



# Effect of chemical reaction on free convection mhd flow through a porous medium bounded by vertical surface

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## ABSTRACT

Effect of chemical reaction on free convection MHD flow through a porous medium bounded by vertical surface is studied here. The governing equations involved in the present analysis are solved by the two-term perturbation method. The velocity, temperature, concentration, skin friction and Nusselt number are studied for different parameters like thermal Grash of number, mass Grash of number, Schmidt number, magnetic field parameter, Permeability parameter, Prandtl number, Eckert number and chemical reaction parameter.

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## Introduction

Study of MHD flow with heat and mass transfer plays an important role in chemical, mechanical and biological Sciences. Some important applications are cooling of nuclear reactors, liquid metals fluid, power generation system and aero dynamics. The response of laminar skin friction and heat transfer to fluctuations in the stream velocity was studied by Lighthill [5]. Free convection effects on the oscillating flow past an infinite vertical porous plate with constant suction - I, was studied by Soundalgekar [15] which was further improved by Vajravelu et al. [17].

Further researches in these areas were done by Gupta et al. [1], Jaiswal et al. [3] and Soundalgekar et al. [16] by taking different models. Some effects like radiation and mass transfer on MHD flow were studied by Muthucumaraswamy et al. [7, 8] and Prasad et al. [9].

Radiation effects on mixed convection along a vertical plate with uniform surface temperature were studied by Hossain and Takhar [2].

Mass transfer effects on the flow past an exponentially accelerated vertical plate with constant heat flux was studied by Jha, Prasad and Rai [4].

Earlier we have studied some MHD flow models [10, 11, 12] and [13] considering variable temperature along with mass diffusion [11] and rotation effects [12].

Radiation and free convection flow past a moving plate was considered by Raptis and Perdakis [14].

In this paper, we are considering the rotation and chemical reaction effects on MHD flow past an impulsively started vertical plate with variable mass diffusion.

We are considering effect of chemical reaction on free convection MHD flow through a porous medium bounded by vertical surface.

The results are shown with the help of graphs (Fig-1 to Fig-13) and table-1.

## Mathematical Analysis:

We consider a steady flow of an incompressible viscous fluid through a porous medium occupying a semi-infinite region

of the space bounded by a vertical infinite surface in the presence of an imposed uniform magnetic field  $B_0$ , normal to the plate. The  $y'$  axis is taken along the surface in an upward direction. The fluid properties are assumed to be constant except for the density in the body force term.

A chemically reactive species is emitted from the vertical surface into a hydrodynamic flow field. It diffuses into the fluid, where it undergoes a homogeneous chemical reaction.

The reaction is assumed to take place entirely in the stream. Under the above assumptions, the flow is governed by the following set of equations:

$$\frac{\partial v'}{\partial y'} = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$v' \frac{\partial u'}{\partial y'} = g\beta(T' - T'_\infty) + g\beta^*(C' - C'_\infty) + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial y'^2} - \frac{\sigma B_0^2 u'}{\rho} - \frac{\nu u'}{K_p}, \quad (2)$$

$$v' \frac{\partial T'}{\partial y'} = \frac{\alpha}{\rho C_p} \frac{\partial^2 T'}{\partial y'^2} + \frac{\nu}{C_p} \left( \frac{\partial u'}{\partial y'} \right)^2, \quad (3)$$

$$v' \frac{\partial C'}{\partial y'} = D \frac{\partial^2 C'}{\partial y'^2} - K_c (C' - C'_\infty). \quad (4)$$

Equation (1) gives:

$$v' = -v_0, \quad (5)$$

where  $v_0 > 0$  and  $v'$  is the steady normal velocity of suction on the surface.

