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A Study of MHD Free Convection Flow Past an Infinite Inclined Plate

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ABSTRACT

In the present article, we have studied the magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) free convection flow past an infinite inclined plate. In order to explore the effects of velocity, temperature and concentration, Laplace transform technique has been used in this study. This method is adapted to accomplish the analytical solution of governing equation. The impact of various embedded parameter on concentration, velocity and temperature such as chemical reaction, magnetic parameter, radiation and inclination angle has been discussed graphically with numerical results.

1. Introduction

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) free convection flows have important applications in the field of planetary magneto-sphere, aeronautics and chemical engineering. Hannes Alfvén was the first person who initiated the field of MHD and he successfully received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1970. Therefore, many researchers inspired to discover the problems of MHD free convection flows with heat and mass transfer through various domains with the different boundary conditions. Basically, MHD is the study of the magnetic properties and behaviour of electrically conducting fluids that involved the magnetofluids such as plasmas, liquid, metal, salt, water and electrolytes. Alim *et al.*, [1] interested to study about the effect of MHD natural convection flow along a vertical flat plate with Joule heating and heat conduction. This work transform the governing boundary layer equations into non-dimensional form and resulting nonlinear system of partial differential equations are then solved numerically by using the implicit finite difference method with Keller box scheme. The couple effect of natural convection and conduction required the heat flux and temperature be continuous at the interface. They finally drawn the conclusion from the present investigation. Both of the velocity distribution and the temperature distribution are increased because the Joule heating parameter increased while velocity decreases and temperature increased and it is affected to skin friction.

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Bulinda *et al.*, [2] take an opportunity to study MHD free convection of incompressible fluids over corrugated vibrating bottom surface with Hall currents and heat mass transfer considering heat flux. Corrugated structures are well known for heat transfer enhancement applied in many engineering problems such as heat exchangers, air-conditioning devices and refrigeration. They conclude that the velocity profiles decreases with an increase of Prandtl number, Schmidt number and magnetic parameter. Meanwhile, Sharma *et al.*, [3] has research about the unsteady free convection flow with heat and mass transfer of an electrically conducting viscoelastic fluid, through a porous medium of variable permeability. This research is different with Bulinda *et al.*, [2] where they focused on the half space of fluid domain, bounded by the vertical porous plate with the constant heat flux, constant concentration and a rectilinear translation in its plane with constant velocity. They observed that the permeability with respect to time decreases, lead to the slower fluid movement and the fluid movement is faster due to the delta parameter increase.

A very little attention from the researchers to the problem of natural convection over an inclined plate makes Raju *et al.*, [4] studied about the unsteady free convection boundary layer flow past a periodically accelerated vertical plate with Newtonian heating. It is observed that the temperature increase as time increase and the become decreases in the presence of Prandtl number. The boundary layer become thicker as thermal conductivity increase. Ismail *et al.*, [5] are attracted to study the combined effects of thermal radiation and mass transfer on unsteady MHD free convection flow in a porous medium past an infinite inclined plate with constant temperature. The governing partial differential equations have been solved analytically by using laplace transform technique. They observed that the fluid velocity increase as the radiation parameter depleted. This is explained by te fact that the rate of transportation energy to the fluid increases when the radiation parameter decreases.

Khan *et al.*, [6] were investigated the effects of an arbitrary wall shear stress on unsteady MHD flow of a Newtonian fluid in a porous medium over an inclined plate with ramped temperature with conjugate effects of heat and mass transfer. By taking velocity as an element to be discussed, they have found the velocity increases with the increment of Grashof number due to thermal bouyancy force tends to accelerate velocity for both ramped temperature and isothermal temperature. Different with Khan *et al.*, [6] the influence of the inclination of the plate on the mixed convection heat transfer of a Casson rheological fluid past an inclined plate using boundary theory has been investigated by Rao *et al.*, [7]. From this research, they have found that, the temperature profiles consistenly decay from a maximum at the inclined plate surface to the free stream. Temperature also rise with the decreasing of shear stress and this situation allows more effective of transfer heat from the wall to the fluid regime. Palani *et al.*, [8] are interested to analysis about the effects of MHD on two –dimenisonal free-convective flow of a viscous incompressible fluid past a semi-infinite isothermal inclined plate. Based on their result, they stated that when inclination angle increase, the normal component of the buoyancy force decreases near the leading edge which lead an implusive driving force for fluid motion along the plate.

