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Multi-channel thin heat exchanger and manufacturing method of the same

Abstract

A heat dissipation device includes a body including a first metal sheet and a second metal sheet coupled to the first metal sheet. The first metal sheet at least partially defines a first channel including a first plurality of curves, a second channel including a second plurality of curves, and an interconnecting channel fluidly coupled to the first channel and the second channel. The first channel and the interconnecting channel at least partially surround the second channel, a unit volume of the first channel is a same as a unit volume of the interconnecting channel, and the unit volumes of the first channel and the interconnecting channel are different from a unit volume of the second channel.

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Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS (1) This divisional application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to non-provisional application Ser. No. 17/154,923, filed Jan. 21, 2021, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/964,131, filed Jan. 22, 2020. The entire contents of both these applications are hereby incorporated by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

(1) Embodiments of the disclosure relate generally to heat transfer mechanisms and, more particularly, to multi-channel thin heat exchangers and manufacturing methods of the same.

BACKGROUND

(2) During operation of electronic devices, the heat generated by the devices must be dissipated quickly and efficiently to keep operating temperature within manufacturer recommended ranges, under, at times, challenging operating conditions. As these electronic devices increase in functionality, the power requirements of the electronic devices also increases, which increases the heat generated by the electronic devices and, in turn, increases the cooling requirements.

(3) Several techniques have been developed for dissipating heat from electronic devices. One such technique is an air-cooling system, wherein a heat exchanger is in thermal contact with the electronic devices for conducting heat away from the electronic devices, and then flowing air over the heat exchanger to remove heat.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

(1) The present disclosure is best understood from the following detailed description when read with the accompanying figures. It is emphasized that, in accordance with the standard practice in the industry, various features are not drawn to scale and are used for illustration purposes only. In fact, the dimensions of the various features may be arbitrarily increased or reduced for clarity of discussion.

(2) FIG. 1A is a perspective view of a multi-channel thin heat exchanger, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(3) FIG. 1B is an exploded view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 1A, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(4) FIG. 1C is another exploded view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 1A, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(5) FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 1A along line A-A, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(6) FIG. 3 is a flow chart illustrating a manufacturing method of the multichannel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 1A, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(7) FIG. 4A is a schematic perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger following an operation of the manufacturing method of FIG. 3, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(8) FIG. 4B is a perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger following an operation of the manufacturing method of FIG. 3, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(9) FIG. 5A is a schematic perspective view of a multichannel thin heat exchanger, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(10) FIG. 5B is a schematic perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 5A, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(11) FIG. 5C is an exploded view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 5A, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(12) FIG. 6A is a schematic cross-sectional view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 5A along line C-C, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(13) FIG. 6B is a schematic cross-sectional view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 5A along line B-B, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(14) FIG. 7A is a perspective view of the multichannel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 5A following an operation of the manufacturing method of FIG. 3, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(15) FIG. 7B is a perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger of FIG. 5A following an operation of the manufacturing method of FIG. 3, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(16) FIG. 8 is a schematic perspective view of a multichannel thin heat exchanger, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(17) FIG. 9 is an exploded view of a multi-channel thin heat exchanger, according to embodiments

of the disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

(18) Existing heat exchangers include a multi-channel heat exchanger that has a plurality of channels, at least some of which are configured as capillaries. The heat exchanger may be a closed-looped system or open-looped system. In a closed-looped system, multi-channel heat exchangers are vacuum containers that carry heat from a heat source by evaporation of a working fluid which flows due to a vapor flow in the vacuum. The vapor flow condenses over cooler surfaces, and, as a result, the heat is transported from an evaporation surface that is thermally coupled to the heat source to a condensation surface for dissipating heat. Pressure differences inside the multi-channel heat exchanger due to the heat input at the heat source end and heat output at the cooling surface end cause a flow imbalance inside the multi-channel heat exchanger. Because of the flow imbalance, condensed fluid flows back to the evaporation surface portion of the multi-channel heat exchanger.