The boundary conditions are as follows:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u' = 0, \quad T' = T'_w, \quad C' = C'_w \quad \text{at } y' = 0; \\ u' \rightarrow 0, \quad T' \rightarrow T'_\infty, \quad C' \rightarrow C'_\infty \quad \text{as } y' \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \right\} (6)$$

Using (7), equations (1)-(4) reduce to:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - \left( M + \frac{1}{K} \right) u = -G_r \theta - G_m C, \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial y^2} + P_r \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} = -P_r E \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^2, \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial y^2} + S_c \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} - S_c k_0 C = 0. \quad (10)$$

Also, the boundary condition (6) reduces to:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u = 0, \theta = 1, C = 1 \text{ at } y = 0; \\ u \rightarrow 0, \theta \rightarrow 0, C \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } y \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (11)$$

The dimensionless governing equations (8), (9) and (10), subject to the boundary conditions (11), are solved by the perturbation method. Expanding  $u, \theta$  and  $C$  in the power of the Eckert number  $E$  (assuming that  $E$  is very small). We can write:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= u_0 + Eu_1 + O(E^2), \\ \theta &= \theta_0 + E\theta_1 + O(E^2), \\ C &= C_0 + EC_1 + O(E^2). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Substituting the equation (12) into equations (8)-(10), equating the coefficients at the terms with the same power of  $E$ , and neglecting terms of  $E^2$  and higher orders, we get the following equations:

Zero order;

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_0}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial y} - mu_0 = -G_r \theta_0 - G_m C_0, \quad (13)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \theta_0}{\partial y^2} + P_r \frac{\partial \theta_0}{\partial y} = 0, \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 C_0}{\partial y^2} + S_c \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial y} - S_c k_0 C_0 = 0. \quad (15)$$

First order;

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y} - mu_1 = -G_r \theta_1 - G_m C_1, \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \theta_1}{\partial y^2} + P_r \frac{\partial \theta_1}{\partial y} = -P_r E \left( \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial y} \right)^2, \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 C_1}{\partial y^2} + S_c \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial y} - S_c k_0 C_1 = 0. \quad (18)$$

The corresponding boundary conditions are as follows:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u_0 = 0, u_1 = 0, \theta_0 = 1, \theta_1 = 0, \\ C_0 = 1, C_1 = 0 \text{ at } y = 0; \\ u_0 \rightarrow 0, u_1 \rightarrow 0, \theta_0 \rightarrow 0, \theta_1 \rightarrow 0, \\ C_0 \rightarrow 0, C_1 \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } y \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (19)$$

Solving equations (13)-(18) under the boundary conditions (19) and then using (12), we get the solution, which is as under:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= (G + EA_2) e^{-\lambda y} - G_1 e^{-\mu y} - G_2 e^{-\gamma P_r} \\ &- EG_r \left( A_3 e^{-\gamma P_r} - A_3 e^{-2\lambda y} + A_3 e^{-y(\lambda + P_r)} \right) \\ &+ EG_r \left( A_4 e^{-2\mu y} + A_6 e^{-y(\mu + P_r)} + A_7 e^{-y(\mu + \lambda)} \right) \\ &+ EG_r A_8 e^{-2P_r y}, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= (1 + EA_1) e^{-\gamma P_r} - \frac{P_r EG_2 e^{-2\gamma P_r}}{2} \\ &- \frac{P_r E}{2} \left( A_{10} e^{-2\lambda y} + A_{11} e^{-2\alpha y} \right) \\ &+ 2P_r EG_1 \left( A_{12} e^{-y(\lambda + P_r)} - A_{13} e^{-y(\mu + P_r)} \right) \\ &+ 2P_r EG_1 A_{14} e^{-y(\mu + \lambda)}, \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

$$C = e^{-\mu y}, \quad (22)$$

where

$$\lambda = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4m}}{2}, G = G_1 + G_2, \mu = \frac{S_c + \sqrt{S_c^2 + 4k_0 S_c}}{2},$$

$$G_1 = \frac{G_m}{\mu^2 - \mu - m}, G_2 = \frac{G_r}{P_r^2 - P_r - m}, m = M + \frac{1}{K},$$

$$A_1 = \frac{P_r E}{2} \left[ \frac{A_{10} - A_{11} + 4A_{12}G_1 - 4A_{13}G}{(\mu + \lambda)^2 - P_r(\mu + \lambda)} - G_2^2 \right],$$

$$A_2 = G_r (A_9 - A_3 - A_8 - A_4 + A_5 - A_6 - A_7),$$

$$A_3 = \frac{\lambda G_1^2 P_r}{2(2\lambda - P_r)(4\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - m)},$$

