Non-Newtonian Power-Law Fluid Flow and Heat Transfer over a Non-Linearly Stretching Surface

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ABSTRACT

The problem of magneto-hydrodynamic flow and heat transfer of an electrically conducting non-Newtonian power-law fluid past a non-linearly stretching surface in the presence of a transverse magnetic field is considered. The stretching velocity, the temperature and the transverse magnetic field are assumed to vary in a power-law with the distance from the origin. The flow is induced due to an infinite elastic sheet which is stretched in its own plane. The governing equations are reduced to non-linear ordinary differential equations by means of similarity transformations. These equations are then solved numerically by an implicit finite-difference scheme known as Keller-Box method. The numerical solution is found to be dependent on several governing parameters, including the magnetic field parameter, power-law index, velocity exponent parameter, temperature exponent parameter, Modified Prandtl number and heat source/sink parameter. A systematic study is carried out to illustrate the effects of these parameters on the fluid velocity and the temperature distribution in the boundary layer. The results for the local skin-friction coefficient and the local Nusselt number are tabulated and discussed. The results obtained reveal many interesting behaviors that warrant further study on the equations related to non-Newtonian fluid phenomena.

Keywords: Boundary Layer Flow; Magneto-Hydrodynamic Flow; Power-Law Fluid; Stretching Sheet; Modified Prandtl Number; Heat Source/Sink Parameter

1. Introduction

During the past four decades the study of non-Newtonian fluids has gained interest because of their numerous technological applications, including manufacturing of plastic sheets, performance of lubricants, and movement of biological fluids. In particular, the flow of an incompressible non-Newtonian fluid over a stretching sheet has several industrial applications in, for example, extrusion of a polymer sheet from a dye or in the drawing of plastic films. In view of their differences with Newtonian fluids, several models of non-Newtonian fluids have been proposed. Amongst these the simplest and the most common model is the power-law fluid, which has received special attraction from the researchers in the field. The rheological equation of the state for the power-law fluid, which is the relationship between the stress components $\tau_{ij}$ and strain components $e_{ij}$ as proposed by [1], reads:

$$\tau_{ij} = -p \delta_{ij} + K \left[ \sum_{m=1}^{3} \sum_{n=1}^{3} e_{im} e_{jn} \right]^{n-1} e_{ij}$$

where $p$ is the pressure, $\delta_{ij}$ is the Kronecker delta and $K$ and $n$ are the consistency coefficient and the power-law index of the fluid, respectively. When $n > 1$, the fluid is said to be dilatant or shear thickening; for $n < 1$, the fluid is called shear thinning or pseudo plastic and for $n = 1$ the fluid is simply the Newtonian fluid. Several studies in the literature suggest the range $0 < n \leq 2$ for the power-law index $n$. Since the pioneering work of [2] various aspects of the stretching sheet problem involving Newtonian/non-Newtonian fluids have been extensively studied by several authors. Some recent papers in this direction may be found in the references ([3-5]). These research works do not however consider the situation where hydromagnetic effects arise. The study of hydrodynamic flow and heat transfer over a stretching sheet may find its applications in polymer technology related to the stretching of plastic sheets. Also, many metallurgical processes involve the cooling of continuous strips or filaments by drawing them through a quiescent fluid and while drawing these strips are sometimes stretched. The rate of cooling can be controlled by drawing such strips in an electrically conducting fluid subjected to a magnetic field in order to get the final products of desired characteristics; as such a process
greatly depends on the rate of cooling. In view of this, the study of MHD flow of Newtonian/non-Newtonian flow over a stretching sheet was carried out by many researchers ([6-10]).

All the above mentioned investigators confined their analyses to MHD flow and heat transfer over a linear stretching sheet. However, the intricate flow and heat transfer problem over a non-linearly stretching sheet with the effects of internal heat generation/absorption is yet to be studied. This has applications to several industrial problems such as engineering processes involving nuclear power plants, gas turbines and many others [11-13]). Reference [14] studied viscous flow and heat transfer over a non-linearly stretching sheet.

Motivated by these analyses and practical applications, the main concern of the present paper is to study the effect of variable thermal conductivity on the power-law fluid flow and heat transfer over a non-linearly stretching sheet in the presence of a transverse magnetic field. This extends the work in [14], to the case of MHD non-Newtonian power-law fluid flow and heat transfer by considering the contribution of internal heat generation/absorption. Because of the intricacy, the influence of power-law index parameter, magnetic parameter, non-linear velocity and temperature exponent and heat source/sink parameter make the momentum and energy equations coupled and highly non-linear partial differential equations. To reduce the number of independent variables, these partial differential equations are simplified to coupled non-linear ordinary differential equations by suitable similarity transformations. These equations are in turn solved numerically by an implicit finite-difference scheme known as Keller-box method. Thus, for the solution of highly non-linear boundary value problem, computer simulation is a powerful technique to predict the flow behavior.

