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Chapter

Analysis and Optimization of Heat Transport for the Purpose of Maximizing the Potential of Solar Ponds in Sustainable Energy Applications

Baljit Singh Bhathal Singh

Abstract

Modern solar ponds can be used for power generation, water heating, and even desalinization. Understanding the internal heat transport mechanisms is vital for maximizing their potential use. In-depth discussion of how to analyze heat transfer in solar ponds is provided in this chapter. Heat is transferred effectively in solar ponds by conduction, convection, and radiation. They do this by making salinity gradients, or layers, that absorb and store solar heat. Sunlight is absorbed by the upper layer, while the lower layers provide insulation. Researchers look into heat transfer in solar ponds using analytical, computational, and experimental approaches. Temperature distributions and heat transport rates are modelled mathematically using energy balance equations and fluid dynamics. Flow patterns and convective heat transfer are studied by CFD models. Understanding the efficiency of solar ponds is made easier by experimental observations of temperature profiles and heat flows. The importance of heat transfer analysis in determining the best values for design factors including pond depth, salinity gradient, and insulating materials is highlighted in this chapter. Sustainable potential of solar ponds in diverse energy applications can be unlocked by advancing our understanding of heat transport mechanisms and building accurate models.

Keywords: solar ponds, heat transfer analysis, thermal gradient, energy efficiency, sustainable energy applications

1. Introduction

It is possible to collect and store heat from the sun using natural solar thermal collectors such as solar ponds [1, 2]. Using temperature and density gradients, seawater is separated into three distinct layers in a large shallow pond. The densest, bottom layer of the pond soaks up the sun's rays and uses them to maintain a high

temperature, which is subsequently transferred to the more vaporous upper layers through natural convection [3].

The idea of solar ponds was first proposed in the early 1950s [4] by French physicist Felix Trombe and Israeli scientist Israel Dostrovsky. But in 1960, American physicist John H. Reynolds constructed the first functional solar pond at Texas A&M University [2].

The results of a heat transfer analysis of a solar pond can be used to enhance the effectiveness of the installation. If engineers understand how heat travels through the pond, they can determine the most efficient way to pull it out and turn it into usable electricity. Problems like as heat loss, stratification, and stagnation can be discovered, and potential remedies proposed, using heat transfer analysis. Engineers can improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of solar energy systems by understanding more about heat transmission in solar ponds [1, 3].

2. Solar pond design and components

It has been shown that a solar pond has three distinct layers: the upper convective zone (UCZ), the non-convective zone (NCZ), and the lower convective zone (LCZ) [5] as shown in **Figure 1**. The uppermost layer consists of either freshwater or low-salt brine. This upper layer becomes hotter and less dense as a result of solar radiation. Naturally occurring convection currents arise as a result, removing the heat from the convective region [6]. The non-convective zone's water contains a high percentage of salt. It does not combine with the higher convective zone because of its high density, which is produced by the high concentration of salt. The storage space underneath benefits from this extra layer of protection from the elements. The

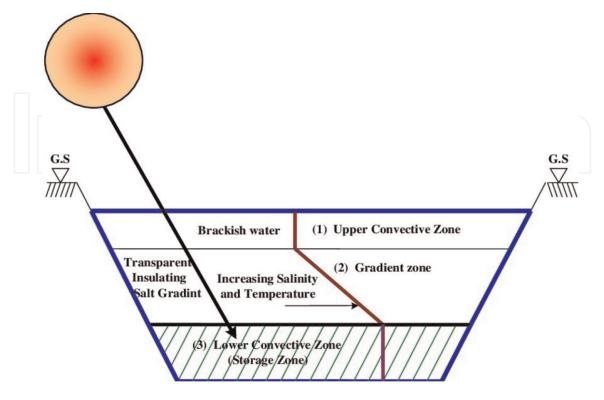
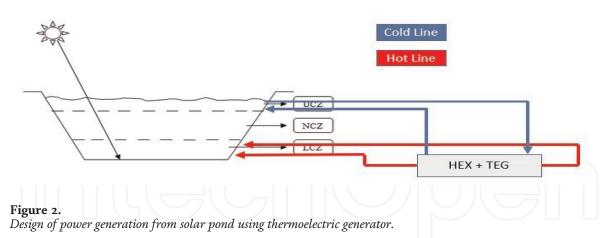