$$A_4 = \frac{\mu G_1^2 P_r}{2(2\mu - P_r)(4\mu^2 - 2\mu - m)},$$

$$A_5 = \frac{2\lambda P_r^2 G G_1}{(\lambda^2 - P_r^2)[(\lambda + P_r)^2 - (\lambda + P_r) - m]},$$

$$A_6 = \frac{2\mu P_r^2 G_2 G_1}{(\mu^2 - P_r^2)[(\mu + P_r)^2 - (\mu + P_r) - m]},$$

$$A_7 = \frac{2\mu A_{14} P_r G_1}{\alpha G_r E [(\mu + \lambda)^2 - (\mu + \lambda) - m]},$$

$$A_8 = \frac{G_2^2 P_r}{2(4P_r^2 - 2P_r - m)}, A_9 = \frac{A_1}{P_r^2 - P_r - m},$$

$$A_{10} = \frac{\lambda G_1^2}{(2\lambda - P_r)}, A_{11} = \frac{\mu G_1^2}{(2\mu - P_r)}, A_{12} = \frac{P_r G}{(\lambda + P_r)},$$

$$A_{13} = \frac{P_r G_2}{(\mu + P_r)} \quad \text{and}$$

$$A_{14} = \frac{\alpha \lambda G G_r E}{(\mu + \lambda)^2 - P_r(\mu + \lambda)}.$$

Skin friction:

The non-dimensional skin friction is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau = \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} &= \mu G_1 + P_r G_2 - \lambda (G + EA_2) \\ &+ EG_r \left[ A_9 G_r - 2A_8 P_r - 2A_3 + \frac{A_5}{\lambda + P_r} \right] \\ &- EG_r \left[ 2\mu A_4 + \frac{A_6}{\lambda + P_r} \right] \\ &+ \frac{2\mu\lambda P_r G G_1 E G_r}{(\mu + \lambda - P_r) [(\mu + \lambda)^2 - (\mu + \lambda) - m]} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Nusselt number:

The non-dimensional Nusselt number is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} Nu = - \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} &= P_r (1 + EA_1) \\ &- PE (\lambda A_{10} + \mu A_{11} + P_r G_2^2 + 2P_r G_1 G_2) \\ &+ 2EP_r G G_2 \left[ P_r + \frac{2\lambda\mu}{\mu + \lambda - P_r} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

**Results and Discussion:**

The velocity profiles for different parameters  $M, G_r, G_m, K, k_0, P_r, S_c$  and  $E$  are shown by figures-1 to 7.

From figure-1, it is clear that the velocity increases when Eckert number  $E$  is increased (keeping other parameters  $M = 2, G_r = 5, G_m = 5, K = 1, k_0 = 1, P_r = 0.71,$

$S_c = 2.01$  constant). Velocity profile for different values of Eckert number  $E$  is shown in figure-2. It shows that the velocity increases with increasing mass Grashof number  $G_m$ , thermal Grashof number  $G_r$  and Prandtl number  $P_r$  (keeping other parameters constant). Similar pattern is observed in figure-1 and figure-3, i.e. the velocity increases when chemical parameter  $k_0$  is increased.

