

## Ferroconvection in an Anisotropic Porous Medium with Variable Gravity

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### ABSTRACT

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A linear stability assessment was performed to study the impact of internal heating and variable gravity in an anisotropic porous medium of a ferrofluid layer system on the onset of Benard-Marangoni convection. The system is heated from below with both the lower and upper limits are considered as completely insulated to the disturbance of the temperature. The eigenvalue problem is solved by using regular perturbation technique to obtain the critical Marangoni number and also the critical thermal Rayleigh number. It is noted that the increase of value anisotropic permeability, Darcy number and also magnetic number will enhance the convection of the system while the increasing values of anisotropic thermal diffusivity will help to stabilize the system.

#### Keywords:

Ferrofluid; Anisotropic; Variable Gravity

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## 1. Introduction

Ferrofluid or also known as magnetic fluid is a non-electric carrier fluid that includes small particles of strong ferromagnetic materials [1]. Kaiser and Miskolczy [2] state that ferrofluid has a special feature which is it can maintain its fluid properties in the existence of magnetic field and the magnetic properties of ferrofluid can be affected by the composition, distribution and also volume concentration. Previously ferrofluid is known in the rocket fuel by NASA and currently ferrofluid has been used in various fields such as in electric devices, mechanical engineering, medical applications and optics. There have been tremendous studies on the convection of ferrofluid. Stiles and Kagan [3] examined the instability of ferroconvection in a strong magnetic field. The impact of the vertical magnetic field in ferrofluid was researched by Hennenberg *et al.*, [4]. Mokhtar and Arifin [5] had the impacts of feedback control in the ferrofluid layer system. Laroze *et al.*, [6] employed chaos study in

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ferrofluid. Laroze *et al.*, [7] explored the instability of viscoelastic ferrofluid. Recently, the impact of magnetic field dependent viscosity in a ferrofluid was proved by Prakash *et al.*, [8].

Marangoni convection can be understood as convection that considered surface tension in the study. The existence of surface tension cause the fluid flow from the area that has low surface tension. Nield [9] propose the idea of combination between surface tension forces and buoyancy forces study or usually name as Marangoni-Benard convection. The studied of Marangoni convection with a deformable surface had been done by McCaughan and Bedir [10]. In Marangoni-Benard convection, Hennenberg *et al.*, [11] recorded a porous medium with Darcy law. Rudraiah and Prasad [12] had examined Brinkman's model in a porous medium. Saghir *et al.*, [13] investigated dual-layer studies on the onset of Marangoni convection. Shivakumara *et al.*, [14] employed Brinkman–Forchheimer–Lapwood extended Darcy model on the onset of Marangoni convection. Feedback control effect with a deformable surface in a variable viscosity fluid had been studied by Arifin and Abidin [15]. Marangoni convection of porous medium with a Biot number had been studied by Zhao *et al.*, [16]. Dual-layer fluid with the impact of internal heating in an upper boundary that is set to be deformable on the Marangoni-Benard convection had been demonstrated by Mokhtar *et al.*, [17].

The study of convection that involving porous medium had been done widely, most of the porous medium studied previously are considering isotropic porous medium. Previously, Mahad *et al.*, [18] applied an isotropic model with physical invariant for a heart valve leaflet because the material has only one direction toward the fiber direction. Since the formation of anisotropic porous medium can be happen naturally thus a lot of materials are considered as an anisotropic porous medium such as wood, carbonate rock and also composite. Degan and Vasseurt [19] demonstrated the convection of an anisotropic medium that oblique to gravity. Sekar *et al.*, [20] investigated the convection of ferrofluid in an anisotropic porous medium. Marangoni-Benard convection problem in the anisotropic porous medium had been examined by Shivakumara *et al.*, [21]. The study of anisotropic with modified Brinkman Darcy flow model had been employed by Nanjundappa *et al.*, [22] in a ferrofluid system. Shivakumara *et al.*, [23] study the impact of internal heating in an anisotropic medium in Marangoni-Benard convection. Bhadauria [24] also study the anisotropic porous medium with the effect of internal heating on the onset of double-diffusive convection. Capone *et al.*, [25] studied an anisotropic and non-homogeneous porous medium in a linear and non-linear stability study. Soret-driven convection in an anisotropic porous ferrofluid layer system had been studied by Sekar *et al.*, [26]. Recently Sun *et al.*, [27] studied the impacts of an external magnetic field in a ferrofluid while Zarifah *et al.*, [28] examined the temperature profile in a binary fluid with anisotropic porous medium.