Influence of chemical reaction with heat source under the study of convective flow with heat and mass transfer plays an important role in many areas in science and engineering field. Rout *et al.*, [9] decided to research about the influence of chemical reaction and the combined effects of internal heat generation and a convective boundary condition on the laminar boundary layer MHD heat and mass transfer flow over a moving vertical flat plate. Hari *et al.*, [10] has analysed the effects of chemical reaction on MHD mixed convection with the stagnation point flow towards a vertical plate embedded in a porous medium with radiation and internal heat generation. The meaning of stagnation point in the present work is a point in a flow field where the local velocity of fluid is zero.

Meanwhile, Osman *et al.*, [11] interested to study about the chemical reaction and radiation effects on unsteady MHD free convection flow in a porous medium past an infinite inclined isothermal plate.

This research is focused into natural convection within Newtonian fluid such as water, oil gasoline and alcohol. The problem is limited to heat and mass transfer through infinite inclined isothermal plate because from previous study, no one yet has started to research about MHD free convection flow past an infinite incline plate.

2. Mathematical Formulation and Solution

Consider the unsteady MHD free convection flow of an incompressible viscous, electrically conducting heat fluid near an infinite inclined plate. With the reference to the coordinate system plate x^* -axis along to the plate with an inclination angle ϕ to the vertical plate, the y^* -plane. The motion of the fluid is governed by the following constitutive equation

$$\frac{\partial u^*}{\partial t^*} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u^*}{\partial y^{*2}} - \frac{\sigma B_0^2}{\rho} u^* - \frac{\nu}{K^*} u^* + g \beta_T \cos \phi (T^* - T_\infty^*) + g \beta_C \cos \phi (C^* - C_\infty^*) \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial T^*}{\partial t^*} = \frac{k}{\rho c_p} \frac{\partial^2 T^*}{\partial y^{*2}} - \frac{1}{\rho c_p} \frac{\partial q_r}{\partial y} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial C^*}{\partial t^*} = D \frac{\partial^2 C^*}{\partial y^{*2}} - K_r (C^* - C_\infty^*) \quad (3)$$

where u^* , T^* , C^* represent velocity, temperature and concentration respectively, ν is kinematic viscosity, g is acceleration due to gravity, σ is the electrical conductivity ρ is the fluid density, $K^* > 0$ is the permeability of the porous medium, β_T and β_C are the thermal expansion and concentration expansion, k is the thermal conductivity, c_p is the specific heat, q_r is the radiative heat flux, D is the mass diffusion and K_r is the chemical reaction parameter.

Initially, at time $t^* \leq 0$, the plate and the fluid are at rest with the same temperature T_∞^* and concentration C_∞^* . At time $t^* > t_0$, both plate of temperature and concentration is raised to constant temperature T_w^* and constant concentration C_w^* while when $t^* > 0$, both plate of temperature and concentration are approaching to zero. The following condition explain the appropriate boundary equations:

$$\begin{aligned} u^* &= 0, T^* = T_\infty^*, C^* = C_\infty^* \text{ for } y^* \geq 0 \text{ and } t^* \leq 0 \\ u^* &= 0, T^* = T_w^*, C^* = C_w^* \text{ for } y^* = 0 \text{ and } t^* > t_0 \\ u^* &\rightarrow 0, T^* \rightarrow 0, C^* \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } y^* \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } t^* > 0 \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

