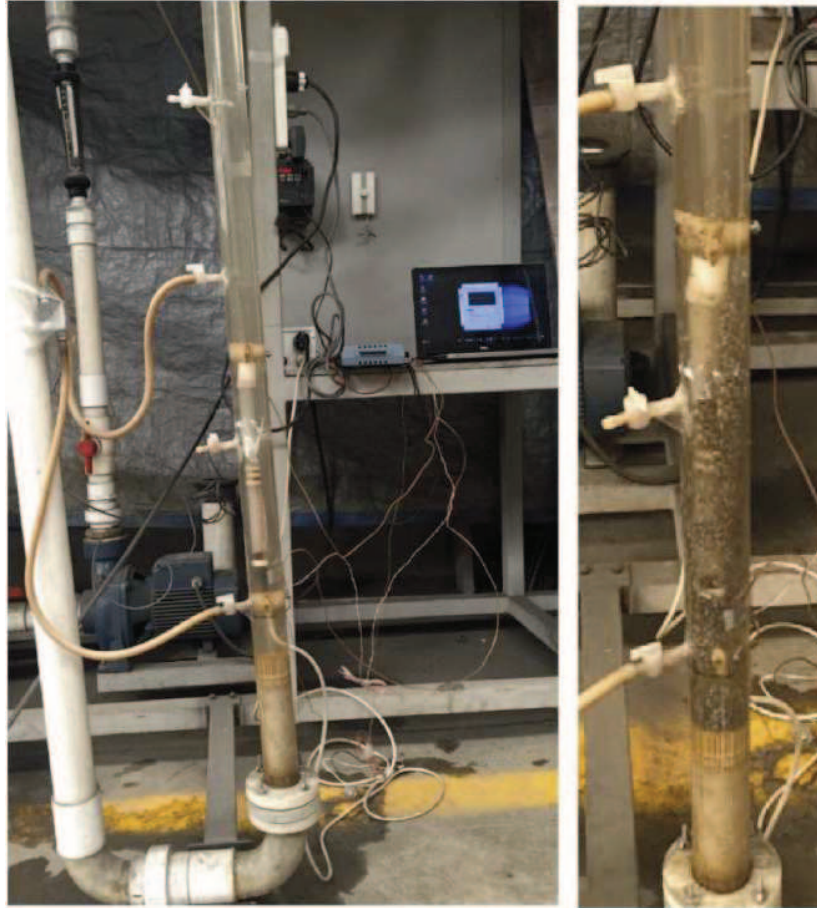
Se realizó la calibración de un transductor de presión diferencial (Figura 1). El arreglo consistió en una perilla de goma conectada a una base con manómetro DEWIT con rango de 0-60 onzas por pulgada cuadrada con resolución de 2 onzas por pulgada cuadrada (0.00879 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) y éste conectado a un extremo del transductor de presión diferencial. El transductor fue energizado con un señal

portador lo cual fue desmodulado a un señal de voltaje conectado a un adquirente de datos. Obteniéndose la tabla y gráfica de la figura 2.