The ideas of gravity are well known in the theoretical investigation, a lot of studies related to variable gravity had been done before to justify a convection phenomenon in a large scale such as in the ocean and mantle. Rionero and Straughan [29] investigated the combined effect of internal heating and variable gravity in convection of a porous medium. The effect variable gravity and internal heating with additionally inclined temperature gradient in a porous medium had been done by Alex *et al.*, [30]. Chand [31] investigated rotating Maxwell of a visco-elastic porous medium with the additional effect of variable gravity. Bala and Chand [32] employed Brinkman porous medium with variable gravity of ferrofluid. Combination effect of rotating and variable gravity of porous nanofluid layer had been reported by Chand *et al.*, [33]. Varshney [34] investigated on the stability on the convection of porous medium with the effect of gravity.

The aim of this paper is to investigate the onset of Marangoni-Benard convection with the impact of the variable gravity in an anisotropic porous medium. We assumed that the layer of ferrofluid is heated from below and that the conditions of the lower-upper boundary are considered to be a rigid-free boundary. Using a regular perturbation technique will solve the resulting eigenvalue problem.

## 2. Methodology

We considered a horizontal ferrofluid layer system is heated from below as shown in Figure 1. The lower boundary is set to be rigid while the upper boundary is set to be free. Both of the boundaries are fixed to be constant but the temperature of the lower bound is higher compared to the upper bound. The ferrofluid layer scheme is applied by gravitational force  $h(0, 0, -h(z))$  where  $h(z) = (1 + \lambda)h$  and  $\lambda$  are the parameter of variable gravity.

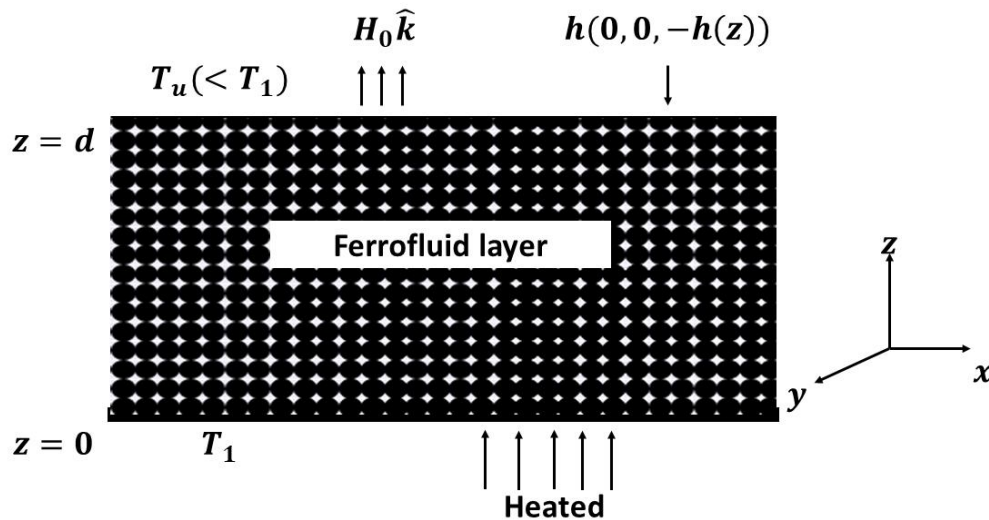


Fig. 1. Model of an anisotropic porous medium in ferrofluid layer system

The surface tension,  $\sigma$  and density of the fluid,  $\rho$  are in the form of

