

Effect of variable viscosity on mixed convection boundary layer flow over a vertical surface embedded in a porous medium

ABSTRACT

The steady mixed convection boundary layer flow over a vertical impermeable surface embedded in a porous medium when the viscosity of the fluid varies inversely as a linear function of the temperature is studied. Both cases of assisting and opposing flows are considered. The transformed boundary layer equations are solved numerically by a finite difference method. Numerical results for the flow and heat transfer characteristics are obtained for various values of the mixed convection parameter ε and the variable viscosity parameter θ_e . It has been found that in the opposing flow case, dual solutions exist and boundary separation occurs.

Keyword: Variable viscosity, Mixed convection, Boundary layer, Vertical surface, Porous medium