Figure 1. Salinity gradient solar pond.



pond's storage portion contains highly concentrated seawater. As shown in **Figure 2**, the heat from this storage zone can be extracted using heat exchanger and thermoelectric generators. The heat produced in the higher convective and non-convective zones is stored here. The thickness of the storage zone increases as the temperature of the salt rises due to the energy being stored [6, 7]. **Figure 3** shows the types of solar ponds relevant to heat transfer analysis.

Depending on whether a convective zone is present, solar ponds are either convective or non-convective. The well-mixed upper layer of convective solar ponds is heated by direct exposure to sunlight. The water is heated, rises to the surface, and then sinks again when it cools due to convection [7]. However, unlike convective solar ponds, which lose heat through convection, non-convective solar ponds feature a unique non-convective layer that functions as an insulator and keeps heat in the storage area. Because of the density gradient caused by the salt concentration, mixing between the higher convective layer and the non-convective layer is suppressed in the non-convective layer. Application and design factors should be considered while deciding between a convective and non-convective solar pond. For applications that need for high-temperature heat storage or when water is in short supply, non-convective ponds may be the way to go [8].

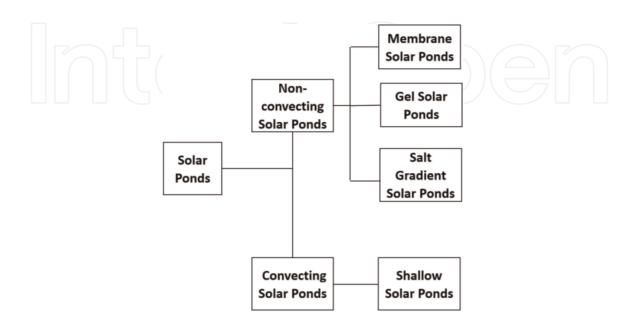


Figure 3. *Types of solar pond.*

3. Factors affecting the performance of a solar pond relevant to heat transfer analysis

Both the depth and surface area of the pond influence the pace of convective heat transfer and the volume of water available for solar energy absorption [9]. Water temperature and salinity affect the rate of thermal energy storage and the density gradient [8]. The amount of solar energy absorbed by the pond is dependent on both the intensity and duration of solar radiation [10], while the rate of convective heat loss is regulated by air conditions. Overall, a good grasp of these factors is vital since they are critical for maximizing the design and operation of solar ponds for maximum solar energy utilization [11].

The design and operation of solar ponds are influenced by factors such as the pond liner material and heat extraction mechanism. Using high-quality insulation materials to line ponds, for instance, can reduce heat loss and improve thermal efficiency [12]. The efficiency with which thermal energy is converted to electrical energy, however, may depend on the heat extraction technique finally selected. Popular heat extraction techniques include heat pumps, absorption refrigeration systems, and heat exchangers [10]. If these factors can be optimized, solar ponds can be used to create successful and affordable solar energy systems.

4. Heat transfer in solar pond

The ability of solar ponds to capture and store thermal energy for long periods makes them a viable option for solar energy storage. It is crucial to consider the mechanics, governing equations, and influencing elements of heat transport in a solar pond while planning for and operating one [13]. The temperature, salinity, and velocity distributions in a solar pond are governed by a set of partial differential equations that represent heat transfer by conduction, convection, and radiation. The continuity, momentum, energy, and salt concentration equations are just some of the equations that can be solved numerically with finite element techniques [14]. Pond shape, salinity gradient, solar radiation intensity and duration, meteorological conditions, and heat exchanger design all have a role in the effectiveness of a solar pond. Heat transfer is also affected by things like the type of fill used, the depth of the water, and the movement of the water layers. To maximize solar pond performance and guarantee their efficacy in providing sustainable energy solutions [15], an understanding of these elements is crucial.