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 - \sigma_T (T - T_0), \quad (1)$$

$$\rho = \rho_0 [1 - \alpha_t (T - T_0)], \quad (2)$$

where  $\sigma_0$ ,  $\rho_0$  and  $T_0$  are reference value of surface tension, density and temperature respectively while  $\sigma_T$  is the rate of change of the surface tension at the temperature  $T$ . The surface tension and density are assumed vary linearly with the temperature. By referring to Nanjundappa *et al.*, [22], the governing equations are as follows

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{q} = 0, \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\rho_0}{\varepsilon} \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{q}}{\partial t} + (\vec{q} \cdot \nabla) \vec{q} \right] = -\nabla p + \rho h + \mu_0 (\vec{M} \cdot \nabla) \vec{H} + \mu k^{-1} \vec{q}, \quad (4)$$

$$\varepsilon \left[ \rho_0 C_{V,H} - \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \left( \frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial T} \right)_{V,H} \right] \times \frac{DT}{Dt} + (1 - \varepsilon) (\rho_0 C) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \mu_0 T \left( \frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial T} \right)_{V,H} \cdot \frac{D\vec{H}}{Dt} = k_1 \nabla^2 T. \quad (5)$$

Here  $\vec{q} = (u, v, w)$  is the velocity vector,  $\mu$  is the dynamic viscosity,  $\mu_0$  is the magnetic permeability of vacuum,  $p$  is the pressure,  $Q$  is the uniformly distributed heat generation in ferrofluid layer system,  $C_{V,H}$  is the specific of heat capacity at constant volume and magnetic field per unit mass,  $\varepsilon$  is the

porosity,  $k$  is the permeability tensor,  $k_1$  is the thermal conductivity and  $\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$  is the Laplacian operator.

Based on Finlayson [35] the Maxwell's equation is given as

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0, \nabla \times \vec{H} = 0 \text{ or } \vec{H} = \nabla\varphi, \quad (6(a, b))$$

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 (\vec{M} + \vec{H}), \quad (7)$$

where  $\vec{B}$  is the magnetic induction,  $\vec{H}$  is the magnetic field density,  $\vec{M}$  is the magnetization and  $\varphi$  is the magnetic potential. Finlayson [35] also state the linearization of magnetic as follows

$$\vec{M} = \frac{\vec{H}}{H} (M_0 + \chi(H - H_0) - K(T - T_0)), \quad (8)$$

where  $\chi = \left(\frac{\partial M}{\partial H}\right)_{H_0, T_0}$  is the magnetic susceptibility,  $K = \left(\frac{\partial M}{\partial H}\right)_{H_0, T_0}$  is the pyromagnetic co-efficient,  $M_0 = M(H_0, T_0)$ ,  $H = |\vec{H}|$  and  $M = |\vec{M}|$ .

The solutions for the quiescent basic state are as follows

$$\vec{q}_b = 0, \quad (9)$$

$$p_b(z) = p_0 - \rho_0 h z - \rho_0 \alpha_t h \quad (10)$$

$$T_b(z) = -\beta z + T_0 \quad (11)$$

$$\vec{H}_b(z) = \left[ H_0 - \frac{K\beta z}{1+\chi} \right] \hat{k}, \quad (12)$$

$$\vec{M}_b(z) = \left[ M_0 + \frac{K\beta z}{1+\chi} \right] \hat{k} \quad (13)$$

In order to study the stability of the system, the basic state is perturbed in the following form

$$\vec{q} = \vec{q}', p = p_b(z) + p', T = T_b(z) + T', \vec{H} = \vec{H}_b(z) + \vec{H}', \vec{M} = \vec{M}_b(z) + \vec{M}' \quad (14)$$