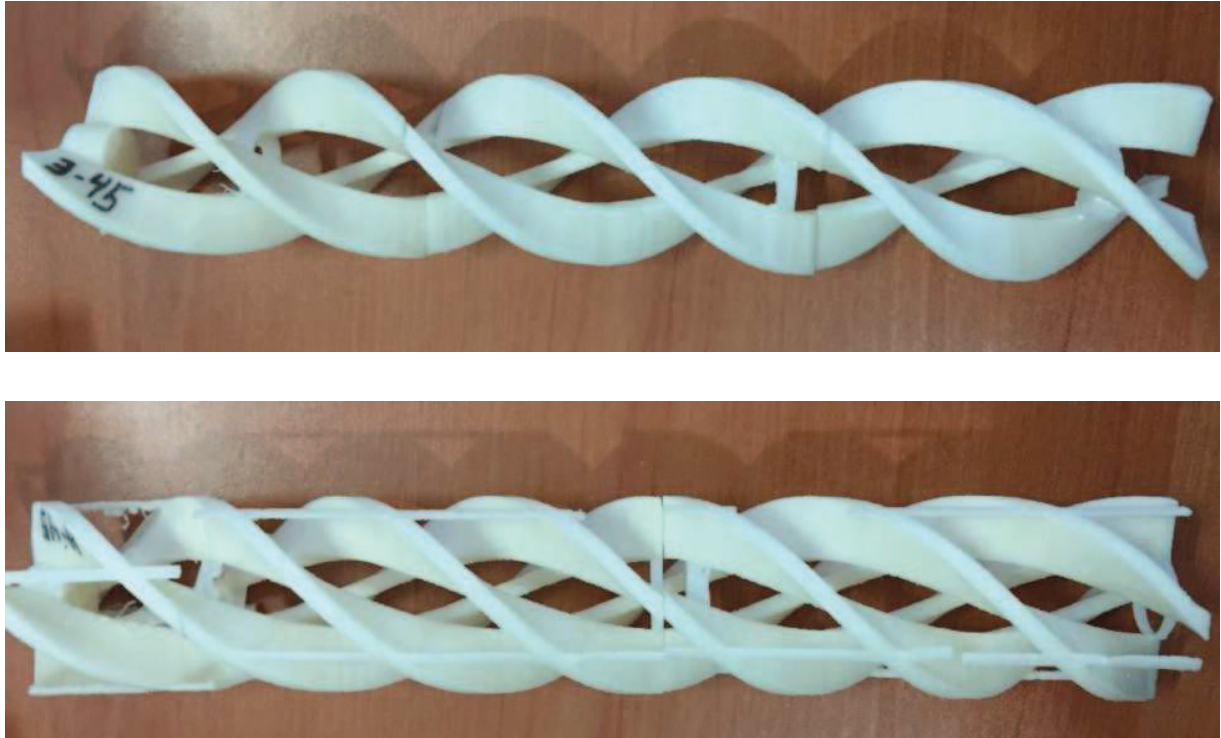
**Figura 2** Resultados de la calibración de un transductor de presión.

Se montó un calentador Electrothermal tipo cerámico con un diámetro de 14mm y una longitud de 240mm que a un voltaje de 220V daba una potencia de calentamiento de aproximada de 400W según datos de fabricante; en posición concéntrica con respecto a la columna de acrílico (Figura 3).



**Figura 3** Calentador de tubo concéntrico instalado.

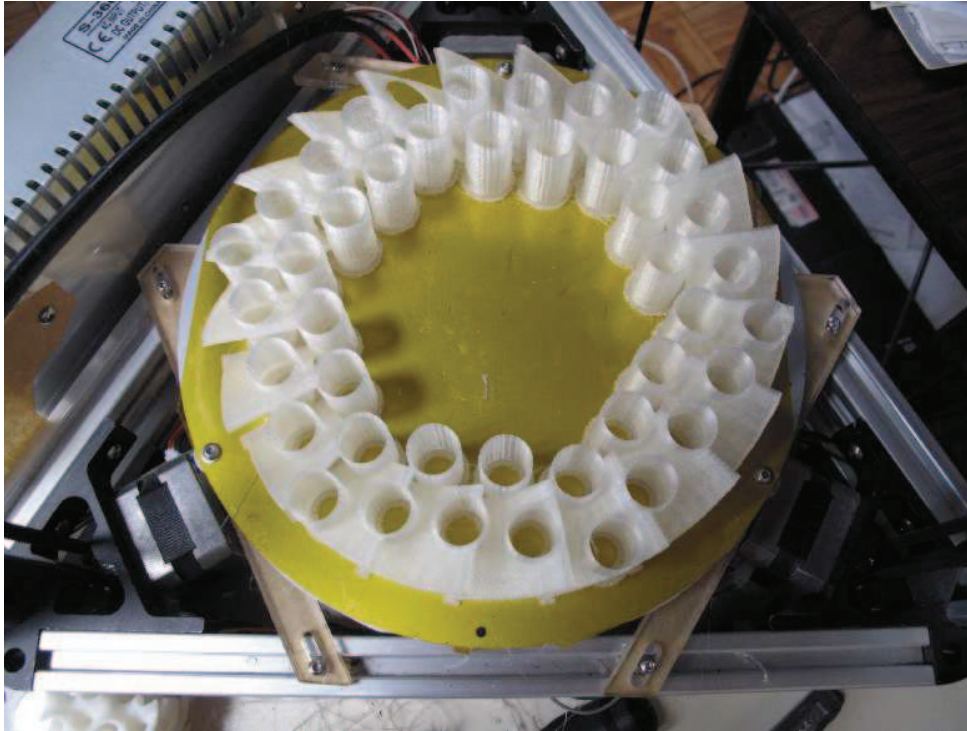
Se instalaron baffles modificados para permitir el uso del calentador concéntrico con los baffles para estudios de transferencia de calor con y sin lecho fluidizado en el régimen de flujo helicoidal (Figura ).