For a solar pond to function properly, heat transfer must be optimized. Heat can be transferred in a solar pond through conduction, convection, and radiation. These events can be described in terms of the partial differential equations that govern the distributions of temperature, salinity, and velocity in the pond [16]. The effectiveness of a solar pond can be affected by several factors, including the pond's design, the salinity gradient, the quantity of sunshine available, the weather, and the efficiency of the heat exchanger. You need to have a strong grasp on these factors [17] to get the most out of a solar pond. The continuity equation describes the mass conservation and velocity distribution inside the pond, whereas the momentum equation describes the flow of fluid and the forces acting against it [18]. The energy equation characterizes the temperature distribution in the pond are described by an Eq. [19]. A solar pond's

equations need to be numerically solved in order to make reliable performance predictions. These issues have been addressed using a wide variety of numerical techniques [20], including the finite element method, the finite difference method, and the control volume method.

5. Mathematical modeling of heat transfer in a solar pond

The equation that may be used to calculate the heat extraction from the lower convective zone is shown below.

$$Q_{extraction} = m_{brine} \times c_p \times (T_{brine out} - T_{brine in}) \tag{1}$$

where,

 m_{brine} = Mass flow rate of brine solution. $c_{p,brine}$ = Specific heat of brine solution. $T_{brine,out}$ = Temperature of the brine water as it leaves the heat exchanger.

 $T_{brine,in}$ = The temperature at which brine water enters the heat exchanger.

The equation representing heat storage in the storage zone:

$$Q_{LCZ} = Q_I - Q_{HR} - Q_{hlg} - Q_{conv-loss} - Q_{rad-loss} - Q_{evap-loss}$$
(2)

where,

$$Q_{hlg} = k_G \times A \times (T_{LCZ} - T_G) / x_G \tag{3}$$

$$Q_{conv-loss} = h_c \times A \times (T_{UCZ} - T_A)$$
(4)

$$Q_{rad-loss} = \sigma \varepsilon_w \left\{ \left(T_{UCZ} + 273 \right)^4 + \left(T_{sky} + 273 \right)^4 \right.$$
(5)

$$Q_{evap-loss} = L_v h_c (P_1 - P_a) / (1.6C_s P_{atm})$$
 (6)

$$Q_{HR} = m \times c_p \times \left(T_{LCZ} - T_{inwf}\right) \times t$$
(7)

Efficiency of Solar Pond:

$$\eta_{SP} = \frac{Solar \ Radiation \ input \ in \ LCZ - Total \ Losses - Heat \ Removal \ from \ LCZ}{Solar \ Radiation \ input \ at \ surface \ of \ the \ solar \ pond}$$
(8)
$$= Q_I - \left(Q_{hlg} + Q_{conv} + Q_{rad} + Q_{evap}\right) - Q_{HR})/Q_{I=0}$$

6. Experimental techniques for heat transfer analysis

When it comes to thermal energy storage, solar ponds are an exciting new development because of their low cost, long lifespan, and high efficiency. Accurate measurements of heat transmission within a solar pond could improve its design and operation. There are now experimental methods for measuring multiple properties associated with heat transport in solar ponds. This chapter provides a summary of the experimental methodologies for heat transfer analysis in solar ponds, including the measurement of temperature, salinity, velocity, and solar radiation.

6.1 Thermometer readings

Temperature readings are essential for characterizing the thermal behavior of a solar pond. Several techniques have been developed for gauging the temperature of a sun pond, including the use of thermocouples, resistance temperature detectors (RTDs), and infrared thermography. Most of the solar pond research utilizes thermocouples or resistance temperature detectors (RTDs) to track water temperatures. Thermocouples can swiftly and precisely record temperatures that are exceedingly high. RTDs can be used to keep tabs on temperatures for far longer than thermocouples can. Infrared thermography, a noncontact technique, can be used to create temperature maps of the pond's surface [21].