According to the governing equations, temperature of the plates, T_∞^* and T_w^* , is assumed to produced radiative heat flux term and simplified by using Rosseland approximation (Mohan *et al.*, [12]) is given by

$$q_r = -\frac{4\sigma^*}{3k^*} \frac{\partial T^{*4}}{\partial y^*} \quad (5)$$

where σ^* is Stefan-Boltzmann constant and k^* is the mean absorption coefficient. We assume that the temperature differences within the flow are sufficiently small such that T^{*4} may be expressed as a linear function of the temperature. Using Taylor series by expanding T^{*4} about T_∞^* and neglecting higher-order terms, thus

$$T^{*4} \cong 4T_\infty^{3*}T - 3T_\infty^4 \quad (6)$$

Rosseland approximation become,

$$q_r = -\frac{16\sigma^* T_\infty^{3*}}{3K^*} \frac{\partial^2 T^{*4}}{\partial y^{*2}} \quad (7)$$

The dimensionless variable are introduce as follows:

$$y = \frac{y^*}{L}, \quad t = \frac{t^* (vg)^{1/3}}{L}, \quad u = \frac{u^*}{(vg)^{1/3}}, \quad T = \frac{T^* - T_\infty^*}{T_w^* - T_\infty^*}, \quad C = \frac{C^* - C_\infty^*}{C_w^* - C_\infty^*} \quad (8)$$

Based on the Eq. (1), Eq. (2) and Eq. (3), the governing equations of momentum, energy and concentration are reduced by using Eq. (8) into following non-dimensional forms:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - Mu - \frac{u}{K} + GrT \cos \phi + GcC \cos \phi \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{(1+R)}{Pe} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{Pe_c} \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial y^2} - KrC \quad (11)$$

where

$$M = \frac{\sigma B_0^2 L^2}{\rho \nu}, \quad K = \frac{K^*}{L^2}, \quad Gr = \frac{g^{1/3} \beta_T (T_w^* - T_\infty^*) L}{\nu^{2/3}}, \quad Gc = \frac{g^{1/3} \beta_C (C_w^* - C_\infty^*) L}{\nu^{2/3}}, \quad R = \frac{16\alpha\sigma^* T_\infty^* L^2}{k},$$

$$Pe = RePr, \quad Pe_c = ReSc$$

where, M is magnetic parameter known as Hartmann number, K is the porosity parameter, Gr is the thermal Grasof number, Gc is the mass Grasof number, R is radiation parameter Pe known as Peclet's number of mass transfer, Pe_c is known as Peclet's number of concentration, Re is Reynold number, Pr is Prandtl number and Sc is Schmidt number. The characteristic length can be defined as:

$$L = \frac{v^{2/3}}{g^{1/3}} \quad (12)$$

The dimensionless initial and boundary conditions become:

$$\begin{aligned} u=0, T=0, C=0 \text{ for } y \geq 0 \text{ and } t \leq 0 \\ u=0, T=1, C=1 \text{ for } y=0 \text{ and } t \geq 0 \\ u \rightarrow 0, T \rightarrow 0, C \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } y \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } t > 0 \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

3. Solution of the Problem

Laplace transform technique has been applied in order to solve the equations. Hence, the temperature variable $T(y,t)$ and concentration variable $C(y,t)$ can be solve where the solution $u(y,t)$ can be achieved. The energy Eq. (2) and concentration Eq. (3) is uncoupled from the momentum Eq. (1). Eq. (9), Eq. (10) and Eq. (11) are solved by using laplace transform with respect to t with the present of Eq. (13) and solving the result from different equations, we achieved:

Energy Equation:

$$\bar{T} = \frac{1}{s} e^{-y \sqrt{\frac{s(Pe_m)}{1+R}}} \quad (14)$$

Concentration Equation:

$$\bar{C} = \frac{1}{s} e^{-y \sqrt{Pe_c(Kr+s)}} \quad (15)$$

Momentum Equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u} = a_1 \left[\frac{1}{a_2(s-a_2)} - \frac{1}{a_2s} \right] e^{-y \sqrt{\frac{s(RePr)}{(1+R)}}} + a_3 \left[\frac{1}{a_4(s-a_4)} - \frac{1}{a_4s} \right] e^{-y \sqrt{(Kr+s)ReSc}} \\ a_1 \left[\frac{1}{a_2(s-a_2)} - \frac{1}{a_2s} \right] e^{-y \sqrt{\lambda+s}} - a_3 \left[\frac{1}{a_4(s-a_4)} - \frac{1}{a_4s} \right] e^{-y \sqrt{\lambda+s}} \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where

$$a_1 = \frac{-Gr \cos \phi}{\left(\frac{Pe}{1+R} - 1\right)}, a_2 = \frac{\lambda(1+R)}{Pe-1}, a_3 = \frac{-Gc \cos \phi}{(1-ReSc)}$$