**Figura 4** Bafles para uso con el calentador de tubo concéntrico.

Instrumentó el equipo con 2 sensores de temperatura Omega Engineering (termopares tipo T cobre-constantan) uno a la entrada de agua antes de entrar en contacto con el calentador e inmediatamente después de este, se contó con un sensor de flujo de calor-termopar tipo T , de RDF Corporation el cual se ubicó en la superficie del calentador y un transductor de presión diferencial Validyne Engineering conectado en la parte inferior de calentador y a la salida de este aproximadamente en la misma zona de los termopares. Todos los anteriores dispositivos fueron conectados al sistema de adquisición de datos Omega Engineering.

Se realizaron modificaciones, adecuaciones y calibraciones detalladas del impresora 3D tipo delta para logra impresiones de precisión ocupando todo del área de la placa base de impresión. La figura 5 muestra una impresión de prueba que ocupa los extremos del área de impresión.



**Figura 5** Impresión de prueba usando los extremos del área de impresión.

### 1.1.2 Desarrollos

Se realizaron estudios de transferencia de calor y caídas de presión con el calentador de tubo concéntrico, con y sin lecho fluidizado y con y sin baffles helicoidales. Se reporta dichos desarrollos en los informes de avance en el proyecto doctoral del M. I. Oscar García Aranda anexos y el manuscrito de artículo para publicación anexo.

## 2 Resumen de resultados

### 2.1 Experimentales

Se han integrado los sistemas experimentales e instrumentación.

El programa experimental ha resultado en estudios de la transferencia de calor

con una geometría de calentador de tubo concéntrico con fluidización líquido/sólido tanto en flujo vertical como en flujo helicoidal.

## 2.2 Modelado

El modelado se ha realizado de forma individual para:

Determinación de coeficientes de transferencia de calor considerando diferentes deflectores, en este tema se han obtenido resultados en un proyecto terminal que se ha concluido

Determinación de las condiciones hidrodinámicas para la fluidización de partículas con diferentes geometrías y ángulos de inclinación, el tema es parte de un proyecto de maestría y se han presentado los resultados en un congreso internacional, el proyecto está en proceso.

## 3 Publicaciones

### 3.1 Publicaciones:

En proceso de elaboración: manuscrito anexo.

An experimental study on the effect of liquid-solid fluidized vertical bed and helical baffles in a concentric heat exchanger. García Oscar, Heard Christopher, Valencia Jose, Solorio Francisco.

### 3.2 Presentaciones en congresos:

Fernando A. López Mata, J. Javier Valencia López, Christopher Heard; Simulación en 2D de la Hidrodinámica de una Columna de Lechos Fluidizados con Variación del Ángulo de Inclinación; Congreso Iberoamericano de Computación Aplicada a la Industria de Procesos CAIP; México, septiembre del 2017. (Se anexa constancia de participación y extenso del trabajo publicado en las memorias del evento).