6.2 Quantifying salt content

Salinity measurements are one way to get a sense of the density gradient in a solar pond. The density gradient impacts both the storage capacity of the pond and the rate of convective heat transfer. The salinity of water in a solar pond can be measured in several ways, including by electrical conductivity testing and refractometry. Electrical conductivity is commonly used to determine the salinity of solar ponds. A simple and trustworthy method for determining the salinity of water is to measure its electrical conductivity.

6.3 Speed calculation

In a solar pond, the rate of convective heat transfer can be determined by monitoring the water's velocity. Several techniques have been developed for measuring velocities in solar ponds, including laser Doppler velocimetry (LDV), particle image velocimetry (PIV), and ultrasonic Doppler velocimetry (UDV). Laser Doppler velocimetry (LDV) and particle image velocimetry (PIV) are two optical methods for measuring water particle speeds. One noninvasive technique for measuring water particle velocity is ultrasonic Doppler velocimetry (UDV) [22].

6.4 Measuring solar radiation

The amount of solar radiation entering a solar pond can be used to characterize its energy input. Spectroradiometers, pyranometers, and other similar instruments can all be used to measure the sun's rays. The amount of solar radiation that strikes a surface can be calculated with the help of a pyranometer. A pyrheliometer is a device used to measure the incidence of solar flux on a surface. Instruments called spectroradiometers are employed in solar spectral analysis [23].

There are now experimental methods for measuring multiple properties associated with heat transport in solar ponds. The thermal behavior of a solar pond can be described by measuring its temperature, salinity, velocity, and solar radiation. Accurate measurements of these elements can enhance the pond's design and maintenance. Future experimental study on heat transfer in solar ponds can build on the foundation provided in this chapter.

7. Data analysis techniques that are commonly used in heat transfer analysis include

Data analysis is essential for heat transfer studies in solar ponds. Various statistical methods can be used to infer the thermal behavior of the solar pond after scientists have collected data through tests. Commonly used techniques will be discussed, such as regression analysis, principal component analysis, and neural networks.

Regression analysis is a common tool used by statisticians to explore the relationships between sets of data points. Heat transfer analysis for solar ponds can make use of several input characteristics, such as solar radiation intensity, air temperature, water depth, and heat transfer coefficient. To analyze the relationship between these inputs, a regression analysis can be carried out. A model of the solar pond's thermal behavior will be informed by these measurements. Several solar pond studies have employed regression analysis to better understand the phenomenon. A model for forecasting the hourly water temperature of a solar pond was developed using regression analysis [24]. They used the levels of solar radiation, air temperature, wind speed, and relative humidity to build their model.

Principal component analysis (PCA) is a type of multivariate data analysis that is used for this purpose. Principal component analysis allows us to determine which variables have the most effect on the temperature distribution in the solar pond. By using principal component analysis (PCA), the original variables are "transformed" into a new set of variables. These independent primary components explain a considerable deal of the natural variation in the original data. PCA has been employed in several solar pond studies. Using PCA [25], identified the most important contributors to a solar pond's thermal efficiency. They determined that the most crucial elements were pond depth, water salinity, and available sunlight.

Predictions of the thermal behavior of a solar pond can be made using machine learning methods like neural networks. Like the human brain, neural networks can make predictions based on past data. Heat transfer research on solar ponds can benefit from the use of neural networks to develop predictive models of water temperature. In their research on solar ponds, several experts have turned to neural networks. Using a neural network, for instance, researchers were able to predict [26] the temperature distribution in a solar pond. They used the amount of solar radiation, the air temperature, the wind speed, and the relative humidity as inputs to train their neural network.

In conclusion, data analysis methodologies are needed for heat transfer study of solar ponds. Regression analysis, principal component analysis, and neural networks are all prominent methods for dissecting data. Using these techniques, one may identify the most influential variables in the solar pond's thermal regime and develop predictive models for the pond's water temperature.

8. Validation of mathematical models for heat transfer analysis

It is common practice to use mathematical models to investigate the mechanisms of heat transport in solar ponds. Predicting the behavior of heat transfer effectively, however, requires first validating these models. This chapter explores the many methods for testing the accuracy of mathematical models of heat transfer in solar ponds. The first part of this chapter provides an overview of the heat-transfer governing equations that are relevant to solar ponds. Following that, a wide variety of validation techniques, from analytical validation to numerical validation to experimental validation, are covered. This chapter also highlights the need of sensitivity analysis in ensuring the accuracy of mathematical models. Finally, examples of possible applications of various validation strategies are provided in the form of case studies.