(19) The thermal performance of multi-channel heat exchangers is dependent on the effectiveness of the heat exchangers to dissipate heat via the phase change liquid-vapor-liquid mechanism through the multi-channels. The desired thermal performance is dependent on the construction of the heat exchanger. A simpler more consistent manufacturing process can result in heat exchangers having the desired performance. Another aspect to achieving the desired thermal performance is the effectiveness of the manufacturing method to close and seal the heat exchangers to minimize leakage that causes loss of working fluid and dry-out, without increasing complexity of the manufacturing method. Yet another aspect to achieving the desired thermal performance is the effectiveness of the manufacturing method to improve fluid and vapor flow inside the heat exchanger without increasing complexity of the manufacturing method.

(20) Embodiments of the disclosure describe various principles related to heat exchanger systems and methods by way of reference to specific examples of heat exchanger systems and methods, including specific arrangements and examples of metal sheets, channels and bends (curves, bends) embodying inventive concepts. However, embodiments are not limited to any particular heat exchanger or any particular heat dissipation device. Embodiments of the disclosure are equally applicable to other heat exchangers and heat dissipation devices, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(21) FIG. 1A is a perspective view of a multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. FIG. 1B is an exploded view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** of FIG. 1A, according to embodiments of the disclosure. FIG. 1C is another exploded view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** of FIG. 1A, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIGS. 1A to 1C, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** includes a body **101** having a first metal sheet **150** and a second metal sheet **120**. The first metal sheet **150** includes a first inner surface **152** and a first outer surface **159**. The second metal sheet **120** includes a second inner surface **122** and a second outer surface **129**. The first inner surface **152** and the second inner surface **122** contact each other when the first metal sheet **150** and the second metal sheet **120** contact each other. The second inner surface **122** includes (or at least partially defines) an interconnecting channel **137**, a first channel **127** having a plurality of first bends (or curves) **153**, **158**, and a second channel **124** having a plurality of second bends **183**, **188**. Each of the first channel **127** and the second channel **124** is a continuous structure that extends along the second inner surface **122** in a serpentine shape that is formed by the respective plurality of first bends **153**, **158**, and plurality of second bends **183**, **188**. Each channel **127**, **124** and **137** is formed as a recess in the second inner surface **122**. Alternatively, each channel **127**, **124** and **137** is formed as a corresponding protrusion on the second outer surface **129**.

(22) In some embodiments, the interconnecting channel **137** is in fluid communication with the first channel **127** and the second channel **124**. The first channel **127** is formed at or adjacent the outer edges **125** of the second inner surface **122** and the second channel **124** is formed between

portions of the first channel **127**. As illustrated, the first channel **127** and the second channel **124** form an interleaved structure and the first channel **127** at least partially surrounds the second channel.

(23) The number of first bends **153**, **158**, and second bends **183**, **188** is not limited in any regard. The number of first bends **153**, **158**, and second bends **183**, **188** can be increased or decreased to increase or decrease the lengths of the corresponding first channel **127** and the second channel **124** as required by application and design, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(24) FIG. **2** is a cross-sectional view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** of FIG. **1A** along line A-A, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIG. **2**, with continued reference to FIGS. **1A** to **1C**, the first channel **127** having the plurality of first bends **153**, **158** and the second channel **124** having the plurality of second bends **183**, **188** have a serpentine shape and are formed tracking one another. In other words, the first channel **127** and the second channel **124** are arranged in a non-intersecting pattern.

(25) In some embodiments, heights (or, alternatively, depths) of the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, and the second channel **124** are the same. For the purposes of discussion herein, the height is considered as measured from the second outer surface **129**. Alternatively, the depth is considered as measured from the second inner surface **122**. The widths of the interconnecting channel **137** and the first channel **127** are the same. The width of the second channel **124** is smaller than the width of the interconnecting channel **137** and the first channel **127**. For the purposes of discussion herein, the width is measured along (parallel to) the second inner surface **122** (or the second outer surface **129**). The widths and the heights (or depths) of each of the first channel **127**, the second channel **124**, and the interconnecting channel **137** are the same the entire extent of the channels.

(26) Thus, due to the difference in the widths, unit volumes of the first channel **127** and the interconnecting channel **137** are the same, and the unit volumes of the first channel **127** and the interconnecting channel **137** are different from a unit volume of the second channel **124**. As used herein, 'unit volume', and variations thereof, refer to the volume of a channel for a unit length of the channel. In other words, the circumference (or girth) of the first channel **127** and the interconnecting channel **137** are the same, and circumference (or girth) of the first channel **127** and the interconnecting channel **137** are different than the circumference (or girth) of the second channel.