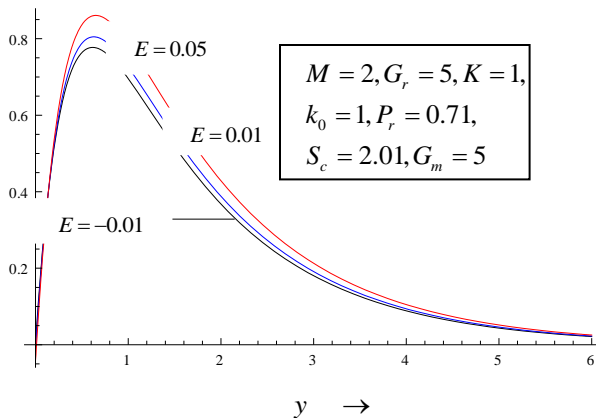


Figure -1: Velocity profile for different Eckert number  $E$

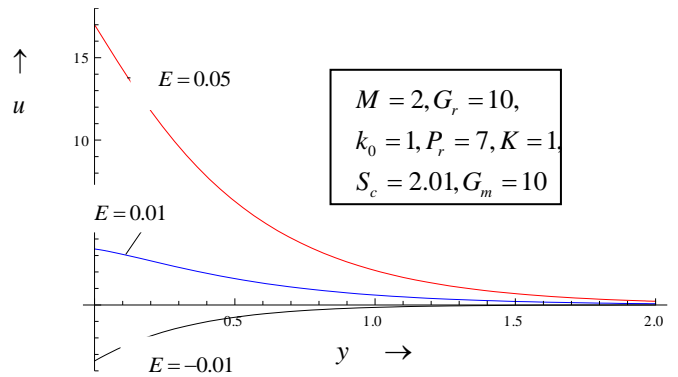


Figure- 2: Velocity profile for different Eckert number  $E$

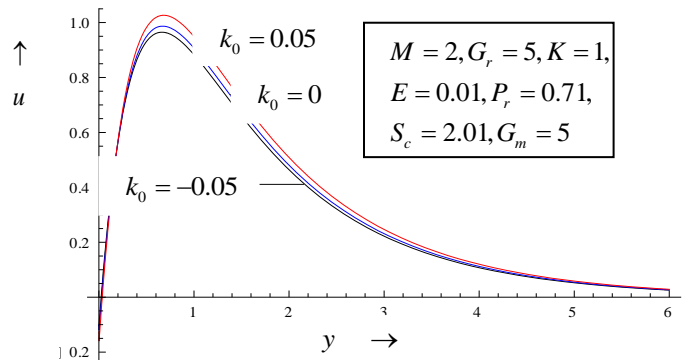


Figure-3: Velocity profile for different chemical parameter  $k_0$

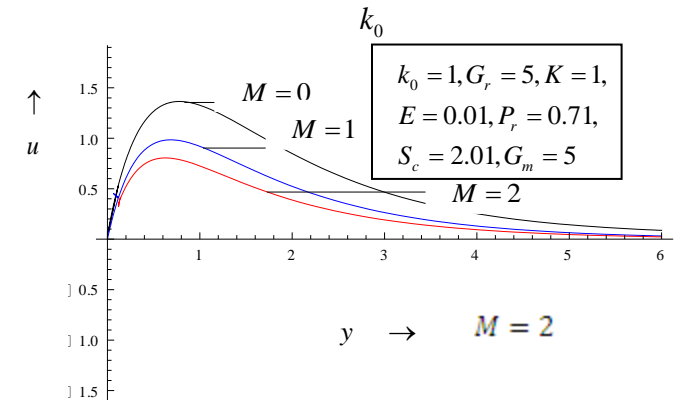


Figure-4: Velocity profile for different magnetic field parameter  $M$

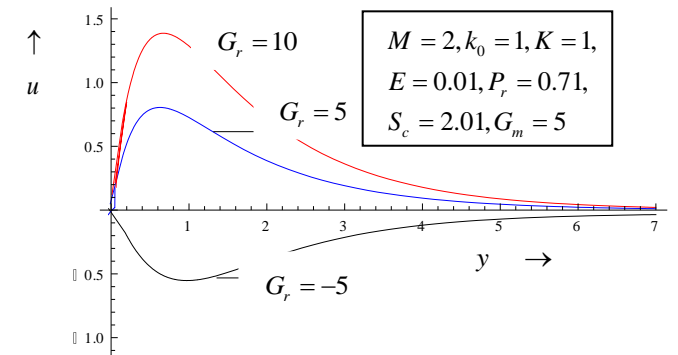


Figure-5: Velocity profile for different thermal Grashof number  $G_r$

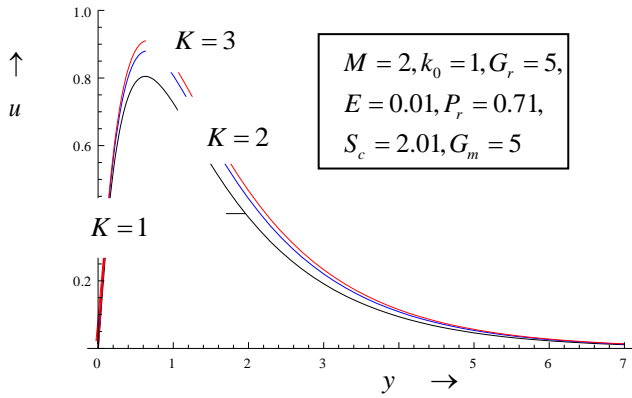


Figure-6: Velocity profile for different permeability parameter  $K$

But in figure-4 the velocity decreases when magnetic field parameter  $M$  is increased.

