

# A Numerical Analysis Of Molten Metal And Nano Fluid Flow Through A Rectangular Three-Dimensional Geometry With A Free Surface

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**Abstract:** In the present study the molten hot metal at the fluid state as well as nano fluid of CuO-water combination respectively have been transported through a 3-D rectangular open channel that has to be explored numerically. The governing Lamina Navier-Stokes equation as well as nano fluid flow equations have been solved along with the solution of the energy equation respectively. The detail heat transfer analysis along with the determination of the pressure and velocity field as well as heat transfer coefficient and friction factor etc. will be the major investigations. The pressure and velocity distributions along the radial directions at different axial locations will be furnished to visualize the velocity field

**Keywords:** 3-d rectangular geometry, Centre line velocity, Velocity field, Bulk fluid temperature, Nusselt Number and CuO- water nano fluid.

Date of Submission: 26-12-2024

Date of Acceptance: 06-01-2025

## NOMENCLATURE

$Re$	Reynolds number
$Nu$	Nusselt number
$Pr$	Prandtl number
$U$	Velocity (m/s)
$P$	Pressure (Pa)
$K$	Thermal conductivity(J/m.K)
$C_p$	Specific heat (J/kg.K)
$T_w$	Temperature at wall(K)
$T_\infty$	Temperature of fluid(K)
$h$	Heat transfer coefficient(J/K. m <sup>2</sup> )

## Greek Symbols

$\mu$	Coefficient of viscosity(Pa-s)
$\sigma$	Shear Stress(N/m <sup>2</sup> )
$\rho$	Density of fluid(kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
$\delta$	Velocity boundary thickness(m)
$\delta_t$	Thermal boundary thickness(m)
$\alpha$	Thermal diffusivity W/(m.K)

## Subscripts

$p$	Pressure
$w$	wall
$t$	thermal
$\infty$	fluid

## I. INTRODUCTION

The fluid molten metal and nano fluid flow is very important in research and industrial activities. Inman [1] analysed the molten metal flow and heat transfer in a rectangular geometry in the sixties. There are lot of research work [2]–[19] considering rectangular geometry with laminar and turbulent flows. The nanofluid flow and heat transfer analysis in rectangular geometry have also been done by several researchers [21]–[22]. In the present work, molten metal (liquid iron) as well as nano fluid (CuO-water) as a Newtonian fluid, so the Newton's law of viscosity is applicable to these categories of fluid, which makes the problem easier and amenable within the laminar regime in spite of three-dimensional complications. However a numerical

experimentation of 3-D geometry requires a huge platform of computer peripherals, which is not always possible to get. Hence the present study is an honest endeavor to cater a complex flow with the aid of limited resource of computational strength.

The objectives of the present work are:

1. Analysis of the molten metal and nano fluid flow numerically considering steady, laminar and incompressible flow in a 3-D geometry.
2. To investigate the variation of the bulk fluid temperature as well as the Nusselt number along the stream-wise direction.
3. To estimate the pressure, velocity and temperature distributions along the radial as well as axial directions.
4. To estimate the variation of friction factor pertaining to different Reynolds's numbers.
5. Also an effort has been made to find the variation of heat transfer coefficient along the stream-wise direction

## II. GOVERNING EQUATIONS AND SOLUTION METHODOLOGY

### problem description

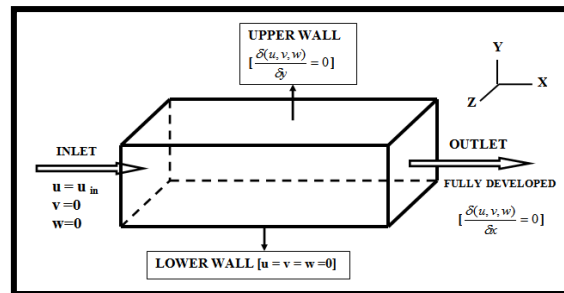


Fig. 1, The geometry of the problem

### 2.1 Mathematical Modelling:

The working fluids are molten metal and nanofluids with different concentrations of CuO nanoparticle including 0.0%, 0.01%, 0.02%, 0.05% and 0.1% volume fractions in distilled water were used to study heat transfer characteristics in laminar flow. The following are relevant equations to govern the physical process.

#### Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{V}) = 0 \quad (1)$$

#### Navier Stokes equation

X-direction:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right] + g_x \quad (2)$$

Y-direction:

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} \right] + g_y \quad (3)$$

Z-direction:

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \right] + g_z \quad (4)$$

#### Energy equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} = \frac{\mu}{\rho C_p} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right] + \frac{\Phi \varphi_v}{\rho C_p} \quad (5)$$

Where the viscous dissipation term is given below,

$$\varphi_v = \left[ 2 \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^2 + 2 \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)^2 + 2 \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)^2 \right]$$

The density of a nanofluid

$$\rho = \rho_{nf} = \varphi \cdot \rho_s + (1 - \varphi) \rho_w$$

Viscosity of the nanofluid

$$\mu_{nf} = \mu_w \cdot (1 + 2.5\varphi)$$

The equation of specific heat of the nanofluid

$$C_{p_{nf}} = \frac{\varphi \cdot (\rho_s \cdot C_{p_s}) + (1 - \varphi) \cdot (\rho_w \cdot C_{p_w})}{\rho_{nf}}$$

Effective thermal conductivity of the nanofluid

$$k_{nf} = \left[ \frac{k_s + 2k_w + 2(k_s - k_w)(1 + \beta)^3 \varphi}{k_s + 2k_w - (k_s - k_w)(1 + \beta)^3 \varphi} \right] k_w$$

Convective heat transfer coefficient

$$\overline{h}_{nf} = \frac{q}{A \cdot (T_w - T_b)_{nf}}$$

Where  $T_b$  is the bulk mean temperature at a cross section.

Nusselt Number of the nanofluid

$$\overline{Nu}_{nf} = \frac{\overline{h}_{nf} \cdot D_h}{k_{nf}}$$

For pure metal,  $\rho = \rho_s, \mu = \mu_s, k = k_s, h = h_s$  etc.

## 2.2 Boundary Conditions:

### INLET

$U = U_{in}, V = W = 0, T = T_{in}$  (At the entrance,  $z=0$ )

### EXIT/OUTLET

$\frac{\partial(u,v,w,T)}{\partial x} = 0$ , Fully developed condition

### WALLS

$U = V = W = 0, q = -k \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$

### FREE SURFACE

$\frac{\partial(u,v,w)}{\partial y} = 0$ , Neumann boundary condition meaning Shear Stress = 0

$T_{free\ surface} = \text{constant temperature or may be constant heat flux}$

The dimensionless forms are interpreted as follows:

$$X = x / D_h; Y = y / D_h; Z = z / D_h; U = u / U_{in}; V = v / U_{in}; W = w / U_{in}; \theta = (T - T_{in}) / (T_w - T_{in}), P = \frac{p}{\rho_f} U_{in}^2$$

$$Re = \frac{U_{in} D_h \rho_f}{\mu_f} \quad Pr = \frac{\mu_f}{\rho_f \alpha_f}$$

## 2.3 SOLUTION METHODOLOGY:

A fully staggered grid system of S. V. Patankar has been adopted for the velocity components and the scalar variables and these equations were discretized using a control volume formulation. The numerical solution in the present work is accomplished by using SIMPLER algorithm and the power-law scheme proposed by Patankar [20].

## NUMERICAL SOLUTION

The numerical solution in the present work is accomplished by using Semi implicit method for pressure linked equation revised (SIMPLER) and the power-law scheme proposed by Patankar.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Grid Independence Study

