



# Effects of Joule heating and viscous dissipation on Casson nanofluid flow over a stretched sheet with chemical reaction

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## Abstract

Nanofluids find numerous applications in thermal engineering and industrial processes due to their effective thermal conductivity property compared to regular fluids. A nanofluid consists of containing nanometer-sized particles, called nanoparticles of metals, oxides, carbides, or carbon nanotubes etc. with water, ethylene glycol, and oil etc. serve as base fluids. The present study takes care of effects of Brownian motion and thermophoresis on unsteady Casson fluid flow, heat and mass transfer over a stretching sheet embedded in a porous medium. Moreover, the flow phenomena are subjected to heat source, thermal radiation, viscous dissipation, Joule heating and are associated with the diffusion of chemically reactive nanoparticles to base fluid. These two thermo mechanical aspects draw a little attention of the researchers as reported in literature. The governing equations of flow model admit similarity solution and are reduce to non-linear ordinary differential equations (ODEs) applying suitable similarity transformation and are solved numerically using Runge-Kutta-Fehlberg method with MATLAB code. The interesting outcomes are recorded as follows: The formation of inverted boundary layer, the consequence of flow reversal, is due to overpowering of shearing effect of the rigid bounding surface over the free stream stretching in the absence of suction. The higher magnetic field intensity as well as unsteady flow parameter leads to increasing skin friction coefficient may lead to flow reversal. Hence, regulating these parameters is a suggesting measure. The low Brownian motion in conjunction with high thermophoresis leads to upsurge of thermal energy (hike in temperature profile) near the bounding surface. The presence of nanoparticles considered in the base fluid, deduces the shearing stress at the plate surface is a desired outcome to avoid flow reversal.

**Keywords:** MHD; heat and mass transfer; Casson fluid; thermophoresis; Brownian motion; chemical reaction.

## 1. Introduction

A number of technical processes such as polymer extraction in a melt spinning process, glass blowing,

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continuous casting of metals, etc. affect the flow of an incompressible Newtonian or non-Newtonian fluid over a stretched surface significantly. A flow caused by extending a surface had a closed-form similarity solution [1]. Mahapatra and Gupta [2] and Misra and Sinha [3] worked on the stagnation point flow on a stretching sheet. The work [3] bears a favor of biological application.

### Nomenclature

$u, v$	Velocities along $x$ and $y$ direction respectively	$k^*$	Absorption coefficient
$a$	Stretching rate	$T$	Temperature
$b$	Strength of stagnation flow	$C$	Nanoparticle volume fraction
$t$	Time	$U_e$	Ambient fluid velocity
$B_0$	Magnetic field strength	$T_w$	Temperature of the wall
$M$	Magnetic parameter	$T_\infty$	Ambient temperature
$K$	Porosity parameter	$C_\infty$	Ambient concentration
$K_C$	Chemical reaction parameter	<b>Greek Symbols</b>	
$Pr$	Prandtl number	$\eta$	Similarity variable
$Nb$	Brownian motion parameter	$\sigma$	Electrical conductivity
$Nt$	Thermophoresis parameter	$\psi$	Stream function
$Sc$	Schmidt number	$\lambda$	Positive constant
$R$	Radiation parameter	$\gamma$	Casson parameter
$S$	Unsteadiness parameter	$\beta$	Stretching ratio parameter
$K_C$	Chemical reaction parameter	$\sigma^*$	Stefan-Boltzmann constant
$D_B$	Brownian diffusion coefficient	$\alpha$	Thermal diffusivity
$D_T$	Thermophoresis diffusion coefficient	$\tau$	Ratio of the nanoparticle heat capacity to the base fluid heat capacity
$c_p$	Specific heat at constant temperature	$(\rho c)_f$	Heat parameter of base fluid
$Q^*$	heat source/sink coefficient	$(\rho c)_p$	Heat parameter of nanoparticle
$k$	Thermal conductivity coefficient	$\mu_f$	Dynamic viscosity of base fluid
$K^*$	Permeability of the medium	$\nu_f$	Kinematic viscosity of base fluid
$Q$	Heat source/sink parameter	$\rho_f$	Density of base fluid

The Casson fluid is a good representative of human blood with non-Newtonian property. Beyond a critical stress value, it behaves like a Newtonian fluid. Bhattacharyya [4] examined the stagnation point flow of Casson fluid past a stretched surface. Ibrahim et al. [5] studied the effects of radiation and chemical reaction on non-Newtonian fluid flow over a stretching sheet. Kumar and Srinivas [6] studied the unsteady flow of chemically reacting Casson fluid over an inclined porous stretching sheet. El-Aziz and Afify [7] investigated the Casson fluid flow over a stretching sheet considering Hall current, an electromagnetic phenomenon. Das et al. [8] considered chemically reactive double-diffusive Casson fluid past a flat plate in porous medium. Kumar et al. [9] studied the effect of thermal radiation on MHD Casson fluid flow over an exponentially stretching curved sheet. Nayak et al. [10] examined the stability analysis on MHD stagnation point flow of Casson fluid over the stretching surface with slip velocity. Further, Kumar et al. [11] studied the pulsating flow of Casson nanofluid in a vertical porous space. Gireesha et al.

[12] analysed the heat transfer of Casson fluid flow in an inclined porous microchannel with viscous and Joule heating. Kumar and Srinivas [13] studied the Eyring-Powell nanofluid flow over an inclined permeable stretching sheet. El-Aziz and Afify [14] considered the Hall current effect on MHD slip flow of Casson nanofluid over a stretching sheet with zero nanoparticle mass flux. Many authors [15-20] have studied the influences of physical parameters on Casson fluid flow over a stretching sheet considering different boundary conditions.

