Mixed Convective and Radiative Heat Transfer in an Inclined Rotating Rectangular Duct with a Centered Circular Tube

A numerical study of steady state laminar forced and free convective and radiative heat transfer in an inclined rotating rectangular duct with a centered circular tube is reported for an hydrodynamically fully developed flow. The two heat transfer mechanisms of convection and radiation are treated independently and simultaneously. The coupled equations of momentum and energy transports are solved using Gauss-Seidel iteration technique subject to given boundary constraints. A thermal boundary condition of uniform wall temperature in the flow direction is considered. A special discretization method is employed to solve the problem associated with near boundary grid points. Results for mean and total mean Nusselt numbers for various values of Reynolds number Re, Rayleigh number, Ra; Radiation-Conduction parameter, ; Optical thickness, θ; Rotational Reynolds number, R_α and Emissivity, ε; are presented. For the range of parameters considered, results show that radiation and rotation enhance heat transfer. It is also indicated in the results that heat transfer from the surface of the circle exceeds that of the rectangle. Optimum heat transfer and fluid bulk temperature are attained when the duct is vertically positioned. The Parameter ranges of 0.2 < r/L < 0.84, 0 < PeRa < 7.3 x 10^11 and r/L < 1 demarcate the extent of the validity of the numerical solution.

Keywords: Mixed Convective, Radiative, Heat Transfer, Inclined, Rotating, Rectangular Duct, Centered, Circular Tube

Introduction

Various heat transfer mechanisms and geometries have been studied by some engineers and scientists purposely to augment heat transfer in heat exchangers and some other heat transfer equipment. Dong et al [1] employed the geometry combination of a square duct with a centered circular core for the design of an oven for heat treatment of ceramic and metallic products. They studied a situation where the central core is solid. Thermal radiation and laminar forced convection in the entrance region of a pipe with axial conduction and radiation were considered by Yang and Ebadian [2]. Combined natural convection- conduction and radiation heat transfer in discretely open cavity was studied by Dehghan et al [3]. Siegel [4] also analyzed the effect of buoyancy on heat transfer in a rotating tube. The cooling of rotating devices that are parallel or perpendicular to the axis of rotation have been extensively reviewed and discussed in the book of Morris [5]. A numerical study of natural convection in horizontal elliptic cylinder was studied by Bello-Ochende [6]. He developed a recurrence relation to generate successively decreasing grid sizes between any two neighbouring nodes. A perturbation analysis of combined free and forced laminar convection in a tilted elliptic cylinder was carried out by Bello-Ochende and Adegun [7]. Bello-Ochende and Adegun [8] also worked on combined convective and radiative heat transfer in a tilted, rotating, uniformly heated square duct with a centered circular cylinder. The work under investigation is to augment heat transfer in heat exchangers using geometric combination of a rectangular duct and a circular core. The working fluid flows in between the inner surface of the rectangular duct and outer surface of the circular cylinder.

Nomenclature

| Symbol | Description |
|--------|-------------|
| b      | radius      |
| A      | Major diameter |
| A*     | Cross-sectional area |
| C₁, C₂ | Coefficients in equations (13) |
| C₃, C₄ | Coefficients in equations (16) |
| d      | Hydraulic diameter (4A*/P*) |
| g      | Acceleration due to gravity (m/s²) |
| rₒ      | Geometric ratio (A/L) |
| H      | Height of the rectangular cross section |
| K      | Thermal conductivity of the working fluid |
| L      | Length of the rectangular cross section |
| n      | Outward normal on the wall |
| N      | Number of Divisions in zones B1 and B2 |
| N       | Number of Divisions in zones A and C |
| Nᵤₑ      | Mean Nusselt number for the circular surface |
| Nᵤₑ      | Mean Nusselt number for the rectangular duct |
| Nᵤₑ      | Total mean Nusselt number |
| Nᵤₑ      | Local Nusselt number on the circular surface |
| Nᵤₑ      | Local Nusselt number for the rectangular duct |
| P      | Wetted perimeter |
| P₁      | The small pressure variation governing the flow distribution in the cross stream plane |
| Pₑ      | Average pressure over the duct cross section |
| Pr      | Prandtl number, <υ/κ |
| Re      | Modified Reynolds number based on hydraulic diameter, d |
| R_α      | Rotational Reynolds number, Σd²/ν |
| T      | Dimensional fluid temperature |
| Tₑ      | Local wall temperature |
| Vₓ      | Dimensional velocity in x-direction |
| U      | Normalized velocity in 0-direction |
| Vᵧ      | Dimensional velocity in y-direction |
| V      | Normalized velocity in ➔-direction |