(27) The difference in width of the first channel **127** and the second channel **124** increases the surface area for heat dissipation between the first and second channels and bends. The difference in widths creates a non-equilibrium pressure condition in the channels.

(28) It will be understood that the height and width can be varied as required by application and design requirements, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(29) In some embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger includes a working fluid in the channels. The working fluid flows in the form of liquid vapor slugs/bubbles in the first and second multi-channels and bends. The multi-channel thin heat exchanger includes an evaporator region, a condenser region, and vapor flow channel regions extending from the evaporator region to the condenser region. When heat from a heat source (e.g., electronic device thermally coupled to the heat exchanger) is applied to the evaporator region, the heat converts the working fluid to vapor and the vapor bubbles increase in size and number in the multi-channel thin heat exchanger.

(30) At the condenser region, heat is removed and the bubbles are reduced in size. The volume expansion due to vaporization and the contraction due to condensation cause an oscillating motion within the channels. The net effect of the temperature gradient between the evaporator region and the condenser region and the pressure difference in the first and second channels creates a non-equilibrium pressure condition. Thus, thermo-fluidic transport is provided via the self-sustaining oscillation driving forces and a generated pressure difference. The thermo-fluidic transport is improved by the different widths of the first and second channels and this increases output pressure

gain in, for example, the second channels that have the relatively smaller width, increasing oscillation driving forces and thus improving thermal performance. Also, the different widths of the first and second channels allow for a greater surface area for heat dissipation and also allows for heat dissipation to occur in portions of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** between the first and second channels.

(31) In some embodiments, the first and second inner surfaces **152**, **122** are bonded together at locations other than the locations including the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, and the second channel **124**. In some embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** is manufactured by roll-bonding.

(32) FIG. **3** is a flow chart of a manufacturing method **300** of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** of FIGS. **1A**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIG. **3**, and with continued reference to FIGS. **1A** to **2B**, the method **300** includes operation **310** of providing a first metal sheet and a second metal sheet. In some embodiments, the first and second metal sheets **150**, **120** are metal coils, unrolled using an unwinder and then aligned by a suitable roller stand. Next, in operation **315**, a pattern of the first and second channels and bends are printed on one of the metal sheets (e.g., second metal sheet **120**). In some embodiments, the sheets are cleaned and then printed by a screen printing process employing a graphite pattern of the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127** having the first bends **153**, **158** and the second channel **124** having the second bends **183**, **188**. In some embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** further includes a working section **151** extending from the first channel **127** and near an adjacent outer edge of the second inner surface **122**. The first channel **127** extends through the working section to an edge of the working section. In some embodiments, the screen printing process employing the graphite pattern also prints the first channel **127** extending through the working section **151**. In some embodiments, the relatively flat, straight lined welded portions of the working section **151** provide an effective method to close and seal the multichannel thin heat exchanger to prevent leaks and improve strength of the multichannel thin heat exchanger. Thus, loss of working fluid is reduced and dry-out conditions are reduced.

(33) In operation **320**, the first inner surface of the first metal sheet and the second inner surface of the second metal sheet are integrally bonded in areas other than the areas including the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, the bends **153**, **158**, the second channel **124**, and the bends **183**, **188**. It should be understood that in areas including the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, the bends **153**, **158**, the second channel **124**, and the bends **183**, **188**, the first inner surface of the first metal sheet and the second inner surface of the second metal sheet can contact each other, but are not bonded (stuck) to each other. Keeping the inner surfaces separated, permits inflating the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, and the second channel **124**, as discussed below.

(34) Those of ordinary skill in the relevant art may readily appreciate that graphite serves as a release agent and prevents the first and second metal sheets from integrally bonding in the patterned areas. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. Any type of method or material may be used as the release agent, as long as the release agent prevents the first and second metal sheets from integrally bonding in the patterned areas.

(35) In some embodiments, the thickness of the first and second metal sheets **150**, **120** is around 0.3 mm to around 6 mm, and the thickness of each of the first and second metal sheets **150**, **120** is reduced by around 40% to around 60% during the roll-bonding process. However, embodiments are not limited in this regard. The thicknesses and amount of reduction in the thickness of the first and second metal sheets **150**, **120** can be more or less depending upon the material, original thickness, the number of sheets, and processes used.