Therefore, the exact solution for the temperature, concentration and velocity are obtained from Eq. (15), Eq. (16), Eq. (17) by using inverse Laplace transform. These solutions are:

$$T = \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\theta}{t}}\right) \quad (17)$$

$$C = \frac{1}{2}\left[e^{y\sqrt{\operatorname{Re}ScKr}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\operatorname{Re}Sc}{t}} + \sqrt{Krt}\right) + \sqrt{Krt} + e^{-y\sqrt{\operatorname{Re}ScKr}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\operatorname{Re}Sc}{t}} - \sqrt{Krt}\right) \right] \quad (18)$$

$$u_1(y,t) = \frac{a_1 e^{a_2 t}}{2a_2} \left[e^{y\sqrt{\theta a_2}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\theta}{t}} + \sqrt{a_2 t}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{\theta a_2}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\theta}{t}} - \sqrt{a_2 t}\right) \right]$$

$$u_2(y,t) = \frac{a_1}{a_2} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\operatorname{Pr}}{t}}\right)$$

$$u_3(y,t) = \frac{a_3 e^{a_4 t}}{2a_4} \left[e^{y\sqrt{Pe_m(Kr+a_4)}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{Pe_m}{t}} + \sqrt{(Kr+a_4)t}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{Pe_m(Kr+a_4)}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{Pe_m}{t}} - \sqrt{(Kr+a_4)t}\right) \right]$$

$$u_4(y,t) = \frac{a_3}{2a_4} \left[e^{y\sqrt{Pe_m Kr}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{Pe_m}{t}} + \sqrt{Krt}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{Pe_m Kr}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{\frac{Pe_m}{t}} - \sqrt{Krt}\right) \right] \quad (19)$$

$$u_5(y,t) = \frac{a_1 e^{a_2 t}}{2a_2} \left[e^{y\sqrt{\lambda+a_4}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} + \sqrt{(\lambda+a_2)t}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{\lambda+a_2}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(-\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} - \sqrt{(\lambda+a_2)t}\right) \right]$$

$$u_6(y,t) = \frac{a_1}{2a_2} \left[e^{y\sqrt{\lambda}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} + \sqrt{\lambda t}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{\lambda}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} - \sqrt{\lambda t}\right) \right]$$

$$u_7(y,t) = \frac{a_3 e^{a_4 t}}{2a_4} \left[e^{y\sqrt{\lambda+a_4}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} + \sqrt{(\lambda+a_4)t}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{\lambda+a_4}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(-\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} - \sqrt{(\lambda+a_4)t}\right) \right]$$

$$u_8(y,t) = \frac{a_3}{2a_4} \left[e^{y\sqrt{\lambda}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} + \sqrt{\lambda t}\right) + e^{-y\sqrt{\lambda}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y}{2\sqrt{t}} - \sqrt{\lambda t}\right) \right]$$

$\operatorname{erfc}(x)$ being the complimentary error function defined by

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) = 1 - \operatorname{erf}(x), \quad \operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-\eta^2} d\eta \quad (20)$$

4. Graphical Result and Discussion

In this section, the results discussed in the previous section are presented through graph. The effect of various physical parameter such as magnetic field, inclination plate, radiation and chemical reaction on the convection flow, the graph of velocity and temperature are obtained. All the discussion about the graph has been made.