Substituting Eq. (14) into Eq. (7) and by using equation the basic state, yields

$$H_x + M_x = \left(1 + \frac{M_0}{H_0}\right) H_x$$

$$H_y + M_y = \left(1 + \frac{M_0}{H_0}\right) H_y$$

$$H_z + M_z = (1 + \chi)H_z - KT \quad (15)$$

The normal mode expansion is assumed in the form:

$$\{w, T, \varphi\} = \{W(z), \theta(z), \phi(z)\}e^{i(lx+my)}, \quad (16)$$

where  $l$  and  $m$  are the wave number in  $x$  and  $y$  direction. Substituted Eq. (14) into momentum equation, energy equation and also Maxwell equation. After that we performing the linearization and eliminate the pressure term by operating the curl twice for the momentum Eq. (4). Followed by the using of Eq. (15) and (16) and non-dimensionalizing the variable by the following setting

$$(x^*, y^*, z^*) = \left(\frac{x}{d}, \frac{y}{d}, \frac{z}{d}\right), W^* = \frac{d}{\nu} W, \theta^* = \frac{\kappa}{\beta \nu d} \theta, \phi^* = \frac{(1+\chi)\kappa}{\kappa \beta \nu d^2} \phi, \quad (17)$$

where  $\nu = \mu/\rho_0$  is the kinematic viscosity and  $\kappa = \kappa_1/\rho_0 c_0$  is the thermal diffusivity. After dropping the asterisk, we will get as follows

$$\left[ (D^2 - a^2)^2 - Da^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi} D^2 - a^2 \right) \right] W - a^2 Rm(1 + \lambda)(D\phi - \theta) - a^2 Rt(1 + \lambda)\theta = 0, \quad (18)$$

$$D^2\theta - \eta a^2\theta - (1 - M_2)W = 0 \quad (19)$$

$$D^2\phi - a^2 M_3\phi - D\theta = 0, \quad (20)$$

with the boundary condition

$$W = DW = D\theta = \phi = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 0 \quad (21)$$

$$W = D\theta = D\phi = D^2W + Ma a^2\theta = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 1, \quad (22)$$

where

$$D = \frac{d}{dz}$$

$\lambda$  is the gravity parameter,

$a^2$  is the wave number,

$Da = \frac{k_h}{d^2}$  is the Darcy number,

$\xi = \frac{k_h}{k_v}$  is an anisotropic permeability,

$Rm = Rt \cdot M_1 = \frac{\mu_0 K_1^2 \beta}{(1+\chi)\alpha_t \rho_0 g}$  is the magnetic Rayleigh number,

$Rt = \frac{\alpha_t g \beta d^4}{\nu \kappa A}$  is the thermal Rayleigh number,

$\eta = \frac{\kappa_h}{\kappa_v}$  is an anisotropic effective thermal diffusivity,

$M_2 = \frac{\mu_0 T_0 K_1^2}{1+\chi}$  is the magnetic parameter,

$M_3 = \frac{1 + \frac{M_0}{H_0}}{1+\chi}$  is the nonlinearity of the ferrofluid,

$Ma = \frac{\sigma_T \Delta T d}{\mu \kappa}$  is the Marangoni number

By referring to Finlayson [35],  $M_2$  will not affect the Benard-Marangoni convection since the value of it will be approximated to zero because the value too small which is  $10^{-6}$ . To solve Eq. (18) till (20) with the boundary conditions in Eq. (21) and (22), regular perturbation method will be used. The

variables are in following the form

$$(W, \theta, \phi) = (W_0, \theta_0, \phi_0) + a^2(W_1, \theta_1, \phi_1) + \dots \quad (23)$$

By substituting Eq. (23) into (18) till (22) we will get the zeroth equation as follows

$$D^4W_0 - \left(\frac{1}{Da\xi} D^2W_0\right) = 0 \quad (24)$$

$$D^2\theta_0 - W_0 = 0 \quad (25)$$

$$D^2\phi_0 - D\theta_0 = 0 \quad (26)$$

with the boundary conditions

$$W_0 = DW_0 = \theta_0 = \phi_0 = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 0, \quad (27)$$

$$W_0 = D^2W_0 = D\phi_0 = D\theta_0 = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 1 \quad (28)$$