(36) FIG. **4A** is a schematic perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger following operation **330** of the manufacturing method **300**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIG. **4A**, and with reference to FIGS. **1A** to **3**, in operation **330**, a working pipe **191** is

inserted and secured to the working section **151** extending from the first channel **127** adjacent an outer of the second inner surface **122**. The first channel **127** extends through the working section **151** and the working pipe **191** is inserted in the first channel **127** and secured thereto. The working pipe **191** permits fluid communication with the first and second channels **127**, **124**.

(37) Next, in operation **340**, the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, and the second channel **124** are inflated via a fluid (liquid or gas) having a pressure that results in even inflation throughout the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100**. In some embodiments, the fluid is atmospheric air having a suitable pressure for inflation. In other embodiments, the fluid may be nitrogen, oxygen, argon, hydrogen, carbon dioxide, or any desired gas or compatible mixtures thereof. In some embodiments, the working fluid is acetone. In other embodiments, the working fluid can include cyclopentane or n-hexane.

(38) In some embodiments, the first and second metal sheets **150**, **120** are inserted into a mold before inflating for even inflation throughout the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100**.

(39) Next, in operation **350** a working fluid is introduced into the working pipe **191** and then air is vacuumed out. FIG. **4B** is a perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger following operation **360** of the manufacturing method **300**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIG. **4B**, following operation **360**, the working pipe **191** is closed, sealed, and trimmed. In some embodiments, the working pipe **191** is closed and sealed by flattening and then bonding. After cooling, the working section is cut.

(40) In some embodiments, the first outer surface **159** is in thermal contact with a heat source (e.g., electronic device) and the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** dissipates heat generated by the heat source. In other embodiments, a heat source (e.g., electronic device) is in thermal contact with the second outer surface **129**.

(41) In some embodiments, the first metal sheet **150** and the second metal sheet **120** are made of aluminum, or an aluminum-alloy or the like, and formed by roll-bonding. However, other manufacturing processes may be used to form the first metal sheet **150** and the second metal sheet **120**, such as stamping, depending upon material and manufacturing requirements. In other embodiments, the first metal sheet **150** and the second metal sheet **120** include copper, or a copper-alloy or the like, or other malleable metal heat conducting material having a relatively high thermal conductivity depending upon application and design requirements, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(42) In some embodiments, bonding methods such as ultrasonic welding, diffusion welding, laser welding and the like, are used to bond (e.g., integrally) the first and second inner surfaces **152**, **122** together at locations other than the locations including the interconnecting channel **137**, the first channel **127**, and the second channel **124**. The first and second metal sheets are bonded such that a vacuum seal is obtained.

(43) In some embodiments, an axial or circumferential wick structure having triangular, rectangular, trapezoidal, or reentrant cross-sectional geometries, or the like, may be formed on inner surfaces of the first channel **127**, the second channel **124**, the first bends **153**, **158**, and the second bends **183**, **188**. The wick structure is used to facilitate the flow of condensed fluid by capillary force back to the evaporation surface, keeping the evaporation surface wet for large heat fluxes.

(44) In other embodiments, further heat treatment processes can be employed throughout the manufacturing method of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100**. Additionally, one or more additional operations can be included in the process in order to incorporate additional features into the finished product. Also, the order of operations can be changed or new operations can be added, some operations can be deleted and substituted with other operations, or some operations can be performed simultaneously. For example, other operations can include operations of alloying, casting, scalping and pre-heating, operations such as annealing, and operations such as solution heat treatment or final annealing, stretching, leveling, slitting, edge trimming and aging, and the

like.

(45) In some embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **100** includes the channels and bends on only one of the outer surfaces thereof. However, in other embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger includes channels on both outer surfaces.