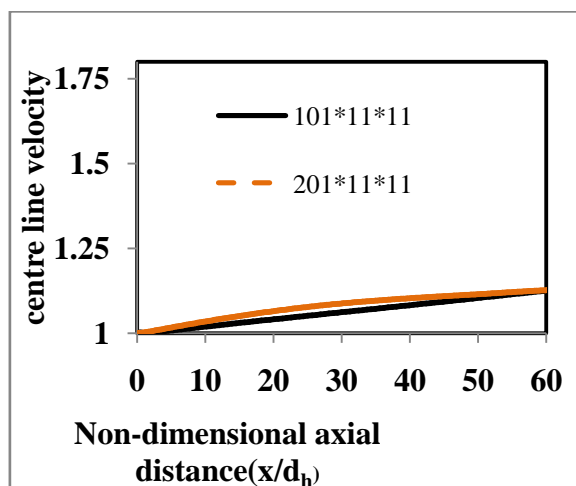


Fig. 2, Grid independent study

In the figure 2 variations of the results are almost negligible for the grid systems of 101X11X11 and 201X11X11. This means the results collapse for these systems. However, to cater a 3-D flow and considering other complexities the higher one is used for the present results. Hence unless otherwise stated the grid system is 201 X 11 X 11.

#### 3.2 CENTRE LINE VELOCITY

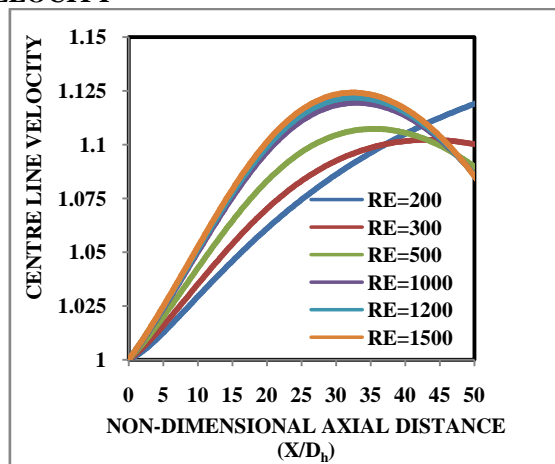


Fig. 3, Variation of centre line velocity

From the graph in fig. 3 it is observed that the centre line velocity is increasing with Reynolds number and the increment is non-linear in the downstream direction. However there is a tendency of drooping for the centre line velocity in the downstream particularly at the exit section. This result indicates that the liquid iron flow is divided in three regimes in which the first zone representing the initial part of the axial flow, where the flow exhibit a linear character so far as centre line velocity is concerned. The exit part has a drooping character very much depicted in the figure. But the intermediate portion is non-linear, clearly showing the three regimes of fluid flow.

### 3.3 PRESSURE VARIATIONS

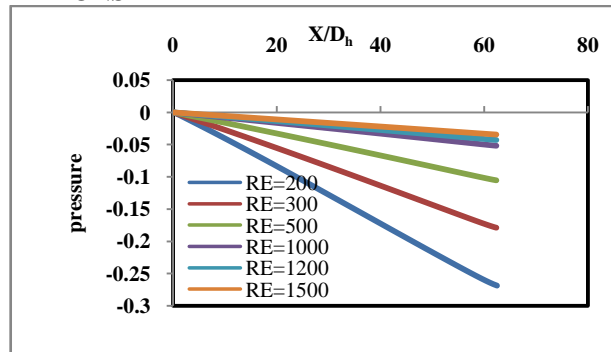


Fig. 4, Pressure variation

The variations of pressure corresponding to different Re have been shown in the fig. 4. Here it is noticed that the slope of pressure drop to be decreasing with respect to the Re.

### 3.4 VELOCITY DIAGRAM

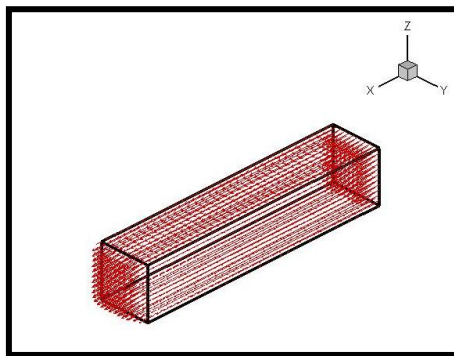


Fig. 5a, velocity vector in 3\_D

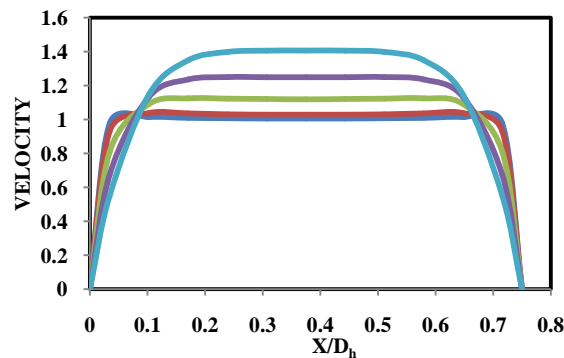


Fig. 5b, Velocity variations at 0%(red), 10% (blue), 25% (light green), 50% (light blue) and 100% (sky blue).