## 4 Formación de Recursos humanos

Doctorado; Óscar García Aranda; "Desarrollo de intercambiadores de calor compactos con lecho fluidizado solido-líquido por el lado de la coraza"; (en proceso).

Maestría; Fernando Alberto López Mata; "Simulación de la hidrodinámica de



lechos fluidizados considerando variación en el ángulo de inclinación de la columna”; (en proceso).

Licenciatura, Proyecto terminal; Daniel Camacho Ibarra; “Determinación Numérica y Comparación de Coeficientes de Transferencia de Calor bajo la influencia de Factores geométricos en Intercambiadores de Calor de Tubos Concéntricos”; septiembre 2016 (concluido, se anexa proyecto terminal).

## 5 Conclusiones

El proyecto obtuvo resultados experimentales significativas integrando las disciplinas de diseño y de ingeniería y ha originado publicaciones y presentaciones que amparan dichos resultados.



## **An experimental study on the effect of liquid-solid fluidized vertical bed and helical baffles in a concentric heat exchanger.**

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### **Abstract**

Seven different metal particles are fluidized, choosing only one of them according to the characteristics they present. Nine different helical baffles were tested with 3, 4 and 5 propellers at 45, 60 and 75 degrees of inclination, three of them being the best to be tested with the selected particle in the heat exchange. Only one of them better in conjunction to maximize energy exchange.

### **1. Introduction**

Fluidized bed was perhaps first used in the old practice of washing gold so as to suspend the particles of sand and separate them from the denser ones that sediment. Fluidization with liquid is the operation by which small solid particles are transformed through contact into a state similar to that the fluid. This effect is sought for a better exchange of energy (heat transfer) from one fluid to another or from a solid wall to a liquid. [1]

Turbulence affects the thermal boundary layer and reduces resistance to heat transfer. The heat transfer coefficient increases as the liquid velocity increases. The violent movement of the particles also has a positive effect on the fouling factor of the heat transfer surface. [2]

There are vertically oriented equipment in which the external fluid on the side of the tubes is added particles of various forms and materials, in order to create turbulence, which improves heat transfer by stirring the particles within the fluid in which they are immersed and suspended. [3]

### **2. Experiment setup model and measurement system**

One of the first steps in the mechanical design of the fluidized bed is the selection of the geometry of the distributor plate where the bed rests and through which the fluid is introduced to the bottom of the bed. A simple perforated plate may be employed considering that the holes should be smaller than the diameter of the particle to be employed and that the structure or material be capable of supporting the weight thereof and

the hydrostatic charge. By doing these considerations we used distributors in 5 different points for the stabilization of the flow and the 3 different models can be seen in Figure 1.

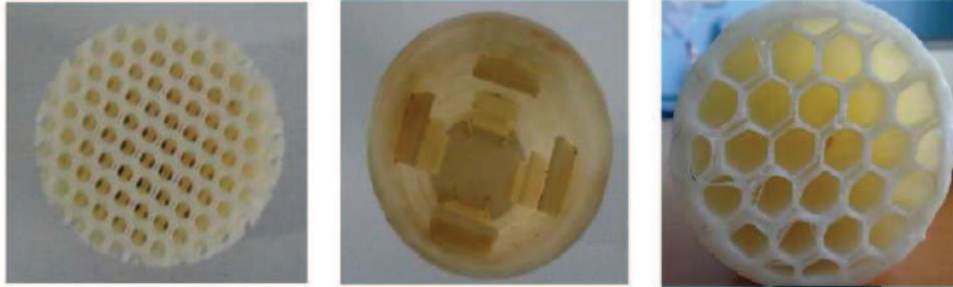
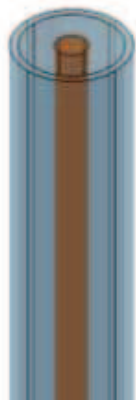


Figure 1. Flow distributors employed in the test bench.

The assembly of the concentric vertical heat exchanger has a ceramic type heater with a diameter of 14 [mm] and a length of 240 [mm] which at a voltage of 220 [V] offers a heating power of approximately 400 [W] according to the manufacturer's data, Figure 2 (a).