2. Mathematical Formulation

In view of the present physical situation we have considered steady laminar two-dimensional boundary layer flow due to a stretching sheet in a quiescent viscous incompressible and electrically conducting fluid obeying power-law model in the presence of a transverse magnetic field $B_0$. The flow is generated as a consequence of non-linear stretching of the boundary sheet, caused by simultaneous application of two equal and opposite forces along $x$-axis, while keeping the origin fixed in the fluid of the ambient temperature $T_e$. The positive $x$-coordinate is measured along the direction of the motion, with the slot at the origin, and the positive $y$-coordinate is measured normal to the surface of the sheet and is positive from the sheet to the fluid. The continuous stretching sheet is assumed to have a non-linear velocity and prescribed temperature of the form $U(x) = bx^n$ and $T_e(x) = T_e + Ax'$ respectively, where $b$ is the stretching constant, $x$ is the distance from the slot; $A$ is a constant whose value depends upon the properties of the fluid. Here, $m$ and $r$ are the velocity and temperature exponents, respectively. It is also assumed that the magnetic Reynolds number $Re_m$ is very small; i.e. $Re_m = \mu_0 \sigma / b \ll 1$, where $\mu_0$ is the magnetic permeability and $\sigma$ is the electric conductivity. We neglect the induced magnetic field, which is small in comparison with the applied magnetic field. Further, the external electrical field is assumed to be zero and the electric field due to polarization of charges is also negligible. Under these assumptions, the basic equations governing the flow and heat transfer in usual notation are:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\sigma B_0}{\rho} u, \quad (2.2)$$

$$u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \frac{\alpha}{\rho c_p} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{Q}{\rho c_p} (T - T_e), \quad (2.3)$$

where $u$ and $v$ are the flow velocity components along the $x$ and $y$-axes respectively, $\nu$ is the kinematic viscosity of the fluid, $n$ is the power-law index, $\rho$ is the fluid density and $c_p$ is the specific heat at constant pressure. The first term in the right hand side of the Equation (2.2), is the shear rate $(\partial u/\partial y)$ has been assumed to be negative throughout the boundary layer since the stream wise velocity component $u$ decreases monotonically with the distance $y$ from the moving surface (for continuous stretching surface). A rigorous derivation and subsequent analysis of the boundary layer equations, for power-law fluids, were recently provided by [15]. They focused on boundary layer flow driven by free stream $U(x) = x^n$ i.e., of Falkner-Skan type. Such boundary layer flows are driven by a stream wise pressure gradient $-\frac{dp}{dx} = \rho \frac{du}{dx}$ set up by the external free stream outside the viscous boundary layer. In the present context no driving pressure gradient is present. Instead the flow is driven solely by the stretching surface, which moves with a prescribed velocity $U(x)$, $T$ is the temperature of the fluid and $\alpha$ is the thermal diffusivity of the fluid. The last term containing $Q_s$ in Equation (2.3) represents the temperature-dependent volumetric rate of heat source when $Q_s > 0$ and heat sink when $Q_s < 0$. These deal with the situation of exothermic and endothermic chemical reactions respectively. Thus the relevant boundary conditions applicable to the flow are:

$$u(x, 0) = U(x), \quad (2.4)$$
\[ \nu(x,0) = 0, \quad T(x,0) = T_{w}(x), \]
\[ u(x,y) \rightarrow 0, T(x,y) \rightarrow T_{w} \text{ as } y \rightarrow \infty \]  