The effect of thermal radiation on the boundary layer flow is relevant to many engineering challenges, particularly, in high temperature field. Due to the impact of thermal radiation on the rate of cooling, it is crucial in regulating the quality of the final product. Swain et al. [21] investigated the flow of Williamson nanofluid considering thermal radiation. VeeraKrishna [22] examined the effect of Newtonian heating on Casson hybrid nanofluids past an infinite oscillating vertical porous plate. Azam et al. [23] studied the radiation and viscous dissipation effects on Casson nanofluid over a moving cylinder with activation energy. Some important works on thermal radiation effect had been done by the researchers [24, 25].

Mohammadi et al. [26-67] studied the thermo-mechanical vibration investigation of annular and circular graphene sheet embedded in an elastic medium using the nonlocal continuum plate model. Ibrahim and Makinde [68, 69] studied the MHD stagnation point flow and heat transfer of Casson nanofluid past a stretching sheet with slip boundary conditions. Makinde et al. [70] examined the stagnation point flow of nanofluid over a stretching surface with chemical reaction. Satya Narayana et al. [71] considered the flow of visco-elastic nanofluid over a heated surface. Rehman et al. [72] observed the effect of Joule heating on the flow of Eyring-Powell fluid induced by an inclined cylindrical surface. Mehmood et al. [73] studied the stagnation point flow of Casson fluid over a stretched horizontal Riga plate.

The novelties of the present study are many folds. The inclusion of viscous dissipation arising out of material/rheological property of the Casson fluid due to inter layer friction of the flowing fluid dissipating thermal energy. The effect of Joule heating affecting the thermal energy arising out of electromagnetic interaction due to applied magnetic field. Nevertheless consideration of chemical reaction arising out of chemically reactive species which adds to the mass diffusion processes of the present analysis. Most importantly, Das et al. [74] have not considered the effect of electrical conductivity of the Casson fluid with the interaction of magnetic field which gives rise to a resistive external body forces affecting the momentum transport processes. Moreover, they have not considered the embedding medium of the stretching surface most likely porous medium, which relates to many physical and biological system. The inclusion ascribes to another body force accounted for with the help of linear Darcy law valid for slow flow comparable to mild stretching of the sheet aptly represent biological system. The similarity solution of the unsteady complex coupled partial differential equations with time and space dependent boundary conditions renders mathematical impasse to analytical solution paving the way to numerical solution being accomplished by the shooting technique with MATLAB code.

## 2. Formulation of the problem

The unsteady two dimensional flow of an electrically conducting Casson nanofluid flow over an elongated sheet embedded in a porous medium is investigated. The plate is placed along  $x$ -axis and  $y$ -axis is normal to it (Fig. 1). The flow confined to the plane  $y > 0$ , is due to elongated bounding surface and free stream. The rheological equation of state for an isotropic and incompressible flow of a Casson fluid [16] is expressed as:

$$\tau_{ij} = \begin{cases} 2 \left( \mu_B + \frac{p_y}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) e_{ij}, \pi > \pi_c \\ 2 \left( \mu_B + \frac{p_y}{\sqrt{2\pi_c}} \right) e_{ij}, \pi < \pi_c \end{cases}$$

where  $e_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$  is the rate of strain tensor,  $\tau_{ij}$  is the component of stress tensor,  $\mu_B$  is the Casson coefficient of viscosity,  $\pi = e_{ij}e_{ij}$  is the product of the rate of strain tensor with itself,  $\pi_c$  is the critical value of the product of the rate of strain tensor with itself,  $p_y$  is the yield stress of the fluid.

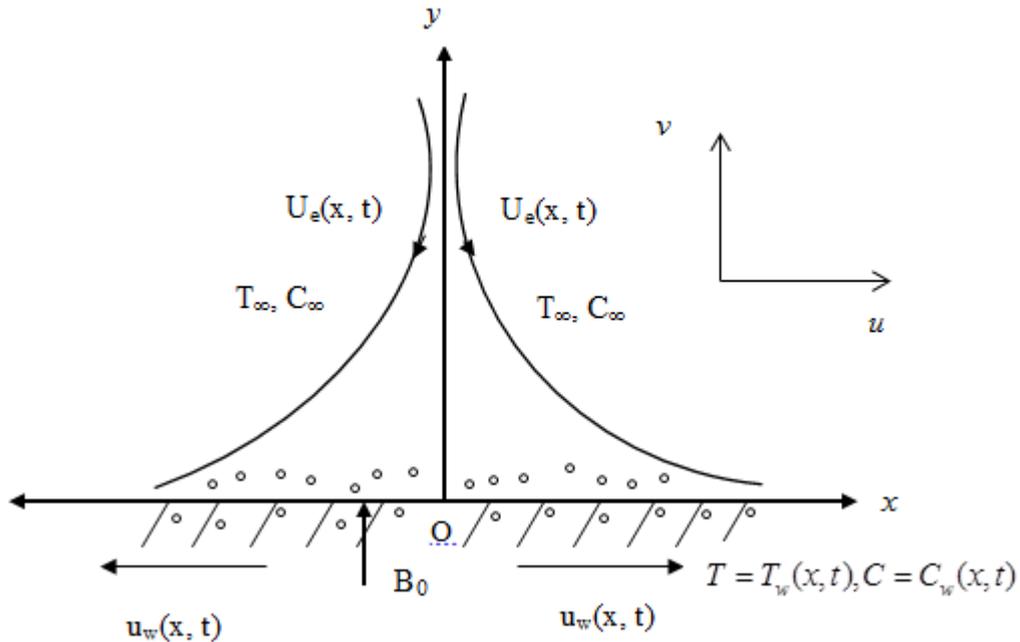


Fig. 1 Flow geometry

The continuity, momentum, energy and concentration equations with prescribed boundary conditions [74] and Rosseland approximation [75] are given by

