

Abstract

The problems of free convective heat and mass transfer flow of viscous fluids are important because of their applications in several fields, such as, aeronautics, fluid nuclear reactors, industrial chemical processes and other engineering areas.

Exact formulation of a convective heat and mass transfer problem requires using the boundary conditions on the solid wall. Most of the papers published in the literature refer to the velocity on the solid boundary. Because of the mathematical challenge, and of the correspondence with practical engineering, problems with given boundary shear stress, are more interesting.

Two such new problems have been solved in this thesis.

First, it was solved the problem of the free convection flow with heat transfer under influence of the magnetic field, heat source and heat radiation. The influence of the thermal diffusivity and radiation effects into Rosseland approximation was studied by means of a unique parameter, defined as a combination between Prandtl number and the radiation parameter. By considering the boundary shear stress and the wall temperature as arbitrary functions of the time variable t , a set of problems with theoretical and practical significance can be studied.

The second problem is referring at the magneto-hydrodynamic natural convection flows with heat source and chemical reaction. The shear stress on the wall is considered as an arbitrary function of the time t , the plate temperature is a ramped sine function, and the solute concentration is constant on the plate. The fluid flows in a porous half-space. It is found that in such type of problems, the magnetic and porous effects can be analyzed by means of a unique parameter defined as a combination between the Hartmann magnetic number and the porosity parameter.

One year ago, it was elaborated a consistent theory of size-dependent couple-stress fluids. Theoretical and experimental results based on the new model have shown that the behavior of some fluids with complex rheology, such as blood, lubricating greases, polymeric solutions is described much better by the couple-stress fluids. Given the importance of practical domains in which the couple-stress fluids can be used, the study of these models becomes imperative. The complexity of the mathematical model of the couple-stress fluids makes the problems based on this model to be interesting and attractive.