In figure-5 it is observed that velocity increases when thermal Grashof number  $G_r$  is increased. Similarly in figure-6 and figure-7, the velocity increases when the value of permeability parameter  $K$  and mass Grashof number  $G_m$  is increased respectively.

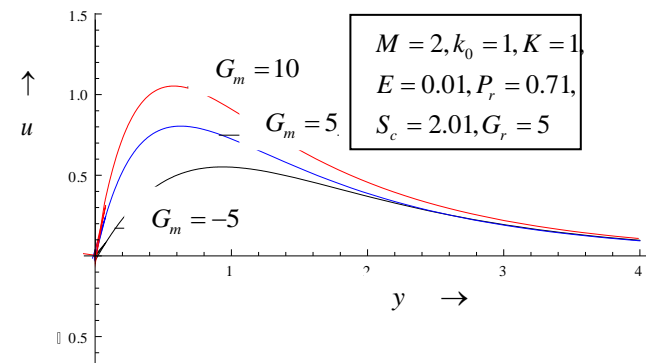


Figure-7: Velocity profile for different mass Grashof number  $G_m$

Temperature profile is shown in figures-8 to 12. From figure-8, it is clear that temperature decreases when Eckert number  $E$  is increased (keeping other parameters  $M = 2, G_r = 5, G_m = 5, K = 1, k_0 = 1, P_r = 0.71,$

$S_c = 2.01$  constant). In figure-9, it is shown that temperature increases when magnetic field parameter  $M$  is increase  $\theta$