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial U_e}{\partial t} + U_e \frac{\partial U_e}{\partial x} + \nu_f \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\sigma B_0^2}{\rho_f} (u - U_e) - \frac{\nu_f}{K_p^*} (u - U_e) \tag{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = & \left( \alpha + \frac{16\sigma^* T_\infty^3}{3k^*} \right) \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \tau \left[ D_B \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} + \frac{D_T}{T_\infty} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] \\ & + \frac{\sigma B_0^2 (u - U_e)^2}{(\rho c)_f} + \frac{\mu_f}{(\rho c)_f} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^2 + \frac{Q^*}{(\rho c)_f} (T - T_\infty) \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} = D_B \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial y^2} + \left( \frac{D_T}{T_\infty} \right) \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} - Kc(C - C_\infty) \tag{4}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u = u_w(x,t) = \frac{ax}{1-\lambda t}, v = 0, T = T_w(x,t), C = C_w(x,t) \text{ at } y = 0 \\ u = U_e(x,t) = \frac{bx}{1-\lambda t}, T \rightarrow T_\infty, C \rightarrow C_\infty \text{ as } y \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{5}$$

Here, stretching velocity  $u_w(x,t) = \frac{ax}{1-\lambda t}$ , free stream velocity  $U_e(x,t) = \frac{bx}{1-\lambda t}$ , and the wall

temperature ( $T_w$ ) and nanoparticle volume fraction ( $C_w$ ) are given by  $T_w(x,t) = T_\infty + T_0 \left[ \frac{ax^2}{(1-\lambda t)} \right]$  and

$C_w(x,t) = C_\infty + C_0 \left[ \frac{ax^2}{(1-\lambda t)} \right]$  respectively.

In order to convert the coupled PDEs to ODEs, the following similarity variables, transformations and

parameters are introduced. This is also supported by plane stagnation point flow [76].

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \eta &= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\nu_f(1-\lambda t)}} y, \psi = \sqrt{\frac{a\nu_f}{(1-\lambda t)}} xf(\eta), u = \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y}, v = -\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x}, \\ T &= T_\infty + T_0 \left[ \frac{ax^2}{(1-\lambda t)^2} \right] \theta(\eta), C = C_\infty + C_0 \left[ \frac{ax^2}{(1-\lambda t)^2} \right] \phi(\eta), \\ S &= \frac{\lambda}{a}, \beta = \frac{b}{a}, Pr = \frac{\nu_f}{\alpha}, R = \frac{4T_\infty^3 \sigma^*}{k^* k}, M = \frac{\sigma B_0^2}{\rho_f a}, K_p = \frac{\nu_f}{K_p^* a}, \\ Sc &= \frac{\nu_f}{D_B}, Q = \frac{Q^*}{a(\rho c_p)_f}, Kc = \frac{Kc^*}{a}, Nb = \frac{\tau D_B (C_w - C_\infty)}{\nu_f}, \\ Nt &= \frac{\tau D_T (T_w - T_\infty)}{\nu_f T_\infty}, Ec = \frac{u_w^2}{(c_p)_f (T_w - T_\infty)} \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{6}$$

Equation (1) is identically satisfied and the equations (2) - (5) yield the preferred form:

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma}\right) f''' + ff'' - f'^2 - (M + K_p)(f' - \beta) + \beta^2 - S \left(\frac{1}{2} \eta f'' + f' - \beta\right) = 0 \tag{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{Pr} (1 + R) \theta'' + f \theta' - 2f' \theta + Nb \theta' \phi' + Nt \theta'^2 + MEc (f' - \beta)^2 \\ + Ec \left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma}\right) f''^2 + Q \theta - S \left(\frac{1}{2} \eta \theta' + 2\theta\right) = 0 \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

$$\phi'' + Sc \left[ f \phi' - 2f' \phi - Kc \phi - S \left(\frac{1}{2} \eta \phi' + 2\phi\right) \right] + \frac{Nt}{Nb} \theta'' = 0 \tag{9}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f'(\eta) = 1, f(\eta) = 0, \theta(\eta) = 1, \phi(\eta) = 1 \quad \text{at } \eta = 0 \\ f'(\eta) = \beta, \theta(\eta) = 0, \phi(\eta) = 0 \quad \text{as } \eta \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{10}$$

The dimensionless local skin friction coefficient  $C_f$ , the local Nusselt number  $Nu_x$  and the local Sherwood number  $Sh_x$  which are defined as follows

$$C_f = \frac{\mu}{\rho_f U_w^2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)_{y=0} \Rightarrow Re_x^{0.5} C_{fx} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma}\right) f''(0) \tag{11}$$

$$Nu_x = \frac{-x}{(T_w - T_\infty)} \left[ \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} - \frac{4\sigma^*}{3k'^*} \left(\frac{\partial T^4}{\partial y}\right) \right]_{y=0} \Rightarrow Re_x^{-0.5} Nu_x = -(1 + R) \theta'(0) \tag{12}$$

$$Sh_x = \frac{-x}{(C_w - C_\infty)} \left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial y}\right)_{y=0} \Rightarrow Re_x^{-0.5} Sh_x = -\phi'(0) \tag{13}$$

The steady-state flow is recovered when  $S = 0$ .

### 3. Method of solution

The set of non-linear coupled ordinary differential equations (7) - (10) have been solved numerically by Runge-Kutta-Fehlberg method with shooting technique using MATLAB software with step size of  $\nabla \eta = 0.01$  and error bound  $10^{-6}$  in all cases. Advantages of this method are that the coupled nonlinear ODEs are transformed to a set of linear first order ODEs with the introduction of the new variables. Secondly, the boundary value problem gets

transformed to initial value problem by providing guess values to unknown initial values as required by the problem to be solved. The guess values are corrected by the shooting method to tally with the specified boundary conditions at the other boundary. Once the guess values are corrected with required number of iterations, then the forward integration is carried out to give the numerical solutions of the desired points comprising interval. The limitations are: Not all the PDEs, representing the governing equations, do not admit similarity transformations and cannot be transformed to ODEs. Only specific types of flow problems admit similarity transformations and hence similar solutions. There might be dual solutions to a specific problem, if exists, then which one is stable or unstable that is to be decided upon and discussed. To assess the accuracy of the present code and validity check, the numerical values of skin friction coefficient  $f''(0)$  for different values of  $\beta$  are presented in Table 1 when  $M = K_p = S = 0, \gamma \rightarrow \infty$ .