The velocity profile of magnetic field M parameter is shown in Figure 1. From the graph, we can observe that the velocity decreasing when the values of magnetic field increased. This is happened due to the application of the tranverse magnetic field that give a resistive type of force called Lorentz force. The velocity is reduced because of the Lorentz force which it tends to resist the fluid flow.

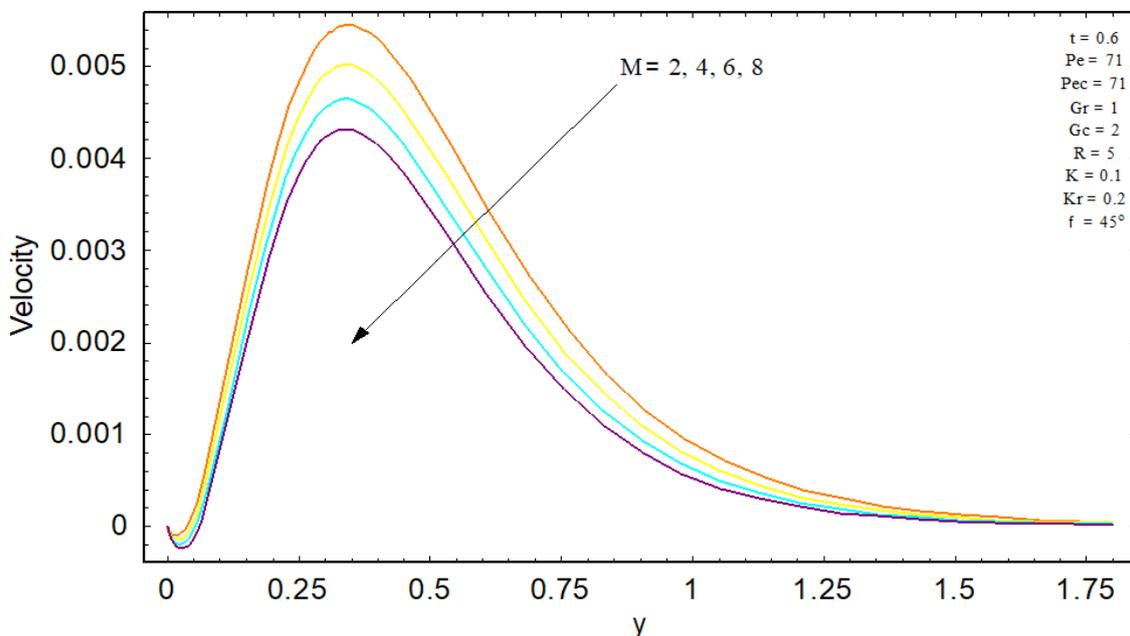


Fig. 1. The influence of magnetic field on the velocity profiles

Figure 2 shows the velocity profiles at various value of inclination angle ϕ . It shows that the increasing of inclination angle accelerates the fluid motion along the plate. This may be explained that as the plate is inclined from the vertical, the bouyancy force is affected. This is due to the thermal and mass diffusion reduced as $\cos\phi$ decreased.