It has two temperature sensors (thermocouples type T copper-constantan) one at the entrance of water before coming into contact with the heater and immediately after this, there is a thermocouple flow sensor-type "T" the which is located on the surface of the heater and a differential pressure transducer connected at the bottom of the heater and the outlet of this in the same area as that of the thermocouples. All of the above devices are connected to a data acquisition system. In addition, the peripheral equipment has a water recirculation tank, 3 HP centrifugal pump, rotameter and speed variator as shown in figure 2 (b).



a)



b)

Figure 2. a) Concentric tube heat exchanger. b) Measurement system.

### 3. Methods

#### 3.1 Fluidization

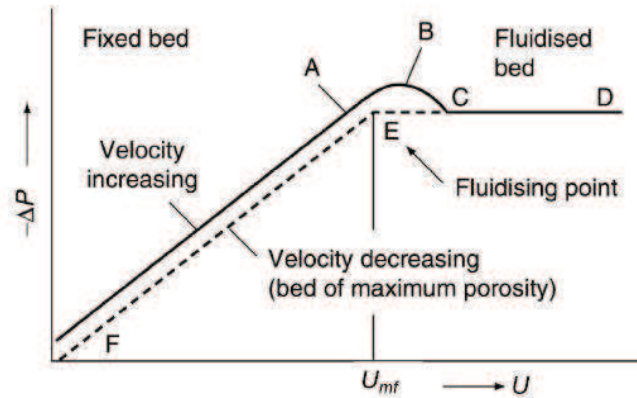


Figure 3. Pressure drop as a function of surface velocity [4]

The minimum velocity at which a fluidized bed of particles is a crucial parameter necessary for the design of any fluidization operation. The details of the minimum velocity depend on a number of factors, including the shape, size, density, and polydispersity of the particles. Density, for example, directly alters the net gravitational force acting on the particle, hence the minimum resistance force, or velocity, necessary to lift a particle. The shape not only alters the relationship between the drag force and the speed, but also the packing properties of the fixed bed and associated voids and the velocity of the fluid therethrough.

Measurements of pressure drop across the particle bed can be used to identify the minimum fluidization velocity. As shown in Figure 3, the pressure drop increases with flow rate until the bed expands and the voidage increases (point A). It is taken into account that the velocity and pressure drop relationship is not necessarily linear as shown, depending on the range of Re (Reynolds) covered.

By further increasing the speed, the pressure drop reaches a maximum value. Between points A and B, drag friction causes the particles to reorganize, which can alter porosity. After reordering, the pressure decreases and point B is above point C as a result. As U (velocity) increases beyond the point C, the pressure drop is maintained approximately constant to a certain point D where the velocity is not significantly greater than at point C. If the process is reversed in a constant manner by the reduction of velocity U, the point E will be found instead of point B due to the different porosity resulting from the rearrangement of the particles, and the EF line is the process of reforming the fixed bed of particles. This conceptual diagram serves as the basis for the experimental determination of  $U_{mf}$ . To identify the point E, the velocity of the fluid increases until the pressure passes through a maximum and then stops changing; this method defines the CD line. The amount

of the flow is then reduced to obtain the EF line. The minimum fluidization velocity is the speed at which these two lines intersect. Increases in velocity must be small to solve for point E.

During the fluidization for the following particles the amount of 70 cm<sup>3</sup> was kept constant and obtaining the following table and graph.