The solution to the zeroth order Eq. (24) till (26) by using boundary conditions in Eq. (27) and (28) are as follow:

$$W_0 = 0, \theta_0 = 1, \phi_0 = 0. \quad (29)$$

By substituting Eq. (29) we will get the first order equations as follow

$$D^4W_1 - \left(\frac{1}{Da\xi} D^2W_1\right) + Rm(1 + \lambda) - Rt(1 + \lambda) = 0, \quad (30)$$

$$D^2\theta_1 - \eta - W_1 = 0 \quad (31)$$

$$D^2\phi_1 - D\theta_1 = 0 \quad (32)$$

with the boundary conditions

$$W_1 = DW_1 = D\theta_1 = \phi_1 = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 0, \quad (33)$$

$$W_1 = \phi_1 = D\theta_1 = D^2W_1 + Ma = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 1. \quad (34)$$

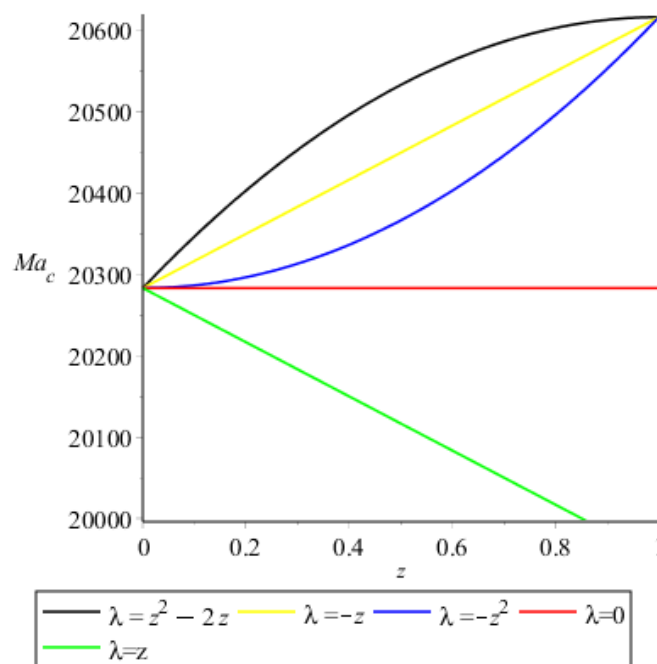
The Eq. (30) to (34) will be solved by using MAPLE. The equation of  $Ma_c$  will be generate in term of  $M_1, Rt, \eta, \lambda, \xi$  and  $Da$ .

### 3. Results

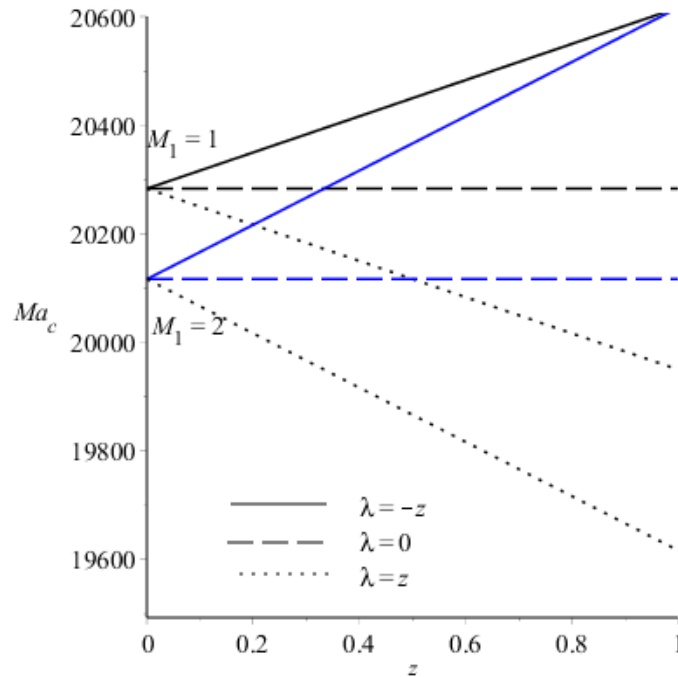
In this document, with the presence of variable gravity, the resulting eigenvalue problem of Marangoni-Benard convection in an anisotropic ferrofluid layer was analytically solved using regular perturbation technique. The boundaries are regarded rigid-free and insulating with a linear stability assessment. The selected values for the gravity parameter suggested by Bala and Chand [32]. The outcomes collected are described graphically in Figure 2-8 to show the effect of different parameters on the critical number of Marangoni,  $Ma_c$  and thermal Rayleigh,  $Rt_c$ . From the study, it revealed that  $M_3$  has a no significant contribution toward the convection of the system and this finding coincides with a previous study from Nanjundappa *et al.*, [36].