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Greek Symbols

∀ = Thermal diffusivity (m²/s)
∃ = Coefficient of thermal expansion
> = Dimension less coordinate in axial direction
. = Radiation conduction parameter
0 = Dimension less horizontal coordinate
< = Kinematic viscosity of the fluid (m²/s)
Φ = Stefan Boltzmann constant (Wm²/k⁴)
θ = Optical thickness
γ = Emissivity

Subscripts
b = Bulk
c = circle
f = Fluid
Lc = nodal point on the circle
Lr = nodal point on the rectangle
r = rectangle
w = wall

Mathematical Formulation of the Problem

The schematic drawing of the geometry and the cartesian co-ordinate system employed in solving the problem is shown in Fig. 1.

Figure 1. The coordinate system and the physical model of the geometry.

Governing Equations

Following the assumptions made, the governing equations are:

Continuity Equation

\[
\frac{\partial V_x}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial Y} = 0.
\] (1)

Momentum Transport Equation

The momentum transport equations in the x-, y- and z-directions are respectively:

\[
V_x \frac{\partial V_x}{\partial X} + V_y \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial Y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial X} + M(x). 
\] (2)

\[
V_x \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial X} + V_y \frac{\partial V_x}{\partial Y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial Y} + M(y). 
\] (3)

\[
V_x \frac{\partial V_z}{\partial X} + V_y \frac{\partial V_z}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial Z} + M(z). 
\] (4)

where

\[
M(x) = \nu_x V_x + F(x) + 2\omega V_y
\]

\[
M(y) = \nu_y V_y - F(y) + 2\omega V_x
\]

\[
M(z) = \nu_z V_z - f(z)
\]

and

\[
\frac{\partial p'}{\partial Z} \ll \frac{\partial p'}{\partial Z}
\]
Also,

\[
\begin{align*}
F(\lambda) = 0, & \\
F(\nu) = \beta \left[T_w - T\right] \cos \lambda, & \\
F(\zeta) = \beta \left[T_w - T\right] \sin \lambda
\end{align*}
\]  

Energy Transport Equation

In the absence of energy sources and viscous energy dissipation, the energy equation for steady flow, with radiation incorporated is;

\[
\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + V_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + V_z \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} = \alpha \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right) + E(t),
\]

where,

\[
E(t) = \frac{\sigma T_w^4}{\rho C_p} \left( T_w^4 - T^4 \right).
\]

The boundary conditions applicable to these equations are:

(i) At the inlet of the duct ( \( Z = 0 \)),
\[ V_x = V_y = 0, \quad T = T_e; \]

(ii) On the wall surfaces;
\[ V_x = V_y = V_z = 0, \quad T = T_w. \]

Normalization Parameters

The variables in the governing equations and boundary conditions are non-dimensionalized by employing the following transformation parameters:

\[
\begin{align*}
\eta = \frac{X}{d}, & \\
\zeta = \frac{Y}{d}, & \\
\Gamma = \frac{Z}{d}, & \\
U = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \eta}, & \\
V = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \zeta}, & \\
T = T - T_e;
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\tau = \frac{\rho d^2}{\alpha}, \quad \text{Pr} = \frac{V}{\alpha}, \quad \text{Ra} = \frac{B g T_w d^3}{\alpha}, \quad \text{Re} = \frac{d^2}{\nu} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial T};
\]

\[
\frac{d \psi}{d \Gamma} = \frac{1}{\text{Pr} d^2}; \quad \psi = \frac{4 \sigma \alpha T_w d^3}{\chi \kappa}; \quad \Theta = \frac{T}{T_w};
\]

\[
U = \frac{V}{\nu} d; \quad V = \frac{V}{V} d; \quad W = \frac{W}{\nu}.
\]

Where \( d \) is the hydraulic diameter defined as,

\[
d = \frac{4 A^2}{p^*} = \frac{2 (H^2 L - \pi b^2)}{(H + L + \pi b)}. \]  

Solution Technique and Evaluation of Heat Transfer

The normalized governing equations are non-linear, non-homogeneous and coupled through the temperature, radiation and rotating terms. As a result of these, the equations are amenable to closed-form solution. Finite difference approximation is found appropriate. A numerical approach involving Gauss-Seidel iteration technique is therefore applied. The entire domain is divided into three zones, namely, A,B and C. Zone A is sub divided into zones A1 and A2. Zone B is sub divided into Zones B1 and B2. Zone C is also sub divided into C1 and C2 as indicated in Fig. 2.