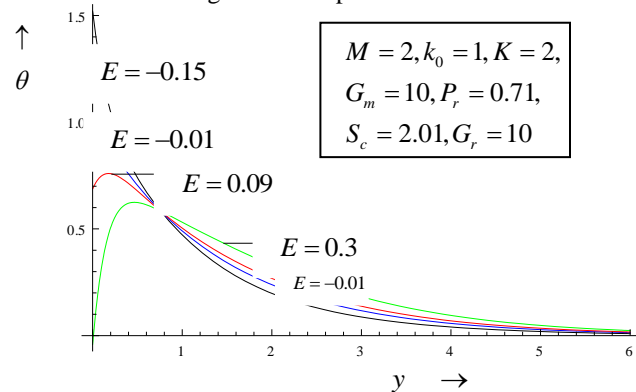


Figure-8: Temperature profile for different Eckert number

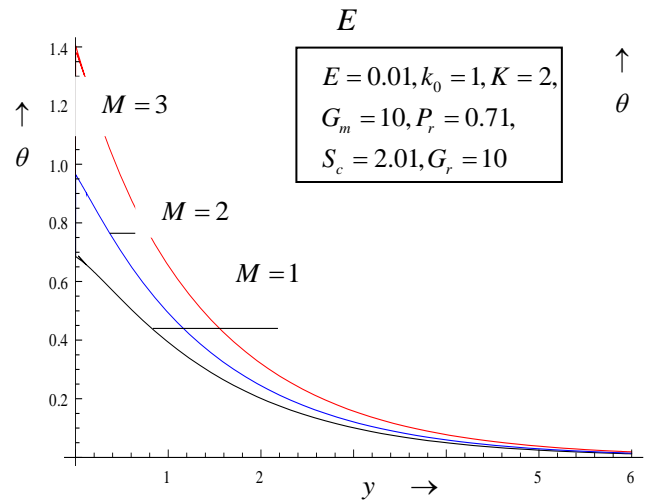


Figure-9: Temperature profile for different magnetic field  $M$

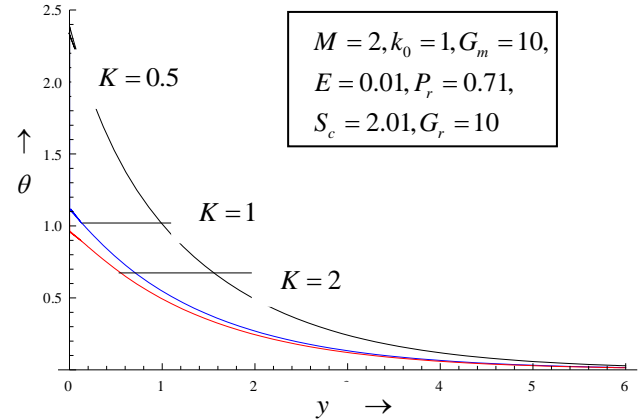


Figure-10: Temperature profile for different permeability parameter  $K$

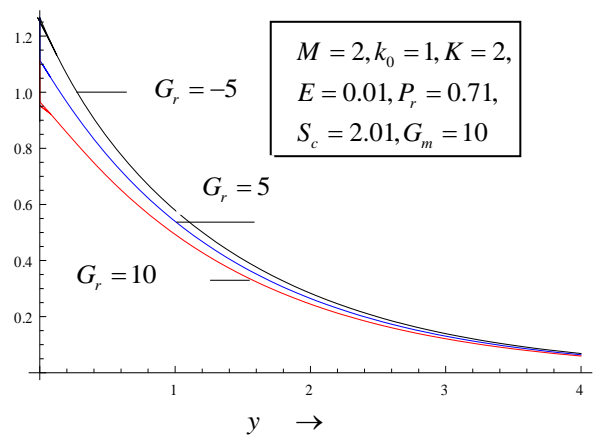
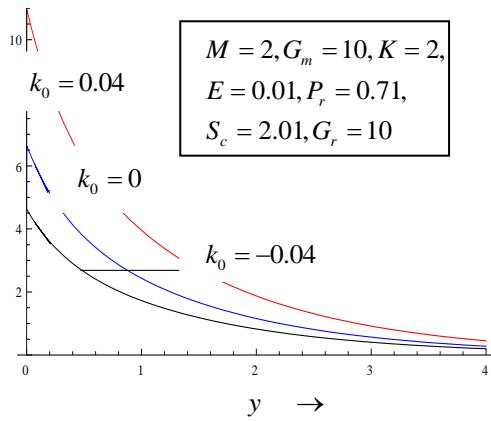


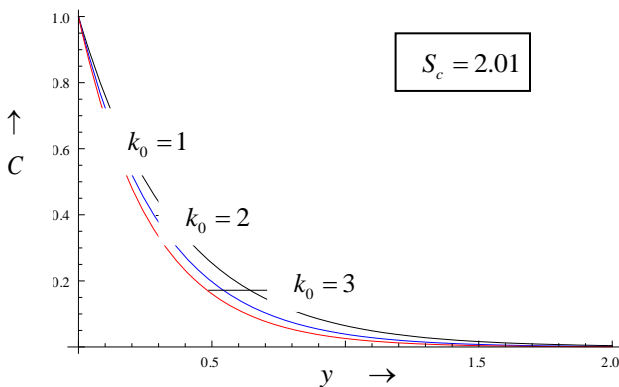
Figure-11: Temperature profile for different thermal Grashof number  $G_r$

Figure-10 shows that temperature decreases with increasing the permeability parameter  $K$ . Similar pattern is observed in figure-11, the temperature decreases with increasing the thermal Grashof number  $G_r$ .



**Figure-12: Temperature profile for different chemical parametric  $k_0$**

In figure-12, temperature increases with increasing the values of chemical parameter  $k_0$ . Figure-13 represents the concentration profile for different chemical parameter  $k_0$ . It is shown in figure-13, concentration decreases when increasing the value of chemical parameter  $k_0$  (keeping  $S_c = 2.01$  fixed).



**Figure -13: Concentration profile for different chemical parameter  $k_0$**

The values of skin friction and Nusselt number are tabulated in table-1 for different parameters. When the values of  $M$ ,  $E$ ,  $G_r$  and  $G_m$  are increased (keeping other parameters constant) the value of  $\tau$  also gets increased. But if values of  $K$ ,  $k_0$ ,  $P_r$  and  $S_c$  are increased, the value of  $\tau$  gets decreased (keeping other parameters constant).