(46) FIG. 5A is a schematic perspective view of a multichannel thin heat exchanger **400**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. FIG. 5B is a schematic perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **500** of FIG. 5A, according to embodiments of the disclosure. FIG. 5C is an exploded view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **500** of FIG. 5A, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIGS. 5A to 5C, the multichannel thin heat exchanger **400** includes a first metal sheet **450**, a second metal sheet **420**, and a third metal sheet **470**. The first metal sheet **450** includes first inner surfaces **452**, **459** opposite each other, and a plurality of openings (or through-holes) **453**, **458**. The second metal sheet **420** includes a second inner surface **422** and a second outer surface **429**. The second inner surface **422** includes a plurality of second channels **427** in fluid communication with the plurality openings **453**, **458** and two interconnecting channels **434** on opposite ends of the plurality of second channels **427**. As illustrated, the interconnecting channels **434** are longitudinally offset from each other and located adjacent longitudinally opposite edges **461** and **463** of the multichannel thin heat exchanger **400**. Thus, the centrally located second channels **427** are not fluidly coupled to the interconnecting channels **434**. The third metal sheet **470** includes a third inner surface **472** and a third outer surface **479**. The third inner surface **472** includes a plurality of third channels **477** in fluid communication with the plurality of openings **453**, **458**. As illustrated, the openings **453**, **458** are at or adjacent longitudinally opposite ends of the first metal sheet **450** and are located such that the second channels **427** and the third channels **477** are in fluid communication with the openings **453**, **458** via the respective longitudinally opposite ends of the second channels **427** and the third channels **477**. A number of openings **453** and a number of openings **458** each correspond to a number of second channels **427** and a number of third channels **477**.

(47) In some embodiments, the plurality of openings **453**, **458** are in fluid communication with the plurality of second channels **427** and plurality of third channels **477**. The plurality of second channels **427** are formed parallel to each other and to the outermost edges of the second inner surface **422** and the plurality of third channels **477** are formed inclined (angled) with reference to the outermost edges of the third inner surface **472**. In some embodiments, the second metal sheet **420** includes 12 second channels **427**, two interconnecting channels **434**, nine third channels **477**, and nine openings **453**, **458** each. However, embodiments are not limited in this regard. The number of second channels **427**, the interconnecting channels **434**, the third channels **477**, and the openings **483**, **458** are varied depending upon the application and design requirements, without departing from the scope of the disclosure, and provided the second channels **427**, the third channels **477**, and the openings **453**, **458** are in fluid communication with one another.

(48) The second channels **427** are formed as recesses in the second inner surface **422**. Similarly, the third channels **477** are formed as recesses in the third inner surface **472**. Alternatively, the second channels **427** are formed as corresponding protrusions in the second outer surface **429** and the third channels **477** are formed as a corresponding protrusions on the third outer surface **479**.

(49) FIG. 6A is a schematic cross-sectional view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400** of FIG. 5A along line C-C, according to embodiments of the disclosure. FIG. 6B is a schematic cross-sectional view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400** of FIG. 5A along line B-B, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIGS. 6A to 6B, with reference to FIGS. 5A to 5C, the plurality of second channels **427** are fluidly coupled to the plurality of third channels **477** via the plurality of openings **453**, **458**. The interconnecting channels **434** result in the plurality of first channels **127** being formed in three independent channel groups **424**, **426**, and **428**, with the channel groups **424** and **428** fluidly communicating with the interconnecting channels **434** and the channel group **426** disposed between the channel groups **424** and **428**. The channel groups **424** and

428 are disposed adjacent the longitudinally outer edges of the **461** and **463** of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400**. Such an arrangement of the channels allows for greater heat dissipation efficiency of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400**. Each second channel **427** and each third channel **477** is a separate structure formed in the respective second metal sheet **420** and a third metal sheet **470**, and each extends in a generally longitudinal direction along the respective the second inner surface **422** and the third inner surface **472**.

(50) In some embodiments, the height and width of the plurality of second channels **427** and the plurality of third channels **477** are the same, and the width of the plurality of openings **453**, **458** is the same as the width of the plurality of second channels **427** and the plurality of third channels **477**. Generally, the number of the plurality of second channels **427**, the plurality of third channels **477**, and the plurality of openings **453**, **458** is the same for even flow. However, embodiments are not limited in this regard, and the number of the plurality of second channels **427**, the plurality of third channels **477**, and the plurality of openings **453**, **458**, the relative arrangement of the channels and openings, and the height and width of the channels and openings may be varied depending upon application and design requirements, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(51) In some embodiments, the first inner surface **452**, **459** are bonded to the second and third inner surfaces **422**, **472**, respectively, at locations other than the locations including the interconnecting channel **434**, the plurality of second channels **427**, the plurality of third channels **477**, and the plurality of openings **453**, **458**. The multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400** can be manufactured using the method **300** illustrated in FIG. 3, and a detailed description is omitted for the sake of conciseness.