**TABLE 1** Comparison of  $f''(0)$  for different values of  $\beta$

$\beta$	$f''(0)$		
	Present study	Swain et al. [67]	Das et al. [66]
0.1	-0.9696514	-0.96965625	-0.969328
0.2	-0.9181601	-0.91816450	-0.918098
0.5	-0.6672609	-0.66726432	-0.667301
2	2.0175025	2.01750252	2.017467
3	4.7292808	4.72928082	4.729406

#### 4. Results and discussion

For numerical computation, we have considered some values of the parameters as fixed i.e.  $M = K_p = \beta = \gamma = 0.5, S = K_c = 0.3, Sc = 2, R = Q = Ec = Nb = Nt = 0.1$ , and  $Pr = 5$  unless otherwise specified.

Table 2 shows the variations of  $-f''(0)$  for different values of parameters. It is observed that when values of other parameters are fixed, the wall shear stress  $\{-f''(0)\}$  increases with the increase in the values of  $M$  and  $S$ , whereas it decreases with increase in the values of  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ . Physically, it means that higher values of magnetic intensity decrease the shear stress at the bounding surface. Further, it is concluded that higher the unsteadiness, greater the shearing stress at the bounding surface. From Table 3 it is seen that the rates of heat transfer and solutal concentration at the bounding surface increase with unsteady parameter whereas rate of heat transfer decreases and rate of solutal concentration increases with higher values of  $M$ . It is also observed that  $-\theta'(0)$  increases with increase in strength of heat sink ( $Q < 0$ ) but  $-\phi'(0)$  decreases. Further, it is seen that heat source ( $Q > 0$ ),  $Sc$  and destructive chemical reaction parameter ( $K_c > 0$ ) have opposite effects on  $-\theta'(0)$  and  $-\phi'(0)$ , compared to that of constructive chemical reaction parameter ( $K_c < 0$ ) and heat source ( $Q > 0$ ). It is interesting to note that the rate of mass transfer at the wall shows an opposite effect compared to rate of heat transfer for all the parameter except unsteadiness parameter ( $S$ ). This outcome may be attributed to the fact that higher thermal energy enhances the solutal diffusion causing the fall of concentration level and hence, the flux at the wall. It is interesting to note that the presence of nanoparticles in the base fluid reduces the shearing force at the plate surface, hence imposing stability or preventing backflow in the downstream.

From Fig. 2 it is seen that the boundary layer is formed when  $\beta > 1$  and inverted boundary layer is formed when  $\beta < 1$  whereas no boundary layer is formed for  $\beta = 1$ . The magnetic parameter decreases the velocity profile due to resistive Lorentz force however; the effect is reversed in case of inverted boundary layer. Further, the presence of porous matrix and moderate values of Casson parameter are to reduce the velocity, resulting a thinner boundary layer (Fig. 3). Inside the boundary layer, the pressure gradient dominates the momentum transfer of the outer shear flow. Therefore, shear induced component of the free stream shear flow inside the boundary layer is less than the inviscid value. This results in flow reversal in the absence of suction. Reza and Gupta [77] The formation of the inverted boundary layer in the present study is the outcome of flow reversal due to over powering of shearing effect

of the boundary over free stream in the absence of suction.