Mathematical models can be used to examine the dynamics of heat transfer in solar ponds. These models can be used to construct and optimize solar ponds for maximum efficiency and effectiveness. These models, however, are only as accurate as their capacity to reproduce the physical characteristics of a solar pond. This means that checking the models' predictions against experimental data is essential for ensuring reliability. In this chapter, we will go over a variety of techniques for checking the validity of mathematical models used to predict heat transfer in solar ponds.

The continuity equation, the momentum equation, the energy equation, and the salt concentration equation are the governing equations for heat transmission in a solar pond [27]. Mass conservation is expressed by the continuity equation, which is:

$$\nabla .(\rho v) = 0 \tag{9}$$

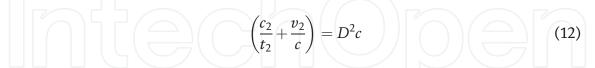
where the fluid density, the velocity vector v, and the divergence operator all play important roles. Momentum conservation is represented by the following equation:

$$\rho(v.\nabla)v = -\nabla P + \rho g + \mu \nabla^2 v \tag{10}$$

where P represents pressure, g represents gravity, u represents fluid viscosity, and 2 represents the Laplacian operator. Conservation of energy is expressed by the equation:

$$k^2T + Q = c_p \left(\frac{T}{t} + vT\right) \tag{11}$$

The temperature T, the thermal conductivity k, and the quantity Q represent the heat source; where Cp is the specific heat capacity. The equation for the concentration of salt, which stands for the principle of salt conservation, is as follows:



D = Diffusion Coefficient, where c = Salt Concentration.

By comparing the analytical answers obtained by solving the mathematical model with the analytical solutions obtained by solving simplified models, we may do analytical validation, the simplest validation technique. Analytical solutions, which are precise solutions obtained for boundary conditions, can be used to check whether the model is true [28].

Numerical validation involves comparing the predicted results of a mathematical model to observed data. Numerical methods such as finite element analysis, finite difference analysis, and boundary element analysis are used to solve the governing equations. Numerical solutions are compared to experimental data to see if the model is accurate.

Experimental validation involves checking the model's predictions against data obtained from a functioning solar pond. The temperature, salinity, and velocity

profiles of the water in the solar pond can be mapped using sensors like thermocouples, conductivity meters, and flow meters. The model is validated by comparing its predictions to data collected in experiments.

Sensitivity analysis, which is an essential aspect of validation, examines how the model's predictions change when the input parameters are varied. By identifying the characteristics that have a significant effect on the model's predictions, sensitivity analysis helps guide experimental design and data collecting [29].

Examples of Use: We illustrate various validation techniques with real-world situations. These experiments are used to check the accuracy of mathematical models of solar ponds with different shapes, salinity gradients, and heat exchangers. Validating mathematical models for heat transfer analysis in solar ponds relies heavily on boundary conditions. Boundary conditions are crucial to the accuracy of the mathematical model. It is essential that the boundary conditions properly reflect the actual setting of the solar pond. The surface temperature of the pond, for instance, will be influenced by factors such as the surrounding air temperature and solar radiation. Heat transfer at the pond's base is influenced by the temperature of the ground below.

Experimental data can be used to help validate mathematical models used to analyze heat transmission in solar ponds. Several experimental methods, such as thermal imaging, temperature probes, and heat flow sensors, can collect data for validation. Validity of the model can be determined by checking its predictions against actual data [30].

Mathematical models employed in heat transfer research on solar ponds can also be evaluated by comparing their predicted findings to those of other models. This technique is known as model benchmarking. Benchmarking models can be useful when there is either a dearth of experimental data or insufficient data to do a full validation. This technique compares the model's predictions to those of other, credible models to determine how well it performs.