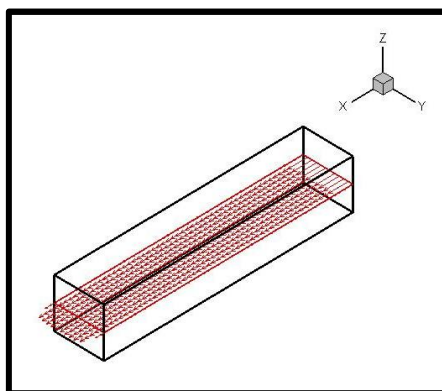


Fig. 5c, Velocity vector in a horizontal plane.

### 3.5 FRICTION FACTOR

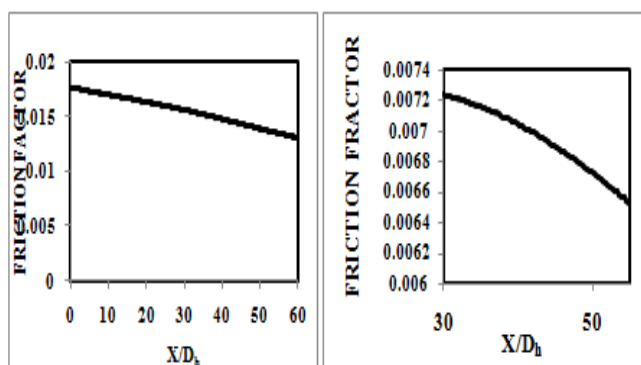


Fig. 6, Friction factor variations

In fig. 6, the friction factor variation has been shown. Though the variation is showing apparently linear but in actual case it is nonlinear which is visible in scale up adjacent figure for non-dimensional position of 30 to 60.

### 3.6 THERMAL ANALYSIS

From the figure it is observed that the Nusselt number is increasing along the axial direction with rise in Reynolds number and this rise is absolutely linear as shown in figures 6 . The same variation i.e. Nu vs. non-dimensional axial length has been observed to be independent of the changes in the heat fluxes in fig. 7.

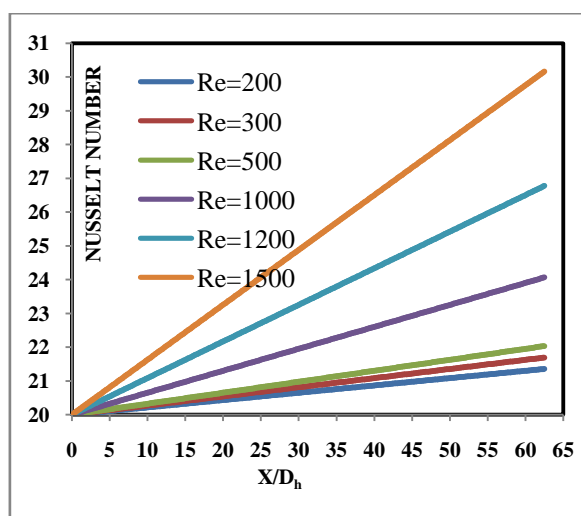


Fig. 6, Nusselt number variation with Re, constant temperature

### 3.7 HEAT TRANSFER COEFFICIENT

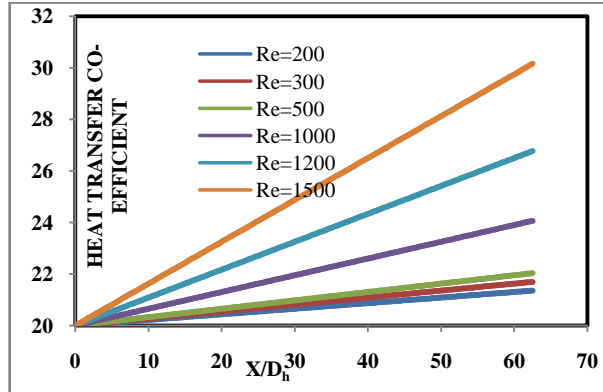


Fig. 7, Variation of Heat transfer coefficient with Re, constant heat flux.