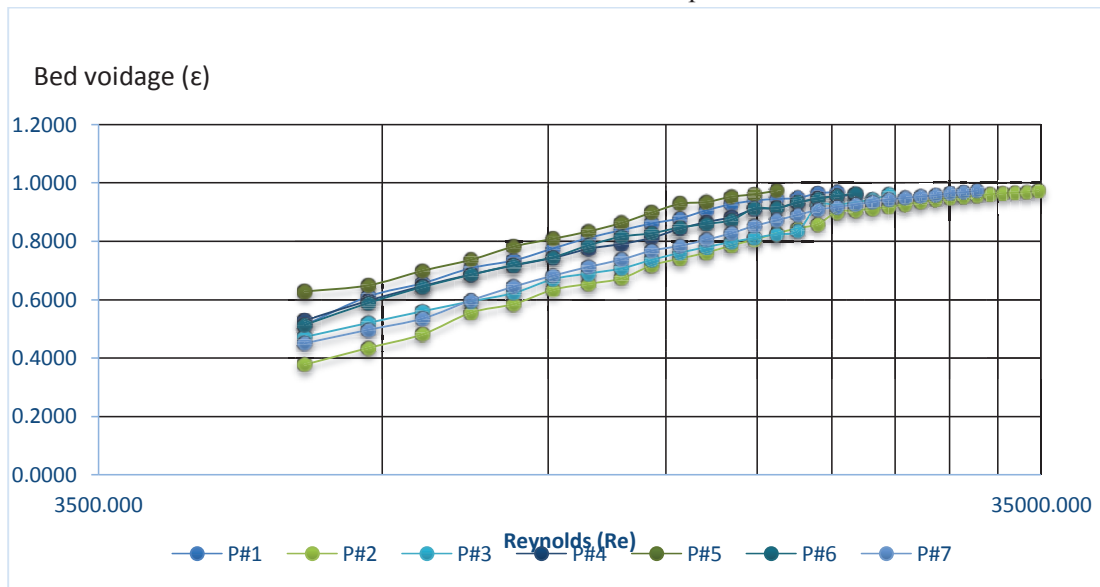
	P#1	P#2	P#3	P#4	P#5	P#6	P#7
							
	Sphere	Sphere	Saturn	Diagonal cylinder	Straight cylinder	Needle	Sphere
Density $\rho$ (gr/cm <sup>3</sup> )	10.031	9.570	8.25	8.24	7.325	8.26	6.90
Mass (gr)	443	450	329	352	350	334	315
Bed voidage $\epsilon$	0.284	0.242	0.236	0.184	0.222	0.358	0.264
Sphericity $\Psi$	1.0	1.0	0.808	0.923	0.873	0.891	1.0
Min. Vel. of F. $U_{mf}$ (m/s)	0.353	0.602	0.463	0.381	0.332	0.384	0.528
Height of the bed (mm)	930	1170	670	690	1180	705	1115

Table 1. Characteristic values of the particles used



Graph1. Development of voidage during fluidization for different particles.

### 3.2 Helical baffles

Such flows, where a particle represents a helical path due to an axial flow component and a rotating component, are referred to as the helical flows. Therefore, for a pressure driven flow, the increase in axial flow velocity is attributed exclusively to the rheological effects combined with the orthogonal stresses (the flow in the azimuthal direction lies in a plane which is orthogonal to the axial direction). [5]

Literature consulted indicates that, despite their practical importance, very few studies have been reported on the fluidized bed in inclined tubes (behavior similar to helical baffles).

To obtain the components of the velocities within each of the proposed geometries (Figure 4) we first consider a flow in a permanent and fully developed state and proceed to calculate them by using the software COMSOL Multiphysics with input conditions obtained by experimentation in the bank of tests, and obtaining the components of the tangential velocity ( $V_{\theta}$ ) and the axial velocity ( $V_z$ ), resulting in table 2.



Figure 4. Helical baffles with 3,4 y 5 spirals to 45, 60 y 75 degrees of inclination.

Baffles	45°	60°	75°
3	$V_{\theta} = 0.340$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.540$ (m/s)	$V_{\theta} = 0.200$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.519$ (m/s)	$V_{\theta} = 0.200$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.519$ (m/s)
4	$V_{\theta} = 0.380$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.550$ (m/s)	$V_{\theta} = 0.230$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.540$ (m/s)	$V_{\theta} = 0.105$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.545$ (m/s)
5	$V_{\theta} = 0.350$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.570$ (m/s)	$V_{\theta} = 0.239$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.560$ (m/s)	$V_{\theta} = 0.110$ (m/s) $V_z = 0.565$ (m/s)

Table 2. Maximum axial and tangential speed in tested configurations.