It has been determined that mathematical models are a useful tool for analyzing heat transmission in solar ponds. However, validation of the models is required to guarantee that they accurately depict the physical reality of the solar pond. Validation can be achieved by comparing the model's predictions with either experimental data or the predictions of other validated models. Better solar ponds can be designed and run if the models used for heat transfer analyses are validated [31].

9. Optimization of solar pond performance for heat transfer analysis

Low-temperature heat can be stored in solar ponds, which are simple and affordable to build. However, the efficiency of a solar pond can be improved by optimizing its design and operations. This chapter will examine heat transport analyses relevant to the design and operation of solar ponds.

9.1 Construction optimization

During the planning phase of solar ponds, the optimal pond geometry and material characteristics should be selected. In order to enhance solar radiation absorption and reduce heat loss by convection, radiation, and conduction, the design of the pond should be selected. The shape of a solar pond is often a circle or a rectangle. Features

of the liner and insulation layer can also affect how well the pond functions. In addition to being stable in the presence of high salt concentrations and direct sunshine, the ideal liner material would also have a low thermal conductivity. The thermal resistance of the insulation layer should be high to minimize heat loss to the ground [32].

9.2 Optimization of procedures

Several operational parameters, including salinity gradient, water depth, and water temperature, can be modified to increase solar pond productivity. The salinity gradient should be chosen to produce a substantial density differential between the layers to optimize convective heat transmission. The water level in the pond needs to be regulated so that it can store as much heat as possible while allowing the least amount of heat to escape through convection and radiation. Liner material degradation and heat loss by radiation can be prevented by maintaining water temperatures within the working range [33].

9.3 Optimization theory

More effective solar pond designs and operations are possible with the use of mathematical optimization techniques. These strategies employ mathematical models to anticipate the pond's behavior in certain situations. The models can be used to do a sensitivity analysis, revealing which factors have the greatest bearing on the pond's performance. Using the models, optimization studies can be conducted to find the optimal pond configuration and operating parameters [34].

Optimizing heat transfer analysis is a crucial aspect of designing and operating a solar pond. Design optimization involves picking the optimal pond shape and materials, whereas operation optimization involves adjusting operating settings. Mathematical optimization methods can be used to enhance solar pond design and operation by calculating pond performance under different design and operating scenarios. By optimizing performance, solar ponds can become more efficient and cost-effective.

10. Applications of solar ponds relevant to heat transfer analysis

Solar ponds are a one-of-a-kind thermal energy storage technique that can collect the sun's heat and keep it in reserve for later use. Due to the many layers of water with varying salt concentrations, natural convection currents are used to transport heat from the surface to the depths in these systems. As the world searches for more sustainable energy sources, solar ponds have become increasingly popular for storing heat. In this section, we will examine the usage of solar ponds in heat-transfer studies.

Solar ponds have several applications, but one of the most prevalent is in agricultural settings. Solar ponds can offer the constant heat needed for greenhouse horticulture to maintain optimal growing conditions. A solar pond can be used to heat the greenhouse at night or on overcast days, when sunshine is scarce. Many countries use crop drying as a routine agricultural activity, and solar ponds can be used for this. The crop drying process can be sped up and energy costs reduced by using the pond's thermal energy to power a crop dryer [35].

Many manufacturing procedures can benefit from the consistent heat provided by solar ponds. For instance, solar ponds can be used for desalination in places where

freshwater is in short supply. Utilizing the pond's thermal energy to power a desalination plant is a great way to cut down on the price of desalination. Using solar ponds for heating and cooling can reduce the amount of energy used by traditional HVAC systems in industrial buildings [36].

One of the many residential applications for solar ponds is the production of hot water for household consumption. The thermal energy from the pond can be used to heat the water in the tank, which can then be used for bathing, cooking, and other household tasks requiring hot water. Solar ponds are an eco-friendly alternative to traditional heating systems for swimming pools [37].