Here, boundary condition (2.7) means that the stream-wise velocity and the temperature vanish outside the boundary layer. Equation (2.6) is the variable prescribed surface temperature at the wall whereas the Equation (2.5) signifies the importance of impermeability of the stretching surface and the Equation (2.4) assures no slip at the surface. In order to obtain the similarity solutions of Equations (2.1)-(2.7), we assume that the variable magnetic field \( B_{0}(x) \) is of the form \( B_{0}(x) = B_{0} x^{(m+1)/2} \). This form of \( B_{0}(x) \) has also been considered by [11-13] in the study of MHD flow problems past moving or fixed flat plate. The momentum and energy equations can be transformed to the corresponding ordinary differential equations by the following transformation ([8])

\[ \eta = \frac{y}{x \text{(Re)}_{1}^{1/2}}, \theta(\eta) = \frac{T - T_{w}}{T_{w} - T_{\infty}}, \]
\[ \psi(x,y) = U x \left( \text{Re}_{1}^{-1} f(\eta) \right), \]

where \( \eta \) is the similarity variable, \( \psi(x,y) \) is the stream function \( f \) and \( \theta \) are the dimensionless similarity function and temperature, respectively. The velocity components \( u \) and \( v \) are given by

\[ u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y}, \quad v = - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \]  

The local Reynolds number is defined by

\[ \text{Re}_{x} = \frac{U^{2} x^{a}}{\nu} \]  

The mass conservation Equation (2.1) is automatically satisfied by Equation (2.9). By assuming the similarity function \( f(\eta) \) to depend on the similarity variable \( \eta \), the momentum Equation (2.2) and the heat Equation (2.3) transform into the coupled non-linear ordinary differential equations of the form

\[ n(-f')^{n-1} f'' - m f'^{2} + \left( 2mn - m + 1 \right) \frac{n+1}{n} f f' - Mn f' = 0, \]  
\[ \theta'' + Npr \left( \frac{2mn - m + 1}{n+1} \right) f \theta' + Npr \left( \beta \theta - rf \theta' \right) = 0 \]  

The boundary conditions (2.4)-(2.7) now become

\[ f(\eta) = 0, \quad f'(\eta) = 1, \quad \theta(\eta) = 1, \quad \text{at } \eta = 0 \]
\[ f'(\eta) \rightarrow 0, \quad \theta(\eta) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \eta \rightarrow \infty \]  

where \( Mn = \sigma B_{0}^{2} / \rho b \) is the magnetic parameter, \( Npr = Npe / \left( \text{Re}_{1}^{2} \right) \) is the modified Prandtl number for power-law fluids, \( Npe = c_{p} \rho U x / k \) is the convectional Peclet number ([16] and [17]), \( \beta = Q_{s} / \rho c_{p} b \) is the heat source/sink parameter. Here, primes and subscript \( \eta \) denote the differentiation with respect to \( \eta \). Equations (2.11) and (2.12) are solved numerically subject to the boundary conditions (2.13).

We notice that in the case of linear stretching \( (m = 1) \) and in the absence of magnetic parameter, Equations (2.11) and (2.12) reduce to those of [18], while in the case of linear stretching \( (m = 1) \) and in the absence of heat source/sink, Equations (2.11) and (2.12) reduce to those of [19] and in the presence of magnetic field parameter these equations reduce to those of [8] and [10]. Further, for linear stretching \( (m = 1) \) the analytical solution of the Equations (2.11) and (2.12) with the corresponding boundary conditions (2.13) is obtained for Newtonian fluid \( (n = 1) \). This agrees well with the results of [3] and [20]. It should be noted that the velocity \( U = U(x) \) is used to define the dimensionless stream function \( f \) in the Equation (2.11). The local Reynolds number in Equation (2.10) describes the velocity of the moving surface that drives the flow. This choice contrasts with the conventional boundary layer analysis, in which the free stream velocity is taken as the velocity scale. Although the transformation defined in Equation (2.8) and (2.10) can be used for arbitrary variation of \( U(x) \), the transformation results in a true similarity problem only if \( U \) varies as \( bx^{a} \). Such surface velocity variations are therefore required for the ordinary differential Equation (2.11) to be valid.

The physical quantities of interest are the skin-friction coefficient \( C_{f} \) and the local Nusselt number \( Nu_{w} \), which are defined as

\[ C_{f} = \frac{2\tau_{w}}{\rho U_{x}^{2}}, \quad Nu_{w} = \frac{x q_{w}}{k(T_{w} - T_{x})} \]  

respectively, where the wall shear stress \( \tau_{w} \) and heat transfer from the sheet \( q_{w} \) are given by

\[ \tau_{w} = \mu_{0} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)_{x=0, y=0}, \quad q_{w} = - k \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)_{x=0, y=0} \]  

with \( \mu_{0} \) and \( k \) being the dynamic viscosity and thermal conductivity, respectively. Using the non-dimensional variables (2.7), we obtain

\[ C_{f} = \left[ - \frac{2 \tau_{xy}}{(\rho bx)^{2}} \right]_{y=0} = 2 \left[ - f'(0) \right]^{2} \left( \text{Re}_{x} \right)^{2} \]
\[ Nu_x = -\left[ Re_x \right]^{\frac{1}{n+1}} \theta'(0). \] (2.16)

where \( r_{xy} \) is the shear stress and \( Re_x \) is the local Reynolds number.