Figure 2 demonstrated the impact of various gravity parameter on the onset of Benard-Marangoni convection with  $Rt = 1000$ ,  $M_1 = 1$ ,  $\eta = 1$ ,  $\xi = 0.1$  and  $Da = 0.001$ . The figure clearly shows that the decreasing gravity parameter which is  $\lambda = z^2 - 2z$ ,  $\lambda = -z$  and  $\lambda = -z^2$  have stabilizing effect. It contrasts with increasing gravity parameter  $\lambda = z$  that promotes the onset of Marangoni convection. The result obtained is in good agreement with the previous study from Bala and Chand [32].

The impact of  $M_1$  on variable gravity on the onset of Marangoni-Benard convection was noted in Figure 3 The increment of  $M_1$  will drop the values of  $Ma_c$  and destabilize the system. This situation happens because the increasing of  $M_1$  will lead to increment of destabilize magnetic force in the system Nanjundappa *et al.*, [36]. The combination of variable gravity parameter  $\lambda = -z$  and  $M_1$  is found to delay the convection while the combination of  $\lambda = z$  and  $M_1$  will enhance the onset of Marangoni-Benard convection.

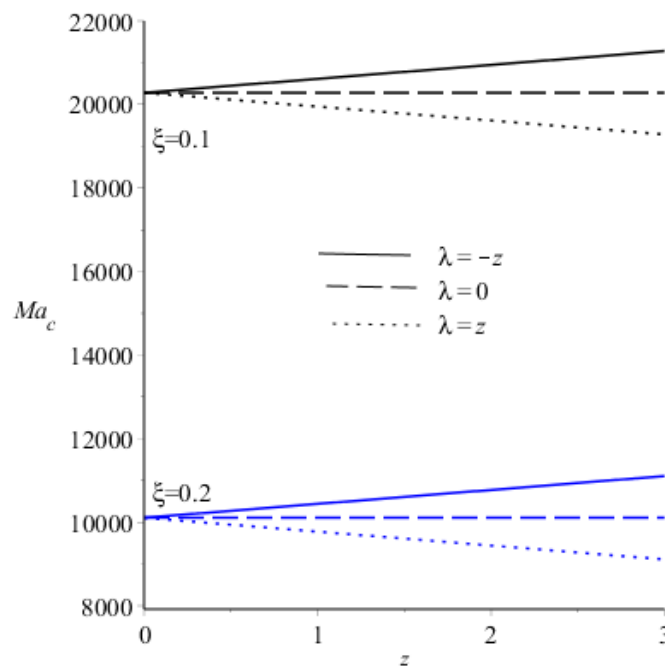


**Fig. 2.** Stability curve for different value of gravity



**Fig. 3.** Stability curve for different value of gravity and  $M_1$

The impact of two important parameters in anisotropic which is  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  are depicted in Figure 4 and 5 respectively. For both figures the value of other parameters are  $Rt = 1000$ ,  $M_1 = 1$  and  $Da = 0.001$ . In Figure 4, the  $Ma_c$  values fall as the  $\xi$  parameter increases and thus encourages the convection rate in the ferrofluid layer system of an anisotropic porous medium. The reason behind this situation is the increasing of  $\xi$  will encouraged the fluid movement in the horizontal direction due to the large horizontal permeability. As an outcome the convection process in an anisotropic medium become unstable (Shivakumara *et al.*, [21]). It is contrast with the effect of  $\eta$  in Figure 5, the increasing of  $\eta$  lead to elevate the critical Marangoni number and delay the convection.