**Flow chart**

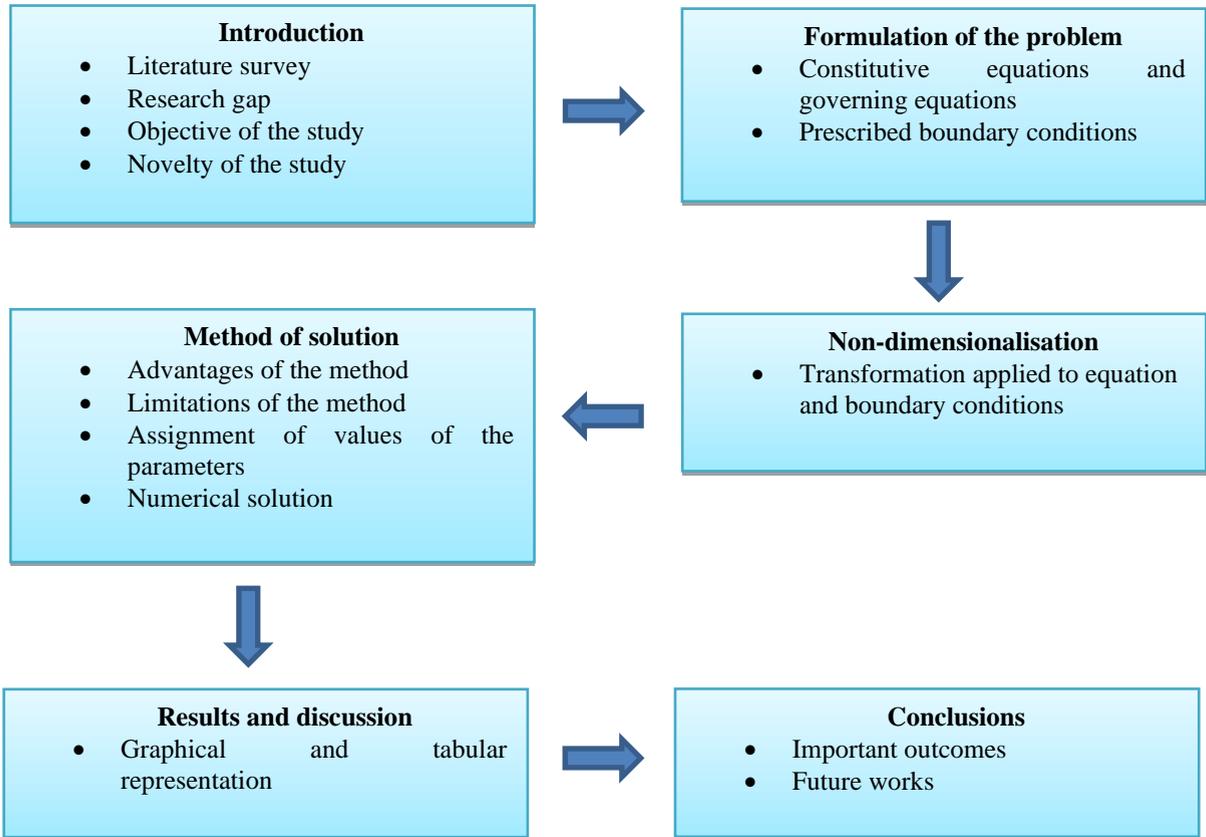


Table 2 Computation of  $\{-f''(0)\}$

when  $K_p = 0.5, Kc = 0.3, Sc = 2, Pr = 5, R = Q = Ec = Nb = Nt = 0.1$

$M$	$\beta$	$S$	$\gamma$	$-f''(0)$
0.1	0.1	0	0.5	2.070225
0.5				2.290439
1				2.540362
	0.3			2.086459
	0.5			1.565345
		0.5		1.650139
		1		1.732104
			1	1.414217
			2	1.224745

Table 3 Computation of  $-\theta'(0)$  and  $-\phi'(0)$  when  $K_p = \beta = \gamma = 0.5, Pr = 5, R = Ec = Nb = Nt = 0.1$

$M$	$S$	$Q$	$Sc$	$Kc$	$-\theta'(0)$	$-\phi'(0)$
0.1	0.1	0.1	2	0.1	2.915176	0.844825
0.5					2.893939	0.849222
1					2.868720	0.855275
	0.3				3.090879	0.892068
	0.5				3.299090	0.927975

0.5			3.033451	1.122957
1			2.670987	1.382402
-0.3			3.547863	0.742159
-0.5			3.666891	0.652257
0.1	3		3.208601	1.752369
	5		3.093658	2.978601
		0.5	3.068714	3.288434
		0	3.100417	2.897159
		-0.3	3.122186	2.641721
		-0.5	3.138127	2.460946

Figs. 4-6 depict the temperature profile for various values of  $Q, Ec, Nb$  and  $Nt$ . It is seen that temperature increases with the strength of heat source ( $Q > 0$ ) but decreases with heat sink ( $Q < 0$ ). Further, both Eckert number ( $Ec$ ) and radiation parameter ( $R$ ) increase the temperature as an increase in  $Ec$  and  $R$  contribute to higher thermal energy (Figs. 4 and 5). As Eckert number ( $Ec$ ) is the measure of addition of heat energy due to viscous dissipation, so that higher value of  $Ec$  gives rise to rise in temperature. Fig. 6 shows that an increase in Brownian motion parameter ( $Nb$ ), increases the thermal energy, and hence the rise in temperature is observed but the reverse effect is observed in case of solutal concentration. Moreover, thermophoresis parameter ( $Nt$ ) enhances both temperature and volume fraction due to thermophoretic effect. It is interesting to note that for low Brownian motion and high thermophoresis resulted in hike in temperature near the plate surface (Fig. 7).

Fig. 8 depicts the concentration profile for various values of chemical reaction parameter ( $Kc$ ). It is observed that the concentration level deplete with higher rate of destructive reaction ( $Kc > 0$ ) and Schmidt number ( $Sc$ ) but opposite effect is marked for constructive reaction parameter ( $Kc < 0$ ). Physically, both destructive reaction and Schmidt number (heavier species) decelerates the mass diffusion contributing to thinner solutal boundary layer (Fig. 9). Finally, it is important to note that the unsteadiness of the flow reduces the momentum transport and mass concentration but enhances the thermal energy irrespective of the effects of other parameters.