The process of expansion of the fluidized bed depends to a large extent on the angle of inclination. Consequently, the critical drag speed varies with the angle of inclination of the column and presents a maximum at approximately 45 °. The length of the column was found to have a minor effect on the phenomena involved. [6]

According to the values reported in Table 1, particle number 5 was chosen to be the best for fluidization in the vertical column without baffles. So we proceeded to realize the visualizations of those but now with the baffles having a different number of starts, as well as degrees of inclination in their propellers, obtaining thus the images that are presented next.

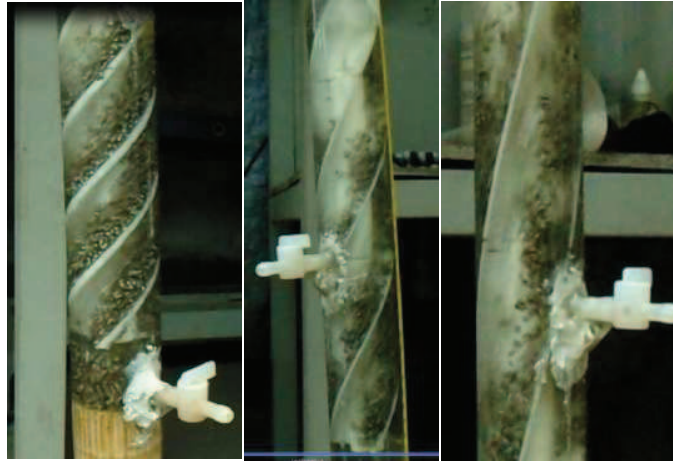


Figure 5. Baffle with 3 starts (from left to right) at 45 °, 60 ° and 75 °.

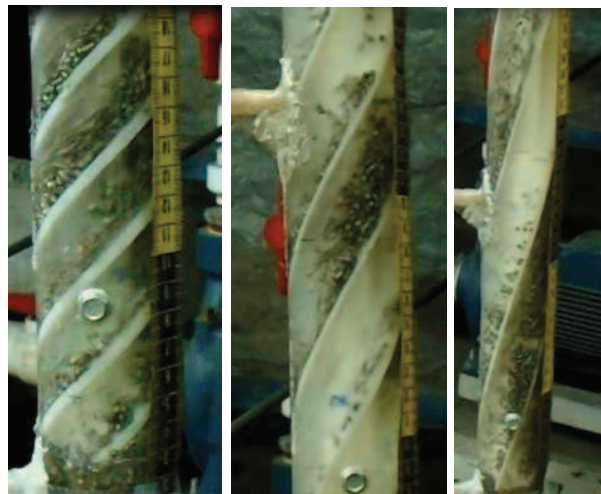


Figure 6. Baffle with 4 starts (from left to right) at 45 °, 60 ° and 75 °.



Figure 7. Baffle with 4 starts (from left to right) at 45 °, 60 ° and 75 °.

#### 4. Heating

In the first of the experiment, water without particles is passed to a volumetric flow equal to that of fluidization in order to make the comparison between both experiments and thus to obtain the data under the same operating conditions. Volumetric flow, concentric tube velocity, Reynolds number, temperature at the heater surface, water temperature, pressure drop between the inlet and outlet, heat flow and convection coefficient are recorded by the law of Newton cooling. With this arrangement for both processes a 20-minute period was considered to reach steady state condition to take the readings, Figure 8.



Figure 8. Fluidization with heating.