3. Numerical Procedure

The system of transformed governing non-linear coupled differential Equations (2.11) and (2.12) with the boundary conditions (2.13) is solved numerically using the finite-difference scheme known as Keller-Box scheme as described in [21] and [22]. This method is unconditionally stable and has second-order accuracy with arbitrary spacing. The transformed differential equations and the boundary conditions are first written as a first-order system, which are then converted to a set of finite-difference equations using central differences. Then the non-linear algebraic equations are linearised by Newton’s method and the resulting system of linear equations is then solved by block tri-diagonal elimination technique. For all values of velocity exponent parameter \( m \) and the magnetic parameter \( Mn \), the velocity exponent parameter \( m \) and the temperature exponent parameter \( r \), the modified Prandtl number \( Npr \) and the heat source/sink parameter \( \beta \) on the flow and heat transfer are shown graphically in the Figures 1-5.

4. Results and Discussion

The effect of variable thermal conductivity on the MHD boundary layer flow and heat transfer in an electrically conducting power-law fluid over a non-linearly stretching sheet in the presence of heat source/sink parameter is investigated numerically. Numerical computation of the problem is obtained by Keller-Box method. To assess the accuracy of the computed values, the results for skin friction are compared with the values obtained by [8] for different values of power law index and the magnetic parameter for a linearly stretching sheet, \( i.e. \ m = 1 \). It is observed that our results are in good agreement with the results obtained by the previous investigators as seen from the tabulated results in Table 1 for a viscous fluid. It is found from this table that the magnitude of \( f'(0) \) decreases when the power law index \( n \) increases. Similarly, by varying \( Mn \) an excellent agreement is noted between present results and [8]. The effects of various non-dimensional parameters namely, the power- law index \( n \), the magnetic parameter \( Mn \), the velocity exponent parameter \( m \) and the temperature exponent parameter \( r \), the modified Prandtl number \( Npr \) and the heat source/sink parameter \( \beta \) on the flow and heat transfer are shown graphically in the Figures 1-5.

Table 1. Comparison of some of the values of skin-friction coefficient obtained by [13] with the present results for \( m = 1 \) for different values of \( n \) and \( Mn \).

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values is to decelerate the velocity and hence reduces the momentum boundary layer thickness. This trend is notified for all types of fluids considered here namely, shear thinning (Figure 1(a)), Newtonian (Figure 1(b)) and shear thickening fluids (Figure 1(c)). Further it is observed from these Figures (1(a)-(c)) that the horizontal velocity profiles $f'$ decrease with increasing values of power-law index $n$. The effect of increasing values of the power-law index parameter $n$ is to reduce the horizontal velocity and thereby reducing boundary layer thickness i.e., the thickness is much large for shear thinning fluids $(0 < n < 1)$ than that of Newtonian $(n = 1)$ and shear thickening fluids $(1 < n < 2)$ as clearly seen in Figures 1(a)-(c).

The graphs for the temperature profiles $\theta(\eta)$ with $\eta$ for shear thinning, Newtonian and shear thickening fluids for different values of non-dimensional parameters governing the mathematical model, are shown graphically in Figures 2-5.

Figures 2(a)-(c) show respectively, the shear thinning, Newtonian and shear thickening fluids on the temperature profiles $\theta(\eta)$ with $\eta$ for different values of velocity exponent parameter $m$ in the presence/absence of magnetic parameter $Mn$. The effect of increasing values of velocity exponent parameter $m$ is to decrease the temperature profile; however the effect is less in comparison to its effects over the flow. The graphs for the temperature profiles for different values of temperature exponent parameter $r$ and velocity exponent parameter $m$ are plotted in Figures 3(a)-(c) for shear thinning, Newtonian and shear thickening fluids, respectively. From these figures we examine that the increase in the temperature exponent parameter $r$ leads to decrease the temperature profiles. Physically, when $r > 0$ temperature flows from the stretching sheet into the ambient medium, when $r < 0$ the wall temperature gradient positive and the temperature flows into the stretching sheet from the ambient medium and when $r = 0$ the thermal boundary conditions becomes isothermal. Figures 4(a)-(c) respectively, represents the temperature $\theta(\eta)$ with the space variable $\eta$ for several sets of values of the modified Prandtl number $Npr$ in the absence/presence of magnetic parameter $Mn$ for the shear thinning (Figure 4(a)), Newtonian (Figure 4(b)) and shear thickening (Figure 4(c)). From these figures we scrutinize that the effect of an increase in the modified Prandtl number $Npr$ is to decrease the temperature $\theta(\eta)$ in the thermal boundary layer. This is because
Figure 2. Temperature profiles for different values of stretching parameter \((m)\) and magnetic parameter \((Mn)\) with \(Npr = 1.0, r = 0.0\) and \(\beta = 0.0\) when (a) \(n = 0.8\), (b) \(n = 1.0\) and (c) \(n = 1.2\).