(52) The operations in the method **300** are used for manufacturing of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400** with adjustments to allow for formation of the plurality of openings **453**, **458** and third metal sheet **470**. In some embodiments, the first metal sheet **450**, the second metal sheet **420**, and the third metal sheet **470** are provided in operation **310**. The first metal sheet **450** includes the plurality of openings **453**, **458**. Prior to the operation **320**, the first metal sheet **450** is positioned between the second metal sheet **420** and the third metal sheet **470** so that the first metal sheet **450**, the second metal sheet **420**, and the third metal sheet **470** are roll-bonded in operation **320**.

(53) FIG. 7A is a perspective view of the multichannel thin heat exchanger **400** of FIG. 5A following operation **330** of the manufacturing method **300**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. FIG. 7B is a perspective view of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **400** of FIG. 5A following operation **360** of the manufacturing method **300**, according to embodiments of the disclosure.

(54) FIG. 8 is a schematic perspective view of a multichannel thin heat exchanger **800**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIG. 8, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **800** includes a first metal sheet and a second metal sheet. The first metal sheet includes a first inner surface and a first outer surface **859**. The second metal sheet includes a second inner surface and a second outer surface **829**. The second inner surface includes an interconnecting channel **837**, a first channel **827** having a plurality of first bends **853**, **858**, and a second channel **824** having a plurality of second bends **883**, **888**. In some embodiments, each of the first channel **827**, second channel **824**, and interconnecting channel **837** have a same unit volume.

(55) In some embodiments, the interconnecting channel **837** is in fluid communication with the first channel **827** and the second channel **824** on opposite ends of the second inner surface. The first channel **827** and the second channel **824** form an interleaved structure in which the first channel **827** is formed adjacent the outermost edges **811** and **813** of the multichannel thin heat exchanger **800** and the second channel **824** is within the first channel **827**.

(56) In some embodiments, the number of bends **853** of the first channel **827** and corresponding number of bends **883** of the second channel **824** can be increased or decreased to increase or decrease the length of the first channel **827** and the second channel **824** as required by application and design requirements, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(57) In some embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **800** includes the channels and bends on only one of the outer surfaces thereof. However, in other embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger includes channels on both outer surfaces.

(58) FIG. **9** is an exploded view of a multi-channel thin heat exchanger **900**, according to embodiments of the disclosure. Referring to FIG. **9**, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger **900** includes a first metal sheet **950** interposed between a second metal sheet **920** and a third metal sheet **970**. The first metal sheet **950** includes inner surfaces **952**, **959**, and a plurality of openings (through-holes) **953**, **958**. The second metal sheet **920** includes a second inner surface **922** and a second outer surface **929**. The second inner surface **922** includes a plurality of second channels **927** fluidly communicating with the plurality of openings **953**, **958** and two interconnecting channels **934** on diagonal opposite ends each other. Each interconnecting channel **934** is in fluid communication with two or more second channels **927** and the plurality of openings **953**, **958**. The third metal sheet **970** includes a third inner surface **972** and a third outer surface **979**. The third inner surface **972** includes a plurality of third channels **977** arranged parallel to each other and fluidly communicating with the plurality of openings **953**, **958**. As illustrated, the ends of the second channels **927** and the third channels **977** fluidly communicate with the openings **953** and **958**.

(59) In some embodiments, the plurality of openings **953**, **958** are in fluid communication with the ends of the plurality of second channels **927** and ends of the plurality of third channels **977** each. The plurality of second channels **927** are formed parallel to the outer edges **911** and **913** of the first second sheet **920** and the plurality of third channels **977** are formed inclined (angled) to the outer edges **915** and **917** third sheet **970**.

(60) In some embodiments, the number of second channels **927**, the interconnecting channels **934**, the third channels **977**, and the openings **953**, **958** can be increased or decreased depending on the application and design requirements, without departing from the scope of the disclosure, provided second channels **927**, the third channels **977**, and the openings **953**, **958** are in fluid communication with one another.