Solar ponds, in conclusion, are a novel and adaptable thermal energy storage system with several applications in the study of heat transfer. Some examples of greenhouse, industrial, and domestic applications are desalination, space heating and cooling, hot water generating, and swimming pool heating. As the world searches for more sustainable energy sources, solar ponds have become increasingly popular for storing heat. As technology improves, solar ponds will become an even more attractive option for sustainable energy generation [38].

11. Case studies relevant to heat transfer analysis

Solar ponds have been the subject of extensive research due to their promising potential as a means of storing and harnessing solar energy for a broad variety of applications. Heat transport analysis of solar ponds has been the subject of extensive experimental and numerical study. The practical application of heat transfer analysis in the design and optimization of solar ponds is explored in this chapter.

Researchers in Iran investigated the feasibility of using a solar pond to provide continuous greenhouse heating. The solar pond was to be 1.5 meters deep, with a salinity gradient of 80 g/L, and cover 100 square meters of ground. Finite element analysis was used to determine the amount of heat lost by the pond. The results showed that the greenhouse could be kept at a comfortable 20–25 degrees Celsius with heat from the pond for 12 hours every day. Greenhouses may be heated effectively and sustainably with a solar pond, it was found [39].

A solar pond desalination system was the focus of a study in Saudi Arabia. The solar pond had an area of 1400 m², was 4 meters deep, and had a salinity gradient of 110 g/L. Finite element analysis was used to determine the amount of heat lost by the pond. The results showed that a temperature difference of 30 degrees Celsius could be maintained between the pond's upper and lower levels. A multi-effect distillation device powered by the temperature difference produced 300 cubic meters of clean water every day. It has been found that desalinating saltwater in a solar pond is a viable and eco-friendly solution [40].

In an Egyptian study, researchers looked at the feasibility of using a solar pond for fish farming. A 500-square-meter solar pond with a 3-meter depth and an 80-gramsper-liter (g/L) salinity gradient was designed. Finite element analysis was used to determine the amount of heat lost by the pond. The results showed that the pond maintained a constant temperature of 30 degrees Celsius, which is perfect for the growth of tilapia. The solar pond was found to be a practical and low-cost method of establishing an aquaculture-friendly ecosystem [41].

The case studies presented in this chapter show how heat transfer analysis can be used to optimize the design of solar ponds. Solar ponds can be used to desalinate water, produce fish for human consumption, and heat water. Numerical tools, such as finite element methods, have been utilized for analysis and enhancement of solar ponds. This research shows that solar ponds can be used to solve the problem of energy and water scarcity in a variety of settings.

12. Conclusion and future directions

In conclusion, solar ponds are an exciting new method of collecting solar energy for use in a wide range of industries, from heating and cooling to desalinization and power generation. This chapter has emphasized the significance of heat transfer analysis in solar pond design and operation. Solar ponds store solar energy by thermal stratification, and the resulting hot water or steam can be used for a wide range of purposes. Predicting solar pond performance and making design and operating adjustments based on heat transfer studies are crucial. The rate at which heat is transferred from a solar pond to the surrounding environment is dependent on several variables. Insulation, redesigning the solar collector, and installing heat exchangers are only some of the methods that can be utilized to boost the efficiency of solar ponds.

There are several restrictions and questions that need to be answered about solar ponds, despite their potential advantages. One disadvantage of solar ponds is the expensive initial investment and ongoing maintenance costs associated with them. Additionally, more study is required to examine the environmental impact of employing large-scale solar ponds, as well as the long-term performance of solar ponds under various operating situations.

Improving the efficiency and lowering the cost of solar ponds, as well as discovering new uses for this technology, should be the primary goals of future research in this subject. Furthermore, new and improved solar pond designs may be possible in the future thanks to developments in materials science and technology.

In conclusion, solar ponds present an attractive strategy for making use of renewable energy sources and satisfying the rising worldwide need for energy. To overcome the technological and economic hurdles of this technology, however, more study is required. Solar ponds have the potential to reduce energy costs and carbon emissions, but more study is needed to determine how best to construct and operate them for different uses.

Author details

Baljit Singh Bhathal Singh

School of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Selangor, Malaysia

*Address all correspondence to: baljit@uitm.edu.my

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