Figure 3. Temperature profiles for different values of stretching parameter \((m)\) and wall temperature parameter \((r)\) with \(Npr = 1.0, Mn = 0.0\) and \(\beta = 0.0\) when (a) \(n = 0.8\), (b) \(n = 1.0\) and (c) \(n = 1.2\).
Figure 4. Temperature profiles for different values of stretching parameter \((m)\) and wall temperature parameter \((r)\) with \(N_{pr} = 1.0, M_n = 1.0\) and \(\beta = 0.0\) when (a) \(n = 0.8\), (b) \(n = 1.0\) and (c) \(n = 1.2\).

Figure 5. Temperature profiles for different values of Prandtl number \((N_{pr})\) and magnetic parameter \((M_n)\) with \(r = -1.0, m = 0.3\) and \(\beta = 0.0\) when (a) \(n = 0.8\), (b) \(n = 1.0\) and (c) \(n = 1.2\).
of the fact that the thermal boundary layer thickness decreases with an increase in the modified Prandtl number. This phenomenon is true even for zero/non-zero values of magnetic parameter \( Mn \). The effect of increasing values of the magnetic parameter \( Mn \) is to increase the temperature profile in the presence of velocity exponent parameter. The effect of internal heat source/sink parameter \( \beta \) on the temperature profile \( \theta(\eta) \) with the space variable \( \eta \) for increasing values of power-law index namely, shear thinning, Newtonian and shear thickening fluids respectively are shown graphically in Figures 5(a)-(c). From these graphs we analyzed that the temperature distribution is lower throughout the boundary layer for negative values of \( \beta \) (heat sink) and higher for positive values of \( \beta \) (heat source) as compared with the temperature profile in absence of heat source/sink parameter i.e. \( \beta = 0 \). Physically, \( \beta > 0 \) implies \( T_\infty > T_s \) i.e. there will be a supply of heat to the flow region from the wall. Similarly \( \beta < 0 \) implies \( T_\infty < T_s \) and there will be a transfer of heat from the flow to the wall. The effect of increasing the value of heat source/sink parameter \( \beta \) is to increase the temperature profile \( \theta(\eta) \) and this is even true for shear thinning, Newtonian and shear thickening fluids.

The values of \( -f'(0) \), which signifies the local skin-friction \( C_f \), are recorded in Table 1 for different values of the power-law index \( n \), the velocity exponent parameter \( m \) and the magnetic parameter \( Mn \). From Table 2, we observe that \( -f'(0) \) increases monotonically with increase in the magnetic field parameter \( Mn \) for various values of \( n \). It is interesting to note that the magnitude of wall surface gradient decreases gradually with increasing power-law index for a fixed value of magnetic parameter \( Mn \). The effect of power-law index on \( -f'(0) \) is significant in shear thinning fluid \( (n < 1) \) than shear thickening fluid \( (n > 1) \). The effect of increasing the values of velocity exponent parameter \( m \) is to increase the magnitude of wall surface gradient and decreases with increasing the values of power-law index. This behavior is even true in the presence/absence of magnetic parameter. The heat transfer phenomenon is usually analyzed from the numerical value of the physical parameter, namely, wall temperature gradient \( -\theta'(0) \) which in turn helps in the computation of the local Nusselt number \( Nu \). Numerical results for wall temperature gradient for various values of temperature exponent \( r \) for different non-dimensional physical parameters \( n, m, Mn, Npr, \beta \) are recorded in Table 3. It is observed that the effect of increasing the values of power-law index \( n \) is to increase the wall temperature gradient whereas reverse trend is seen with magnetic field parameter \( Mn \) when \( \beta = 0.0 \). The effect of increasing values of the temperature exponent parameter \( r \) and the velocity exponent parameter \( m \) is to decrease the wall temperature gradient \( -\theta'(0) \). This result has significance in industrial applications to reduce expenditure on power supply in stretching the sheet just by increasing the magnetic field parameter \( Mn \). Further, it is analyzed from Table 2 that the effect of modified Prandtl number \( Npr \) is to decrease the wall temperature gradient. In addition, the effect of increasing values of heat source/sink parameter \( \beta \) is to decrease the wall temperature gradient. All results obtained here are consistent with the physical situations.