When the values of  $M$ ,  $G_m$  and  $P_r$  are increased (keeping other parameters constant) the value of  $Nu$  is also get increased. But if values of  $K$ ,  $k_0$ ,  $G_r$ ,  $E$  and  $S_c$  are increased, the value of  $\tau$  gets decreased (keeping other parameters constant).

#### Conclusions:

In this paper a theoretical analysis has been done to study the effect of chemical reaction on free convection MHD flow through a porous medium bounded by vertical surface. Solutions for the model have been derived by using two-term perturbation method. Some conclusions of the study are as below:

- Velocity increases with the increase in  $E, k_0, G_r, K$  and  $G_m$  and decreases with increase in  $M$ .

- Temperatures of the fluid increase when  $M$  and  $k_0$  are increased.
- Concentration of the fluid decreases when  $k_0$  is increased.
- Skin friction increases when magnetic field parameter, Eckert number, thermal Grashof number and mass Grashof number are increased but decreases when chemical parameter, Prandtl number, Schmidt number and permeability parameter are increased.
- Nusselt number increases when magnetic field parameter, mass Grashof number and Prandtl number are increased but decreases when thermal Grashof number, Eckert number, chemical parameter, permeability parameter and Schmidt number are increased.

#### Notation

$C$  - non-dimensional fluid concentration;  $C'$  - concentration, mol/m<sup>3</sup>;  $C_\infty$  - fluid concentration far away from the wall, mol/m<sup>3</sup>;  $C_p$  - specific heat at a constant pressure, J/(kg.deg);  $D$  - mass diffusivity, m<sup>2</sup>/sec;  $E$  - Eckert number;  $G_m$  - mass Grashof number;  $G_r$  - thermal Grashof number;  $g$  - gravitational acceleration, m/sec<sup>2</sup>;  $K$  - non-dimensional permeability coefficient of a porous medium;  $k_0$  - non-dimensional rate of a chemical reaction;  $K_c$  - rate of chemical reaction, sec<sup>-1</sup>;  $K_p$  - permeability of a porous medium, m<sup>2</sup>;  $M$  - magnetic field parameter;  $Nu$  - Nusselt number;  $P_r$  - Prandtl number;  $S_c$  - Schmidt number;  $T_\infty$  - fluid temperature far away from the wall, °C;  $T'$  - temperature, °C;  $u'$ ,  $v'$  - velocity components, m/sec;  $u$  - non-dimensional velocity;  $v_0$  - suction velocity, m/sec;  $x'$ ,  $y'$  - space coordinates, m;  $y$  - non-dimensional space coordinate;  $\alpha$  - thermal conductivity, W/(m.deg);  $\beta$  - coefficient of volume expansion, 1/deg;  $\beta^*$  - coefficient of volume expansion with concentration, m<sup>3</sup>/mol;  $\theta$  - non-dimensional temperature;  $\nu$  - kinematic viscosity, m<sup>2</sup>/sec;  $\rho$  - fluid density, kg/m<sup>3</sup>;  $\tau$  - non-dimensional skin friction.

Subscripts and Superscripts:

$w$  - wall;  $\infty$  - far away from the wall; 0 and 1 - zero and first orders.

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**Table-1: Skin friction and Nusselt number for different parameters**

$M$	$K$	$G_r$	$G_m$	$E$	$k_0$	$P_r$	$S_c$	$\tau$	$Nu$
2	1	5	5	0.01	1	0.71	2.01	3.79	0.70
3	1	5	5	0.01	1	0.71	2.01	4.08	1.13
2	2	5	5	0.01	1	0.71	2.01	3.65	0.66
2	1	10	5	0.01	1	0.71	2.01	6.02	0.55
2	1	5	10	0.01	1	0.71	2.01	5.50	0.96
2	1	10	10	0.01	1	0.71	2.01	8.02	0.69
2	1	5	5	0.3	1	0.71	2.01	5.89	0.62
2	1	5	5	0.01	0	0.71	2.01	4.86	1.26
2	1	5	5	0.01	1	7	2.01	1.06	17.24
2	1	5	5	0.01	1	0.71	3	3.43	0.67