(61) In some embodiments, a heat source (e.g., electronic device) is positioned on any desired location on the second outer surface **929** and/or the third outer surface **979** of the multi-channel thin heat exchanger.

(62) In some embodiments, the multi-channel thin heat exchanger is quadrilateral shaped. However, the shape is not limited to any particular shape and the multi-channel thin heat exchanger can have any shape as required by application and design, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

(63) The disclosed embodiments are not intended to be limited to the embodiments shown herein, but are to be accorded their full scope consistent with the principles underlying the disclosed concepts herein. Directions and references to an element, such as “up,” “down,” “upper,” “lower,” “horizontal,” “vertical,” “left,” “right,” and the like, do not imply absolute relationships, positions, and/or orientations. Terms of an element, such as “first” and “second” are not literal, but, distinguishing terms. As used herein, terms “comprises” or “comprising” encompass the notions of “including” and “having” and specify the presence of elements, operations, and/or groups or combinations thereof and do not imply preclusion of the presence or addition of one or more other elements, operations and/or groups or combinations thereof. Sequence of operations do not imply absoluteness unless: specifically so stated. Reference to an element in the singular, such as by use of the article “a” or “an”, is not intended to mean “one and only one” unless specifically so stated, but rather “one or more”. As used herein, “and/or” means “and” or “or”, as well as “and” and “or.” As used herein, ranges and subranges mean all ranges including whole and/or fractional values therein and language which defines or modifies ranges and subranges, such as “at least,” “greater than,” “less than,” “no more than,” and the like, mean subranges and/or an upper or lower limit. All structural and functional equivalents to the elements of the various embodiments described

throughout the disclosure that are known or later come to be known to those of ordinary skill in the relevant art are intended to be encompassed by the features described and claimed herein. Moreover, nothing disclosed herein is intended to be dedicated to the public regardless of whether such disclosure may ultimately explicitly be recited in the claims.

(64) The foregoing outlines features of several embodiments or examples so that those skilled in the art may better understand the aspects of the present disclosure. Those skilled in the art should appreciate that they may readily use the present disclosure as a basis for designing or modifying other processes and structures for carrying out the same purposes and/or achieving the same advantages of the embodiments or examples introduced herein. Those skilled in the art should also realize that such equivalent constructions do not depart from the spirit and scope of the present disclosure, and that they may make various changes, substitutions, and alterations herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the present disclosure.

Claims

1. A heat dissipation device, comprising: a first metal sheet including a plurality of through-holes; a second metal sheet including a first plurality of channels, a first interconnecting channel, and a second interconnecting channel that are formed within the second metal sheet, the first interconnecting channel is directly connected to ends of two or more of channels of a first set of channels of the first plurality of channels and the second interconnecting channel is directly connected to ends of two or more channels of a second set of channels of the first plurality of channels; and a third metal sheet including a second plurality of channels, wherein the first metal sheet, the second metal sheet, and the third metal sheet are coupled to each other, and the first metal sheet is disposed between the second metal sheet and the third metal sheet, and the first plurality of channels and the second plurality of channels are in fluid communication with each other through the plurality of through-holes.
 2. The heat dissipation device of claim 1, wherein a first set of through-holes of the plurality of through-holes are disposed adjacent a first edge of the first metal sheet, and a second set of through-holes of the plurality of through-holes are disposed adjacent a second edge of the first metal sheet opposite the first edge.
 3. The heat dissipation device of claim 2, wherein a number of through-holes in the first set and a number of through-holes in the second set, each correspond to a number of the first plurality of channels and a number of the second plurality of channels.
 4. The heat dissipation device of claim 1, wherein the first set of channels of the first plurality of channels are disposed adjacent a first longitudinal edge of the second metal sheet, the second set of channels of the first plurality of channels are disposed adjacent a second longitudinal edge of the second metal sheet opposite the first longitudinal edge, and a third set of channels of the first plurality of channels is disposed between the first set of channels and the second set of channels.
 5. The heat dissipation device of claim 4, wherein the first plurality of channels are parallel to each other and to edges of the second metal sheet.
 6. The heat dissipation device of claim 1, wherein the second plurality of channels are parallel to each other and inclined with respect to edges of the second metal sheet.
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