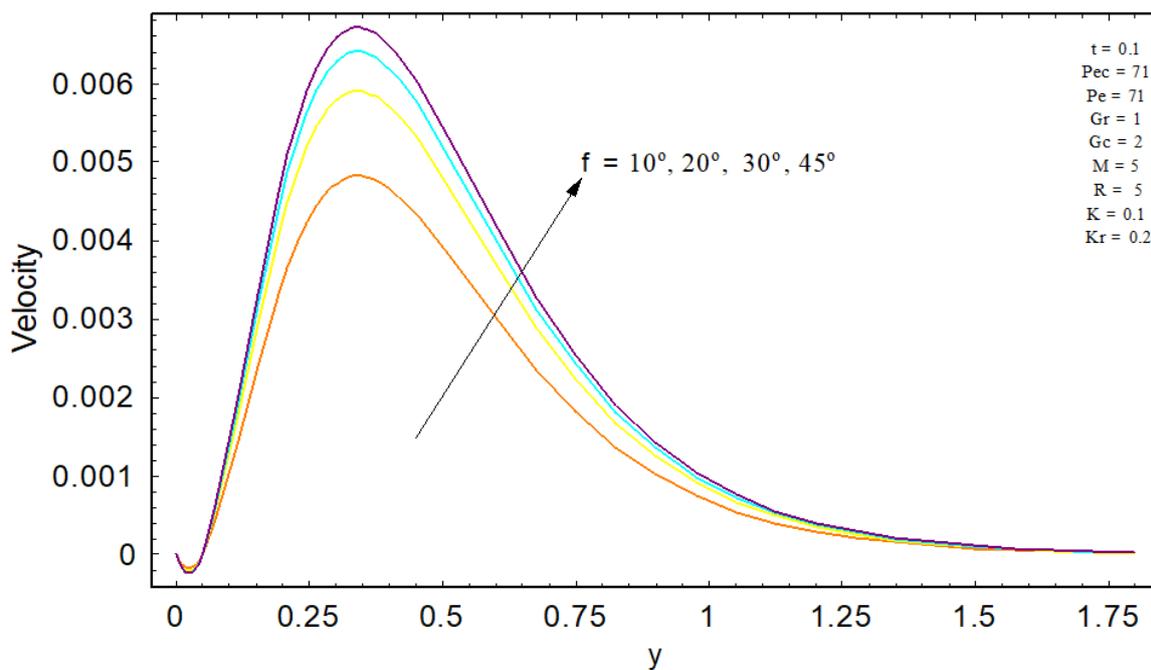


Fig. 2. The influence of inclination angle on the velocity profiles

Figure 3 depicts the influence of temperature profiles at various value of radiation parameter. The value of time t of the temperature profile is set to be 0.6. From this figure, we observed that the temperature of the fluid increases as the radiation parameter increases. Existence of radiation are affected the thermal boundary layer to become thicker since the radiation provides an additional means to diffuse energy.

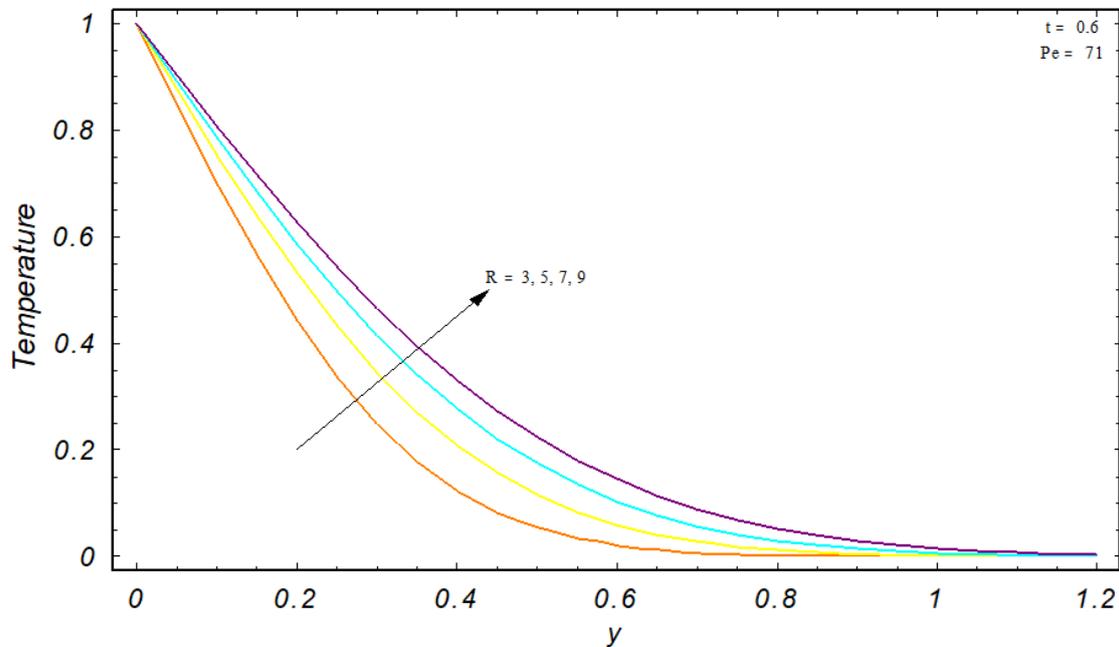


Fig. 3. The influence of radiation on the velocity profiles

The temperature profiles at various chemical reaction parameter Kr is presented in Figure 4. As we can see from the graph, the increasing value of Kr has affecting the concentration to become decreased.

