

Study of Cost Effective Solar Selective Surface for Spiral Concentrator

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Abstract

Solar selective surface has great importance in practical uses in solar energy thermal techniques. In this attempt, the use of lamp black + SiO₂ in different proportions as selective coating has been studied. Efforts have been taken to know whether the amount of SiO₂ in the mixture could be used to enhance the efficiency of the spiral concentrating type solar cooker. Spraying technique has been used for coating the material over the absorber. The absorber material used was Aluminium. Water heating tests were carried out during summer season. The Study revealed the fact that the amount of SiO₂ in SiO₂ lamp black mixture would decide the value of overall efficiency of the spiral concentrator and its performance. The studies were carried out in the natural weather conditions.

Key Words: Solar energy, selective surface, thermal conversion.

1. Introduction

For effective thermal conversion, the absorber should have high absorptance in the solar range but low thermal emittance. The selective surfaces maximize solar absorption and they suppress thermal re-radiation. At the operational temperature, the optical and thermal properties of the selective surface should be stable.

2. Analysis of selective coating

The solar selective coating with lamp black & SiO₂ was used in concentrating type solar cookers. The performance of an absorber coated with a solar selective surface is determined by the absorptance and thermal emittance.

For opaque materials, spectral absorptance $\alpha(\lambda, \theta)$ is expressed using Kirchoff's law as,

$$\alpha(\lambda, \theta) = 1 - \rho(\lambda, \theta) \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\& \varepsilon(\lambda, T) = \alpha(\lambda, T) \quad \dots (2)$$

where $\rho(\lambda, \theta)$ is the sum of collimated and diffuse reflectance, λ is the wavelength, θ is the incidence angle of light and T is the given temperature.

The solar reflectance is studied using spectrophotometers in 0.3 – 2.5 μm wavelength range at near – normal $\theta = 0$ angle of incidence [1,5,6].

Emittance is measured at room temperature as

$$\varepsilon = \int_{\lambda_{\min}}^{\lambda_{\max}} \left([1 - \rho(\lambda, T)] B(\lambda, T) d\lambda \right) / (\sigma T^4) \quad \dots (3)$$

where $\sigma = 5.6696 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{K}^{-4}$ is the Stefan – Boltzmann constant

$B(\lambda, T)$ is the spectral irradiance of a black body curve from,

$$B(\lambda, T) = c_1 / (C^5 [e^{c_2 / (T\lambda)} - 1]) \quad \dots (4)$$

where $c_1 = 3.7405 \times 10^8 \text{ W } \mu\text{m}^4\text{m}^{-2}$

$$c_2 = 1.43879 \times 10^4 \mu\text{mK}$$

which are Planck's first and second radiation constants.

The efficiency of a concentrator depends mainly on the absorber coating. selective coatings can degrade high temperature because of oxidation, humidity, atmospheric pollution, chemical reactions etc [2,3,7,8].

3. Experimental

SiO₂ mixed with lamp black has high degree of spectral selectivity. The coating is carried out by spraying technique. The use of this layer of lamp black on Aluminium has been found to stabilize Aluminium [4]

Lamp black and SiO₂ were mixed together in various proportions, a colloidal solution was got. It was coated on an Aluminium absorber. Eight different vessels were used for eight proportions of lamp black & SiO₂. The concentrator along with the

stand was kept in position to receive maximum solar radiation. 1 kg of water is taken in the absorber. It is allowed to boil. It took nearly 20 minutes to boil. These tests were carried out during the month of May. The readings and calculations were tabulated as follows.

Table 1. Efficiency of the concentrator for different proportions of lampblack and SiO₂

Lamp black (in gram) + SiO ₂ (in gram)	Efficiency %
1 +1	82
1.2 +0.8	81
1.4 +0.6	80.4
1.6+0.4	80.1
0.8 +1.2	82.2
0.6 +1.4	82.6
0.4+1.6	84.2

Date : 1-5-2017 Ambient temp.:30°C

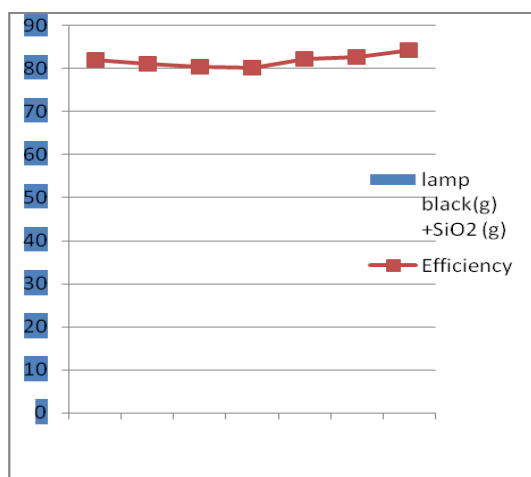


Figure 1. the graphical representation of the data.

It was found that the amount of SiO₂ is directly proportional to the efficiency of the concentrator.

The average efficiency of the concentrator was calculated which is depicted in the following table

Table 2. Average Efficiency of Spiral Concentrator

Date	Direct Solar Radiation	Efficiency %
May 1	680	82
May 5	685	85
May 10	720	85

May 15	740	81
May 20	750	86
May 22	760	82
May 24	913	80
May 26	850	84

The experimental setup used is shown below.



Figure 2. Experimental setup

5. Conclusion

The technical parameter of the newly tried cost effective selective coating was found to be more effective than commercially available black coatings and pure lamp black. It was found that the mixture of lamp black and SiO₂ is a promising one in the field of solar selective surfaces.

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