### 5. Conclusions

The problem of magneto-hydrodynamic flow and heat transfer of an electrically conducting non-Newtonian power-law fluid past a non-linearly stretching sheet is studied theoretically. The governing partial differential equations are transformed into ordinary differential equations by using an appropriate similarity transformation and the resulting boundary value problem is solved numerically by a second order finite difference scheme. The effects of various governing parameters such as the power-law index \( n \), the magnetic parameter \( Mn \), the velocity exponent parameter \( m \) and the temperature exponent parameter \( r \), the modified Prandtl number \( Npr \) and the heat source/sink parameter \( \beta \) on the flow and heat transfer characteristics were examined. The numerical result for the skin friction is in good

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agreement with earlier studies. Numerical results for the skin-friction coefficient, the local Nusselt number, the velocity and the temperature profiles are presented in graphs for several sets of values of the pertinent parameters. The following conclusions are drawn from the computed numerical values:

- The power-law index $n$ is to increase the momentum boundary layer thickness and is to decrease the thermal boundary layer thickness for increasing values of power-law index namely, shear thinning, Newtonian and shear thickening fluids.
- The effects of increasing values of velocity exponent parameter $m$ is to reduce the horizontal velocity and thereby reducing the momentum boundary layer thickness.
- The increasing value of magnetic parameter $Mn$ results in flattering the horizontal velocity profiles and increase the temperature profile.
- The increasing value of temperature exponent parameter $r$ is to decrease the temperature profile.
- The effect of modified Prandtl number $N_{pr}$ is to decrease the thermal boundary layer thickness and the wall temperature gradient.

The internal heat source/sink parameter $\beta$ increases

**Table 3. Numerical values of wall temperature gradient for different values of the physical parameters.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\beta$</th>
<th>$N_{pr}$</th>
<th>$Mn$</th>
<th>$m/r$</th>
<th>$n = 0.8$</th>
<th>$n = 1.0$</th>
<th>$n = 1.2$</th>
<th>$n = 0.8$</th>
<th>$n = 1.0$</th>
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<th>$n = 1.0$</th>
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<td>-0.3</td>
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</table>

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the temperature profile.

REFERENCES


Nomenclature

\( A \) constant

\( B_0 \) uniform magnetic field

\( b \) stretching rate, positive constant

\( C_f \) skin-friction

\( e_{ij} \) strain tensor

\( f \) dimensionless stream function

\( h(x) \) heat transfer coefficient

\( k \) thermal conductivity

\( K \) consistency coefficient

\( m \) velocity exponent parameter

\( Mn \) magnetic parameter

\( n \) power-law index

\( N_{U_s} \) Nusselt number

\( N_{Pr} \) modified Prandtl number

\( N_{Pe_s} \) Peclet number

\( q_{w} \) local heat flux at the sheet

\( p \) pressure

\( \text{Re}_x \) local Reynolds number

\( r \) temperature exponent parameter

\( T \) fluid temperature

\( T_w(x) \) temperature of the stretching sheet

\( T_a \) ambient temperature

\( u \) velocity in x direction

\( U(x) \) velocity of the stretching sheet

\( v \) velocity in y-direction

\( x \) horizontal distance

\( y \) vertical distance

\( Q_s \) temperature-dependent volumetric rate of heat source

\( c_p \) specific heat at constant pressure

**Greek Symbols**

\( \alpha \) thermal diffusivity

\( \beta \) heat source/sink parameter

\( \nu \) kinematic viscosity

\( \eta \) similarity variable

\( \delta_{ij} \) Kronecker delta

\( \mu_0 \) magnetic permeability

\( \psi \) Stream function

\( \rho \) density

\( \sigma \) electrical conductivity

\( \tau_{xy} \) shear stress

\( \theta \) dimensionless temperature

**Subscripts**

\( w \) condition at the stretching sheet

\( \infty \) condition at infinity

**Superscript**

\( ' \) differentiation with respect to \( \eta \)