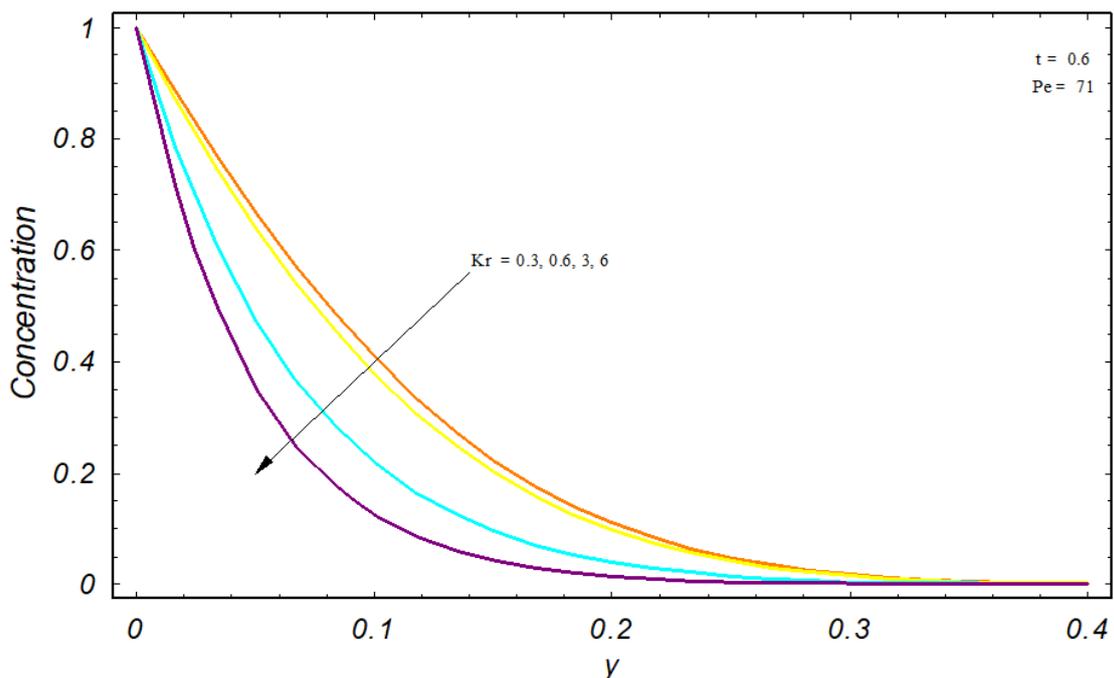


Fig. 4. The influence of chemical reaction on the concentration profiles

5. Conclusions

This research was conducted to solve the problem of magnetohydrodynamic free convection flow past an inclined plate including magnetic parameter, inclination angle, radiation and chemical reaction. Laplace transform technique has been used throughout the research to solve the governing equation. The result of various parameters embedded on the velocity, temperature and concentration are shown in the graph whereas skin-friction is shown in table. The conclusion of the result from graph has been made where the velocity is reduced when the values of magnetic parameter had an increment. Resistive type of force named Lorentz force is produced due to the application of transverse magnetic field in this result.

Besides, it is observed that the increment value of inclination angle accelerates the fluid motion along the plate. Buoyancy force is effected when the plate is inclined from the vertical. The trend distribution of temperature at various values of radiation shows the temperature increase with the increasing of radiation parameter since radiation provides additional means to diffuse energy and it is affected the thermal boundary layer becomes thicker. Based on the concentration profile of chemical reaction parameter, the result shows the concentration is reduced when the Kr value increased.

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