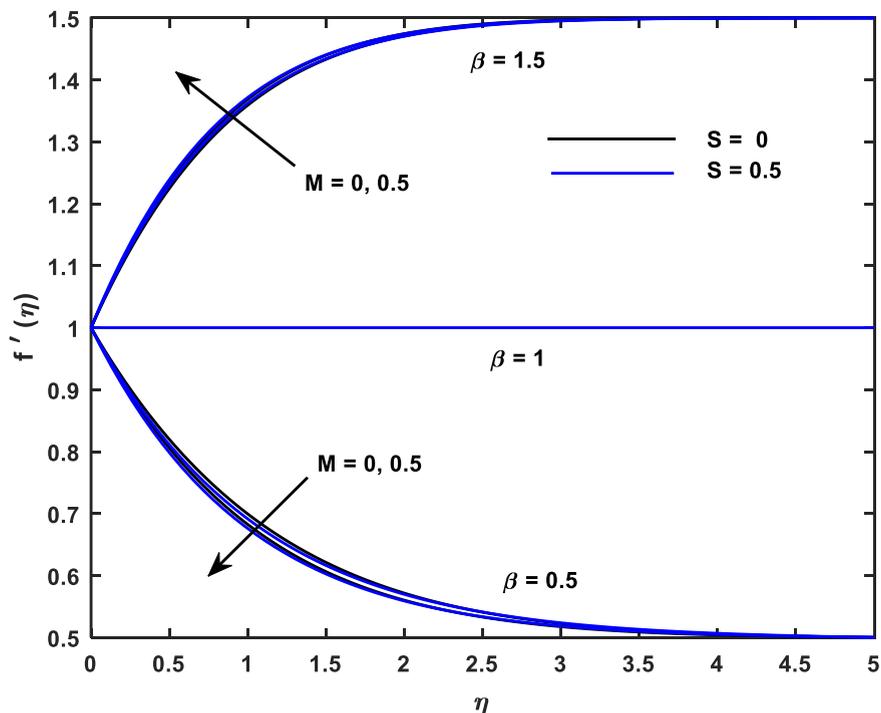


Fig. 2 Velocity profiles for various values of  $M$  and  $\beta$

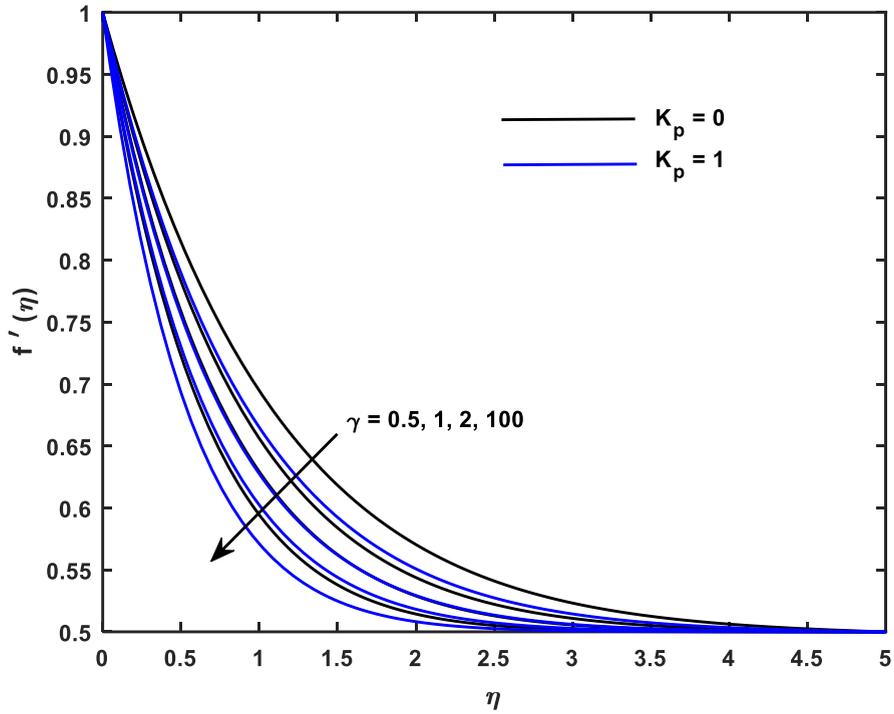


Fig. 3 Velocity profiles for various values of  $\gamma$  and  $K_p$

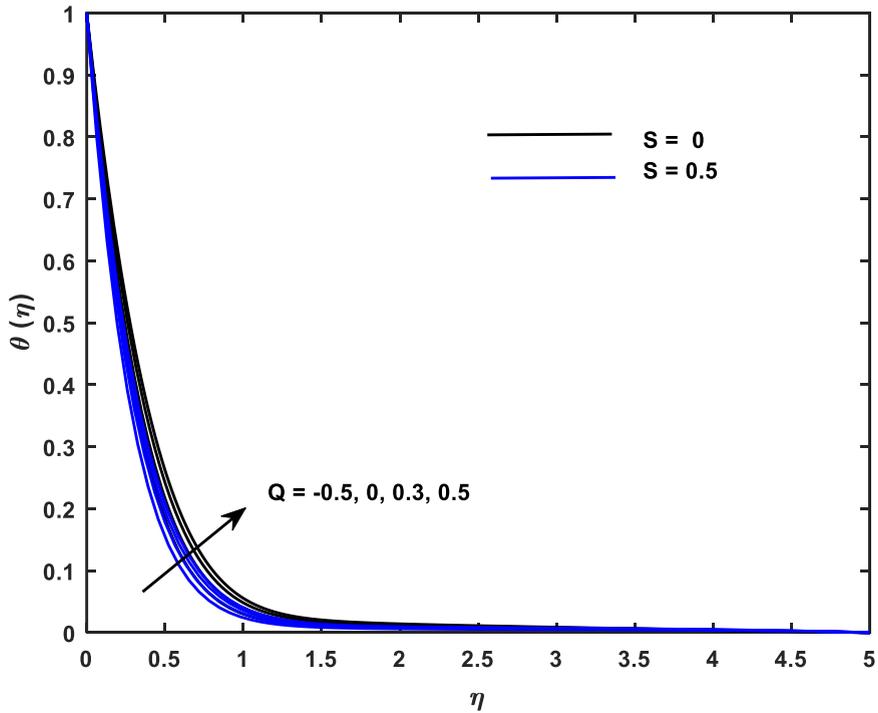


Fig. 4 Temperature profiles for various values of  $Q$

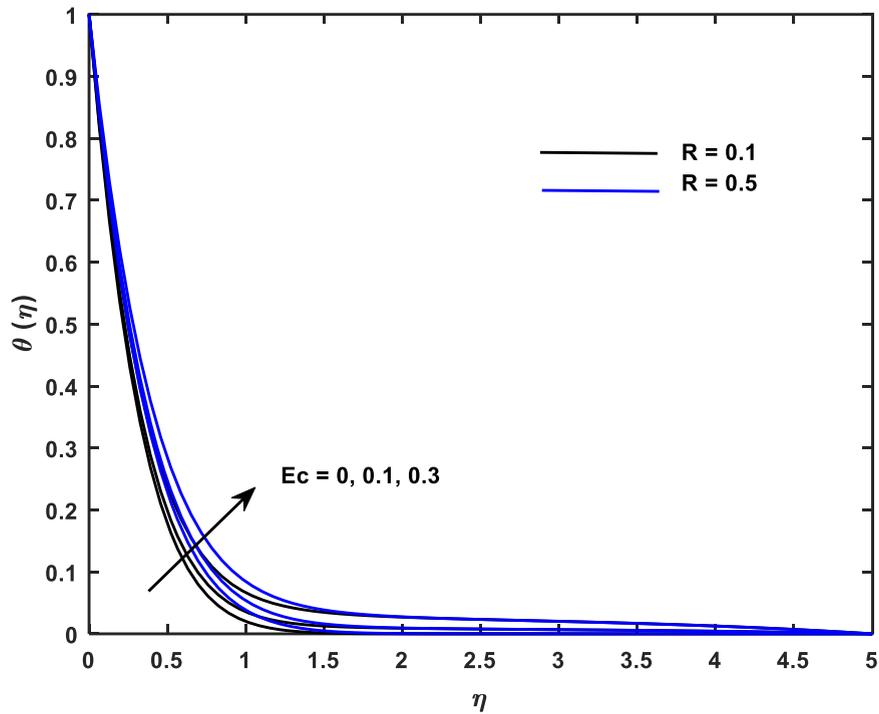


Fig. 5 Temperature profiles for various values of  $Ec$  and  $R$

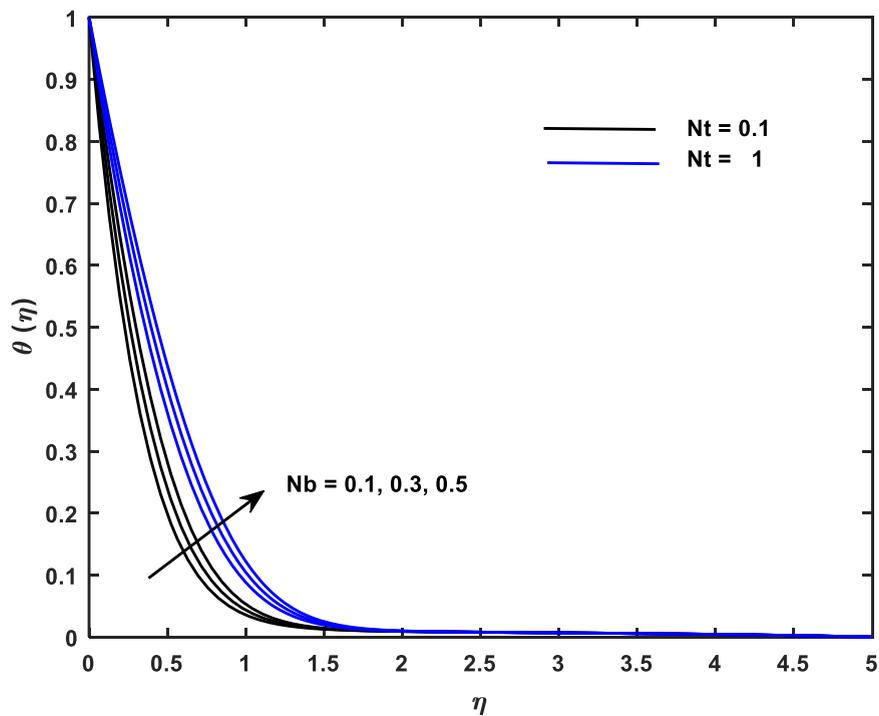


Fig. 6 Temperature profiles for various values of  $Nb$  and  $Nt$

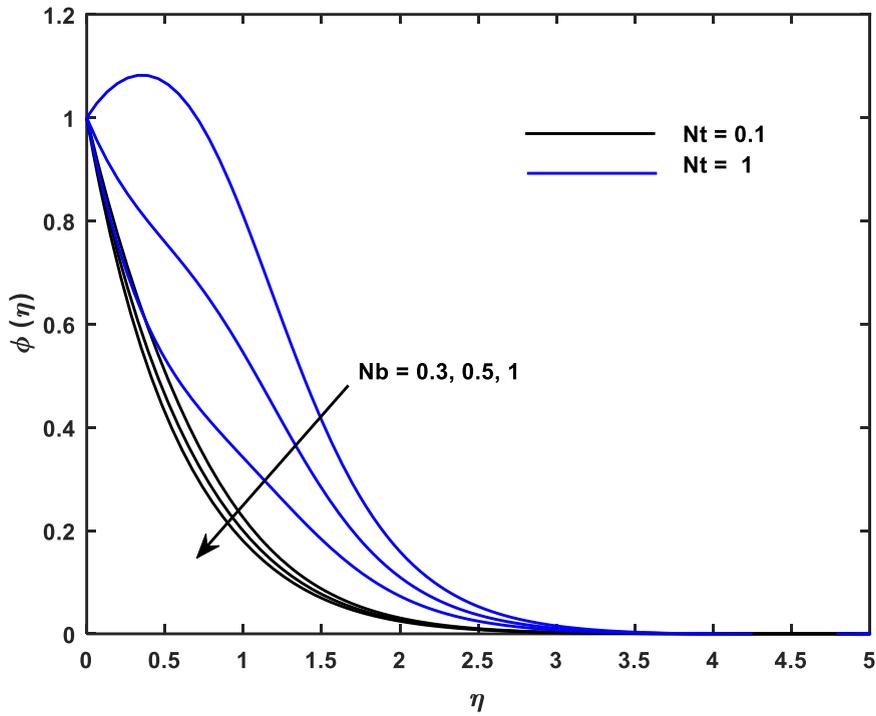


Fig. 7 Concentration profiles for various values of  $Nb$  and  $Nt$

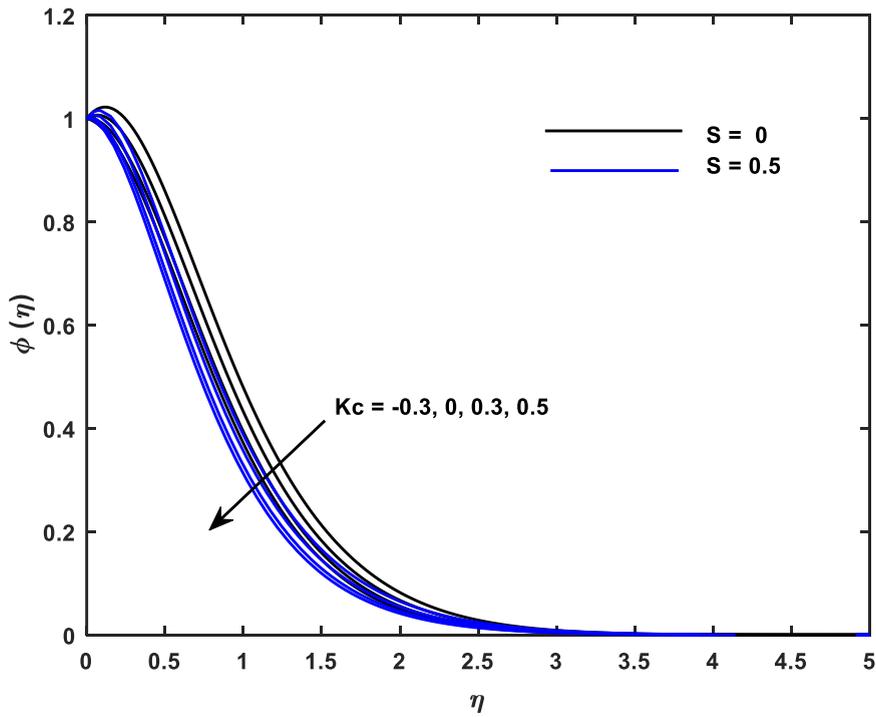


Fig. 8 Concentration profiles for various values of  $Kc$

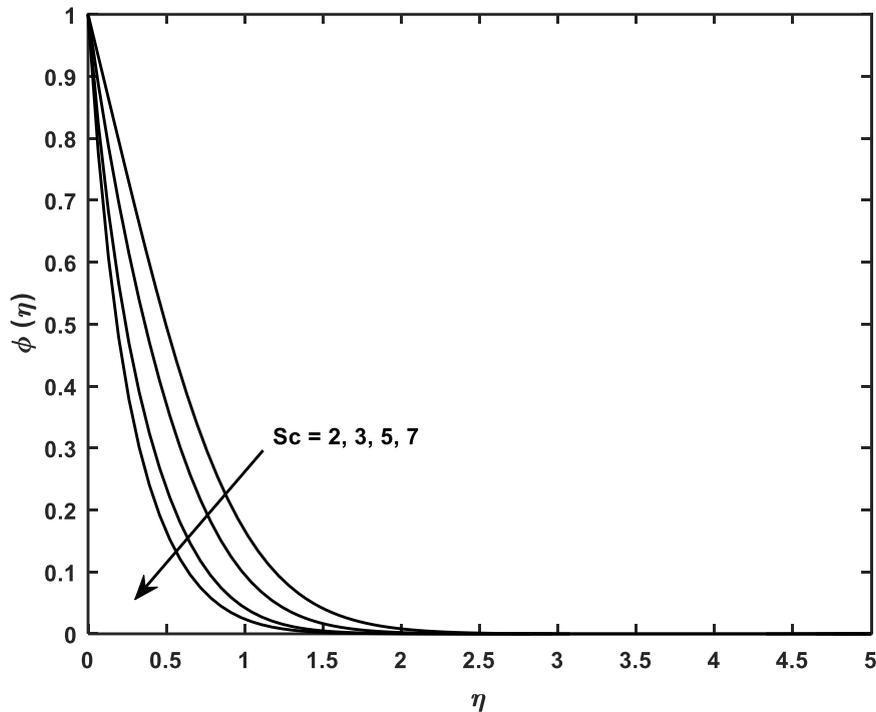


Fig. 9 Concentration profiles for various values of  $Sc$

## 5. Conclusions

From the present study the important findings are reported as follows:

- Formation of boundary layer is altered depending upon the value of stretching ratio parameter i.e. over powering of free stream stretching to bounding surface stretching. Physically, it indicates the reversal of momentum transport in the flow domain presented in velocity distribution graph.
- By the relative shearing impact of the plate and the free stream, the formation of the inverted boundary layer can be controlled.
- Higher values of magnetic field intensity as well as unsteady parameter lead to increasing skin friction coefficient. Thus, it is suggested that the necessary control may be enforced by controlling the voltage in the electric circuit or otherwise restrict/limit the magnetic intensity and unsteadiness to reduce the growth of skin friction to avoid back flow.
- Brownian motion favours the escalation of temperature distribution but sets in an impasse for the rise in level of concentration.
- The unsteadiness of the flow reduces the momentum transport and mass concentration but enhances the thermal energy irrespective of the effects of other parameters.
- Thermophoresis favours the rise in both temperature and volume fraction of the nanofluid in the entire flow domain.
- The presence of nanoparticles in the base fluid reduces the shearing stress at the plate surface so as to avoid back flow.
- The rate of heat transfer increases with increase in strength of heat sink but mass transfer decreases.
- Destructive and constructive chemical reactions have opposite effects to each other on heat and mass transfer of nanofluid.

**Limitations:** The present analysis is having following limitations.

- Consideration of space dependent linear stretching.
- Consideration of slow/seepage flow in the embedded porous medium.

**Future work:**

- Future work may be carried out by replacing the linear stretching with non-linear stretching having power indexed space variable ( $x^n$ ) which occurs in industrial applications very often.
- The linear Darcy law may be replaced by non-linear laws (Brinkmann, Forchheimer etc.) to account for moderately high flows.

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