**Fig. 4.** Stability curve for different value of  $\xi$



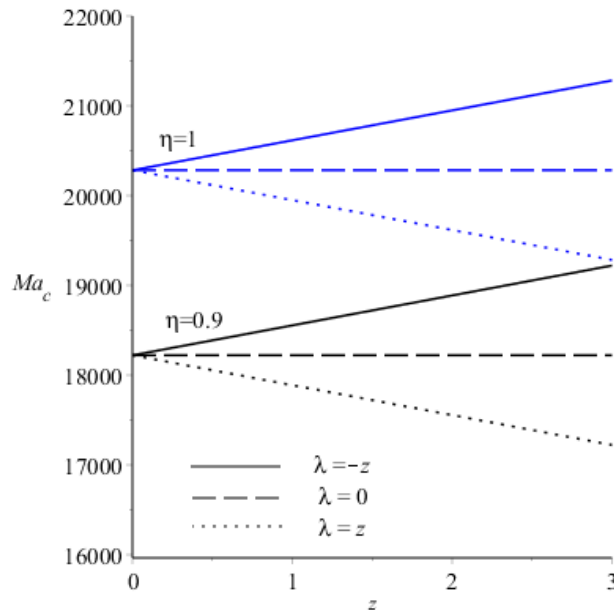


Fig. 5. Stability curve for different value of  $\eta$

The combination effects of  $M_1$  and  $\xi$  are illustrated in Figure 6 when  $Rt = 1000, Da = 0.001, \lambda = 0$  and  $\eta = 1$ . From the graph, it can be seen that boost of both parameters  $M_1$  and  $\xi$  cause a deterioration of the  $Ma_c$  values. This indicates the simultaneous effects of  $M_1$  and  $\xi$  will promote the convection of Marangoni-Benard in a ferrofluid layer system.

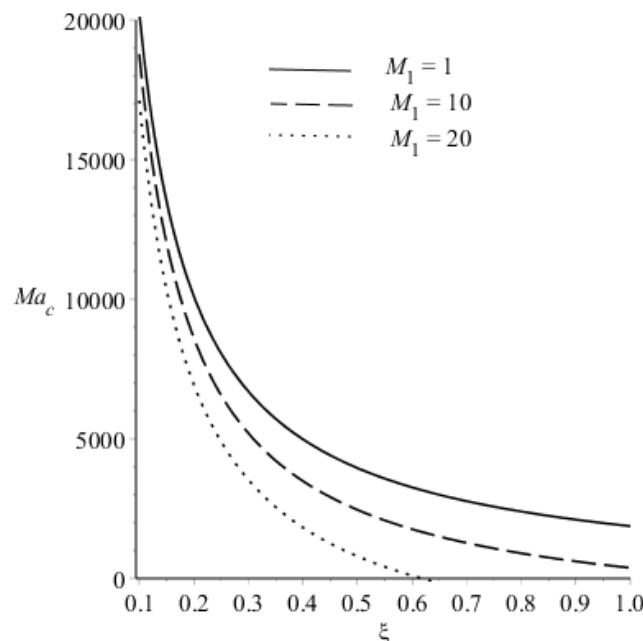
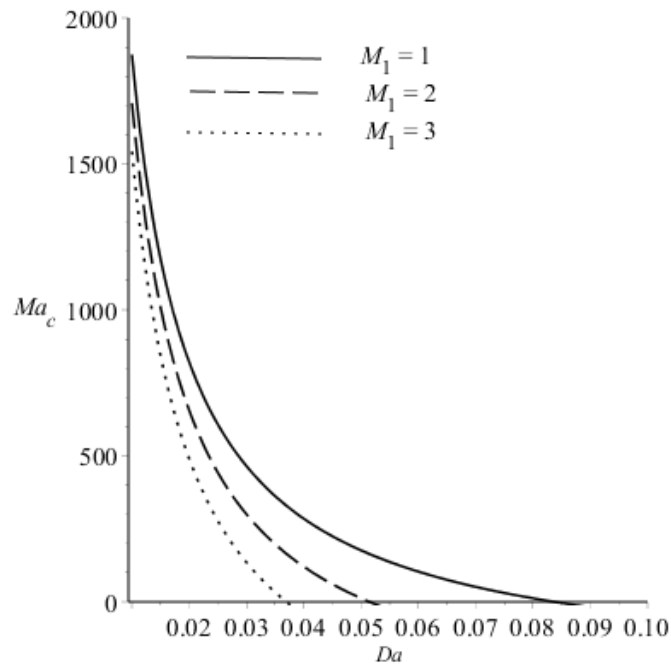