**3.8 TEMPERATURE DIAGRAM**

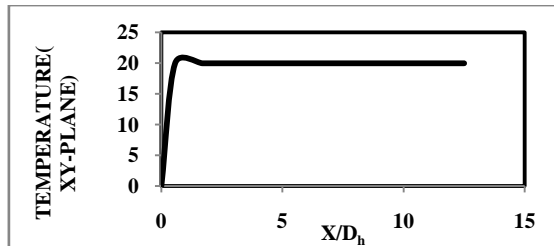


Fig. 8, Temperature variation in middle x-y plane.

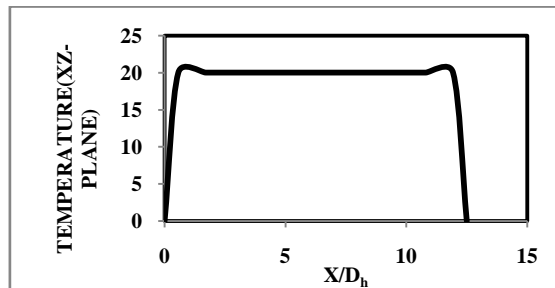


Fig. 9, Temperature in z-plane

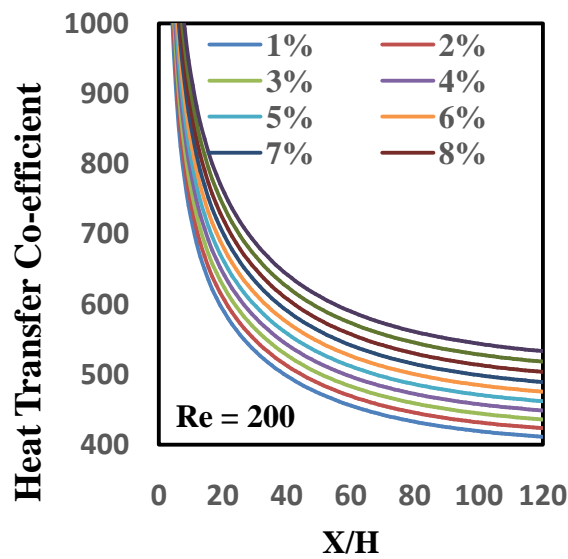


Fig. 10 Heat transfer coefficients for different % of CuO-water

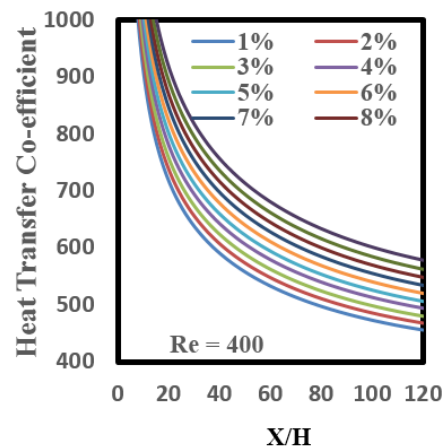


Fig. 11 Heat Transfer co-efficient for different % of CuO-water

Similarly, in figures 8 and 9 it is noticed that the variation of temperature in different plane of the geometry while figures 10 and 11 explain the variation of heat transfer coefficients for Re 200 and 400 respectively. From the figures 10 and 11, indicate that the heat transfer coefficient increases with the increase in percentage of nano particles.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The analysis of fluid flow and heat transfer in a rectangular geometry with free surface has been done effectively. The results show heat transfer mode is very effectively captured with the variation of Reynolds number. The nanofluid flow analysis shows that heat transfer is considerably increased. The molten metal flow is well captured but further study needed.

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