Figure 2. Discretized Domain.

The \( > \) - direction, in the circular domain is divided into uniform grid size, \( b \rightarrow b \). Along the same direction, Zones A and C are of uniform grid sizes. In \( 0 \) - direction, zones A and C are divided into equal grid sizes while recurrence relations are established for zone B.

Numerical Algorithm

To achieve grid refinement, a recurrence relation is developed in \( 0 \)-direction as follows:

(1) For successively increasing grid size;

\[
\Delta \eta_{i+1(N2+i)} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{(i-1)^2 b^2}{N^2}} - \sqrt{1 - \frac{i^2 b^2}{N^2}}.
\]

(2) For successively decreasing grid size;

\[
\Delta \eta_{i+1(N2+i)} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{(N-i)^2 b^2}{N^2}} - \sqrt{1 - \frac{(N+1-i)^2 b^2}{N^2}}.
\]

Convergence and Accuracy of Numerical Scheme

Vortex field is first evaluated followed by the stream function. This is followed by the velocity field and lastly by the temperature field. A first approximation for the interior values are evaluated by introducing the initial guess values. The procedures are repeated until convergence is attained subject to the following criterion:

\[
\gamma_{m+1,i} - \gamma_{m,i} \leq 10^{-4}.
\]

Where \( \gamma \) ( is the duming variable which can represent normalized vorticity, \( \Sigma \), streamfunction, \( \Psi \), axial velocity, \( W \) and temperature 1 respectively. \( m \) is the iterative counter. It is noticed that all these variables depend on one another and once the convergence of \( 1 \) is achieved the stability of \( \Sigma, \Psi, W \) and \( T \) are guaranteed.
Evaluation of Heat Transfer

The peripheral heat transfer is defined through the conduction referenced Nusselt number as:

Local Nusselt number on the Rectangular Duct

The peripheral local Nusselt number on the wall of the rectangular duct is computed from:

\[ Nu_{L_r} = \frac{1}{1 - \theta_b} \int_{w(L_r)} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} \, d\theta. \]  
(11)

Mean Nusselt number on the Rectangular Wall

The mean Nusselt number on the wall of the rectangular duct is obtained as,

\[ NU_r = \frac{R_S}{\sum_{i=1}^{R_S} NU_{L_r(i)}}. \]  
(12)

where, \( L_r = 1, 2, ..., R \), and \( R_S \) is the total number of nodal points on the rectangular wall.

Local Peripheral Nusselt Number on the Circular Duct

The peripheral local Nusselt number on the circular duct is computed from:

\[ Nu_{L_c} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \theta_b} \right) \left[ C_x \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta} \mid w(L_c) + C_y \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \xi} \mid w(L_c) \right]. \]  
(13)

The coefficients \( C_x \) and \( C_y \) are derived from the equation of an ellipse as:

\[ C_x = \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{\eta^2 + \xi^2}}; C_y = \frac{\xi}{\sqrt{\eta^2 + \xi^2}}. \]  
(14)

Mean Nusselt number on the Circular duct

The mean Nusselt number on the circular surface is,

\[ NU_c = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_c} NU_{L_c(i)}}{N_c}. \]  
(15)

where, \( L_c = 1, 2, ..., N_c \); \( N_c \) is the total number of nodal points on the circular boundary.

Total Mean Nusselt Number

The total mean Nusselt number, \( Nu_T \), is a measure of the average heat transfer over the internal surface of the rectangular duct and the outer surface of the circular configuration. It is computed from the following equation,

\[ Nu_T = C_C Nu_C + C_r Nu_r. \]  
(16)

where \( C_C \), \( Nu_C \) is a measure of average heat transfer from the outer surface of the circular core while \( C_r \), \( Nu_r \) corresponds to heat transfer from of the internal surface of the rectangular duct. \( C_C \) and \( C_r \) are the perimetric ratios for the heat transfer and are defined as,

\[ C_C = \frac{ab}{L + H + ab}. \]  
(17)

\[ C_r = \frac{L + H}{L + H + ab}. \]  
(18)

Discussion of Results

Results are presented for the following ranges of parameters:

- \( 50 \leq Re \leq 2000 \)
- \( 0 \leq Ra \leq 10^4 \)
- \( 0 \leq Ro \leq 6 \times 10^2 \)
- \( 0 \leq \theta \leq 5 \)
- \( 0 \leq \eta \leq 5 \)
- \( 0 \leq \gamma \leq 1 \)
- \( 0 \leq e \leq 1 \)
- \( 0.2 \leq r_e \leq 1 \)
- \( r_s \leq r_A \leq 1 \)

![Figure 3. Variation of total heat transfer with Reynolds number.](image1)

![Figure 4. Influence of Reynolds number on friction coefficient.](image2)
coefficient becomes insignificant and assume a fairly constant value. The figure also depicts an inverse proportionality between friction factor and the Reynolds number. Thorough inspection of Figs. (3&4) gives an upper critical Reynolds number of Re. 1200 above which friction coefficient becomes invariant and dNu/d Re becomes negligible.

Figure 5 presents the variation of total mean Nusselt number with Rayleigh number, Ra. It is observed from the figure that the heat transfer between a parameter range of 0<Ra<400 is fluctuating and therefore not stable. A lower range of 400 < Ra < 4000 and upper range of 5000 < Ra < 10000 are noticed for increase of total mean Nusselt number with increasing Rayleigh number. These ranges correspond to a laminar flow regime. Further inspection of Fig.5 shows an upper critical Rayleigh number, Ra=10^4 at which optimum heat transfer is attained and a lower critical Rayleigh number, Ra=400 below which convection is not vigorous enough to dominate the heat transfer process. The result of transition from conduction to convection, as indicated in the figure, is a fall in heat transfer coefficient.

Figure 6. Effects of rotation on heat transfer.

Variation of total mean Nusselt number with rotational Reynolds number is indicated in Fig. 6. It is observed from the figure that rotation enhances heat transfer.

Figure 7. Effect of rotational Reynolds number on bulk temperature.

Figure 7 shows the graph of bulk temperature versus rotational Reynolds number for a range of 0<Ro<600. The figure reveals that the optimum value of bulk temperature is attained when Ro=140 and the corresponding value is 0.97641.

Figure 8. Graph of mean axial velocity versus rotational Reynolds number.

Figure 9. Effect of geometric ratio on total mean Nusselt number.
Figure 10. Effect of geometric ratio on total mean Nusselt number.

Effects of rotation on axial flow is obtained in Fig. 8. Figs. 9 and 10 are the graphs of mean Nusselt number for various values of geometric ratio. For the range of $0.2 < r_g < 0.6$, the heat transfer by the rectangular surface increases with increasing geometry ratio while that of circular tube reduces. Above $r_g = 0.60$, the mean Nusselt number for the two surfaces increase monotonically with geometric ratio. Towards the point of contact of the rectangular and the circular ducts, $Nu_C > Nu_T$.

Figure 11. Variation of total heat transfer with angle of inclination.

Figure 11 established the effects of duct orientation on heat transfer, the graph shows that the optimum heat transfer is attained when the duct is vertically positioned.

Figure 12 shows the influence of optical thickness and radiation conduction parameter on total mean Nusselt number while the hydrodynamic properties (fr.Re) of the fluid flow for various geometric ratios are presented in Table 1. Table 2 is the effect of aspect ratio on the heat transfer.

Concluding Remarks

1. optimum values of heat transfer and fluid bulk temperature are attained when geometric ratio is 0.84.
2. effects of radiation is only significant for low values of Reynolds number.
3. Parameter ranges of $r_g > 0.84$ and $PeRa > 7.3 \times 10^5$ demarcate the range of validity of the governing equations.
4. the two surfaces when combined together transfer more heat than when considered separately.

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| S/No. | Geometric Ratio | Fr.Re Present Study | Fr.Re Dong et al. [1, 2] |
|-------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1     | 2               | 98.59               | 91.01                    |
| 2     | 3               | 93.62               | 97.53                    |
| 3     | 4               | 82.92               | 88.25                    |
| 4     | 5               | 78.13               | 80.52                    |
| 5     | 6               | 74.97               | 76.86                    |
| 6     | 7               | 67.78               | 68.76                    |
| 7     | 8               | 59.74               | 60.49                    |
| 8     | 9               | 51.70               | 52.49                    |

Table 2. Effects of aspect ratio on heat transfer.

| Aspect ratio (RH) | Total Mean Nusselt Number (Nu_T) |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.0               | 7.136                            |
| 0.90              | 9.016                            |
| 0.80              | 11.811                           |
| 0.70              | 15.628                           |
| 0.60              | 22.916                           |
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