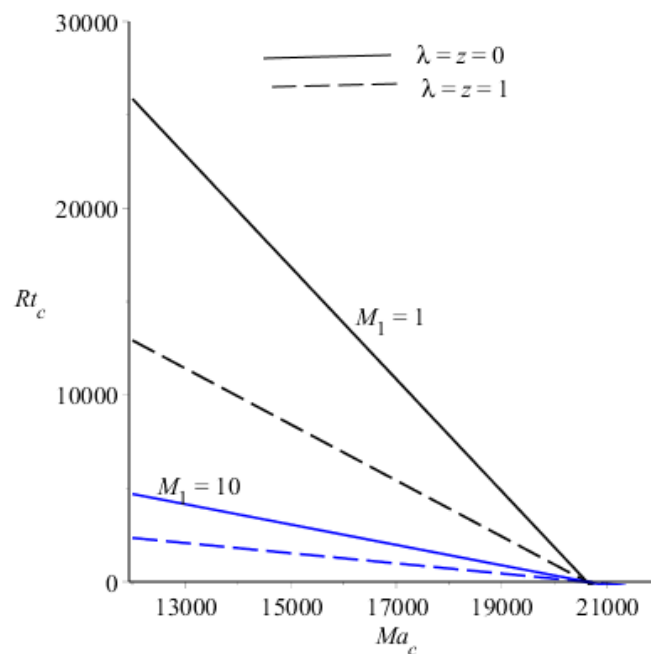
Fig. 6. Impact of  $M_1$  on  $Ma_c$  against  $\xi$

The impact of  $M_1$  on  $Da$  is demonstrated in Figure 7. Other parameters are set  $Rt = 1000, \lambda = 0, \eta = 1$  and  $\xi = 0.1$ . As reported previously in Figure 3, the escalation of  $M_1$  will destabilize the system. This figure also shows the behaviour of  $Da$  on  $Ma_c$ . It can be seen clearly that the increasing of  $Da$  causes the decline of  $Ma_c$  values. It indicates that the increasing of  $Da$  will promote the convection. The same result also reported in Nanjundappa and Vijay Kumar [37].



**Fig. 7.** Impact of  $M_1$  on  $Ma_c$  against  $Da$

Figure 8 shows the response of  $M_1$  on  $Rt_c$  against  $Ma_c$  for different value of  $\lambda$  at  $M_1 = 1, \eta = 1, \xi = 0.1$  and  $Da = 0.001$ . From the graph, it can be seen clearly that the increasing of  $M_1$  and  $Ma_c$  will lead to compress of  $Rt_c$ .  $M_1$  value will be merged into a fixed value of  $Ma$  which is in this study the value is recorded at  $Ma_c = 20606.3854$ . This situation happens to all  $M_1$  considered and when  $Rt = 0$  shows that the  $Rt$  did not affect the convection process Nanjundappa *et al.*, [36].



**Fig. 8.** Impact of  $M_1$  on  $Rt_c$  against  $Ma_c$

#### 4. Conclusions

The theoretical investigation into the effects of variable gravity on the onset of Marangoni-Benard convection in an anisotropic ferrofluid layer system was conducted. We can conclude that the increasing values of  $M_1$ ,  $Da$  and  $\xi$  will enhance the convection of a ferrofluid layer system while the increasing of  $\eta$  will help to stabilize the system. For the variable gravity, decreasing gravity parameter are found to help in delaying the convection contrast with increasing gravity parameter that promotes the convection.

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