	W/O Baffle	W/O Baffle &	Baffle 3-45°	Baffle 4-45°	Baffle 5-60°
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	& Particles	With Particles	W/O Particles	With Particles	W/O Particles	With Particles	W/O Particles	With Particles
$v$ [m/s]	0.369	0.369	0.340	0.340	0.380	0.380	0.239	0.239
$\dot{m}$ [kg/s]	0.499	0.499	0.499	0.499	0.499	0.499	0.499	0.499
Re	10952.30	10952.30	5553.74	5553.74	5872.3	5872.3	3556.28	3556.28
$T_1$ [°C]	87.96	73.68	73.85	62.60	70.71	64.8	64.50	56.80
$T_2$ [°C]	17.30	17.70	20.57	22.01	21.66	22.01	18.30	19.0
$T_3$ [°C]	18.55	18.93	21.36	22.96	23.08	23.94	19.42	20.23
$\Delta P$ [kg/cm <sup>2</sup> ]	0.022	0.043	0.028	0.046	0.039	0.060	0.044	0.061
Q [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	35986.8	35986.8	35986.8	35986.8	35986.8	35986.8	35986.8	35986.8
$h$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> °C]	509.29	638.36	675.50	886.68	733.75	841.10	779.02	952.13
A[m <sup>2</sup> ],HTA	0.0106	0.0106	0.0106	0.0106	0.0106	0.0106	0.0106	0.0106

Table 3. Values obtained during fluidization with heating.

## 5. Discussion

There are numerous experimental studies of fluidization that support both their resistance to fouling on the heat exchange surfaces and the considerable increase in heat transfer coefficient. [7]

However, recent literature indicates that higher heat transfer coefficients can be achieved in the wall of vertical tubes immersed in the bed than with fluidized beds inside tubes in the case of liquid-solid fluidization. [8]

The suspension of the bed can be achieved in a better way with the interaction between inclined plates; the system allows thus a wide range of suspension. On the other hand, it aids in the retention of particles within the vessel and it also attenuates fluctuations during fluidization. [9]

Dense suspensions are possible during fluidization at speeds greater than the terminal velocity of the particles. With the installation of the inclined plates, however, they alter the dynamic characteristics of the fluidized bed, in particular, impacting on the expansion behavior of the suspension. [10]

It is possible to retain the bed by reducing the vertical velocity of the fluidizing fluid at the outlet of the bed chamber thereby using the baffle or baffles. [11]

Such flows, where a particle represents a helical path due to an axial flow component and a rotating member, are referred to as the helical flows. Therefore, for a pressure driven flow, the increase in axial flow velocity is attributed exclusively to the rheological effects combined with the orthogonal stresses (the flow in the azimuthal direction lies in a plane which is orthogonal to the axial direction). [12]

## 6. Conclusions



By fluidizing the seven different particles in the vertical column without baffles and without heating the seven different particles, it was found that the particle # 5 was suspended in a more homogeneous way in relation to the others and also counted on the smallest minimum velocity value fluidization, so then it is chosen to be fluidized in the same vertical column with helical baffles of 3, 4, and 5 propellers at 45 °, 60 ° and 75 ° of inclination, thus determining which is the best configuration in hydrodynamic tests.

According to the values of velocities obtained within the different geometries by means of CFD (Comsol), it was possible to verify by means of visualization that the best configurations of the 9 different ones that were tested, are those of 3-45 °, 4-45 ° and 5-60 ° with the most homogeneous fluidization compared to the others. The best velocities are presented in the 5-45 ° configuration, but at the moment of the visualizations, it is observed that, by restricting the cross section area through which the fluidization originates, this is not homogeneous and the particles started to be stagnant as observed.

During heating for the three geometries mentioned above and with the selected particle, it was obtained that the configuration that offers the best behavior was the baffle 3-45°, although its convection coefficient (with particles) is smaller in relation to 5-60°, this does not present stagnation of the particles through the helix, effect that if present the geometries 4-45° and 5-60°.

The fluidization by itself is observed to increase the convection coefficient by 25.3% with respect to traditional concentric tubes and the only helical effect 32.6%, 44.1% and 52.9% (respectively 3-45 °, 4-45 ° and 5 -60°). In conjunction, these two techniques of enhanced in heat transfer give us convection coefficients (following the same order) 74.1%, 65.15 and 86.9% higher than conventional ones.

## References

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