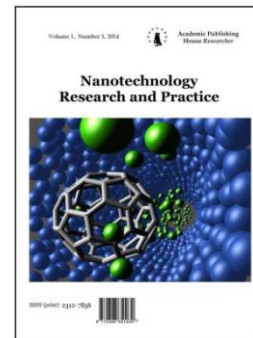


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## Radiation effect on MHD mixed convection flow of a nanofluid through a porous medium in the presence of chemical reactions

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### Abstract

An analysis is made to study radiation effect on MHD (magnetohydrodynamic) flow of  $CuO$  nanofluid in the presence of chemical reactions and mixed convection due to non-uniform heat source through a porous medium. The model for the nanofluid incorporates and analyses radiation parameter, Brownian motion, thermophoresis and magnetic field consequences. The nonlinear differential equations are solved for different values of governing parameters by using the function 'bvp4c' of MATLAB. A comparative study of our result with previously reported results is given. It is worth citing that the thermal boundary layer thickness reduces with rise in unsteadiness of parameter  $A$ . The decrease in value of thermal radiation  $Nr$  means an enhancement in Rosseland absorptivity.

**Keywords:** MHD, mixed convection, bvp4c, nanofluid, porous media, thermal radiation.

### Introduction

A nanofluid is a liquid containing a dispersion of sub-micron solid particles through a distinctive length scale of order 1-100 nm. Nanofluids have attained an enormous interest owing to their place in the heat transfer processes of real life engineering applications, as discussed in the publication by Das et al [1] and Wang and Majumdar [2]. Nanofluid perception was first coined by Choi [3] who showed that the adding up of a small amount (less than 1% by volume) of nanoparticles to conventional heat transfer liquids enhance the thermal conductivity of the fluid up to approximately two times. The written work on nanofluid has been reconsidered by Trisakri and Wongwise [4]. These reviews examined the work done on convective transport in nanofluids. Nanofluids are described by enhanced thermal conductivity; a phenomenon observed by Masuda et al [5]. The unsteady nature of a broad range of fluid flows has been acknowledged over the past several years. In numerous applications, the ideal flow environment in the region of the device is nominally steady, but undesirable unsteady things crop up which are either self induced or due to fluctuations or non-uniformities in the neighboring fluid. The flow of Newtonian fluid over a

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linearly stretching surface was analyzed by Crane [6]. The study of unsteady boundary layer owes its significance in the direction of the fact that all boundary layers, which take place in practice, are unsteady. Vajravelu et al [7] considered unsteady convective boundary layer flow of a viscous fluid at a vertical surface with variable fluid properties and they observed that an increment in the unsteady parameter causes thinning of the thermal boundary layer. Unsteady boundary layer flow over a stretching surface was considered by Misra et al [8]. Diverse aspects of the unsteady stretching sheet problem have been investigated by numerous authors [9-13]. The problem of unsteady two dimensional stagnation point flow and heat transfer of a viscous, compressible fluid at an accelerated flat plate was taken into consideration by Mozayyeni and Rahimi [14]. They analyzed that for a moving plate through an exponential velocity function towards the impinging flow the channel of time brings about a decrease in dimensionless heat transfer coefficient for any preferred value of wall temperature. Etwire et al [15] studied the consequences of MHD boundary layer stagnation point flow with radiation and chemical reaction towards a heated shrinking porous surface. The MHD radiating flow over an infinite vertical surface bounded by a porous medium in presence of chemical reaction was investigated by Ahmed and Kalita [16].

The objective of the present work is to study the outcome of various parameters namely, solid volume fraction, mixed convection parameter, unsteady parameter, Prandtl number, Lewis number, Brownian motion number, thermophoresis parameter and combined magnetic and porosity parameter on MHD mixed convection boundary layer flow over an unsteady surface in the presence of chemical reactions, non-uniform heat source and thermal radiation through a porous medium in *CuO* nanofluid.

**Basic equations**

Consider the unsteady two-dimensional mixed convective boundary layer flow on a stretching sheet in an incompressible fluid. The fluid is a water based nanofluid having *CuO* nanoparticles. It is also supposed that the base fluid and nanoparticles are in thermal equilibrium and no slip arises among them. Let the *x*-axis is taken along the stretching surface in the path of motion and *y*-axis is normal to it. The plate is stretched along the *x*-direction with a velocity  $U_w = \frac{ax}{1-\alpha t}$  defined at *y* = 0. A variable magnetic field  $B(x) = \frac{B_0}{1-\alpha t}$  is applied normal to the sheet, *B*<sub>0</sub> being a constant. The thermo physical properties of regular fluid and *CuO* nanoparticles are given in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Thermophysical properties of water and Copper oxide

	P (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	<i>c<sub>p</sub></i> (J/kg K)	k (W/mK)	β ×10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/K)
<i>H<sub>2</sub>O</i>	997.1	4179	0.613	21.0
<i>CuO</i>	3620	531.8	76.500	1.80

The governing equations of the present problems are:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\mu_{nf}}{\rho_{nf}} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + g \frac{\phi(\rho\beta)_s + (1-\phi)(\rho\beta)_f}{\rho_{nf}} (T - T_\infty) - \frac{v_{nf}}{K} u - \frac{\sigma B^2(x)}{\rho_{nf}} u \tag{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \alpha_{nf} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \tau \left\{ D_B \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + \frac{D_T}{T_\infty} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right\} - \frac{1}{(\rho c_p)_{nf}} \frac{\partial q_r}{\partial y} \tag{3}$$

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} = D_B \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial y^2} - \gamma (C - C_\infty) \tag{4}$$

*q<sub>r</sub>* is the radiative heat flux, *v<sub>nf</sub>* is the kinematic viscosity,  $\mu_{nf} = \frac{\mu_f}{(1-\phi)^{2.5}}$  is the dynamic viscosity of the nanofluid,  $\rho_{nf} = (1 - \phi)\rho_f + \phi\rho_s$  is the density of the nanofluid,

$\alpha_{nf} = \frac{k_{nf}}{(\rho c_p)_{nf}}$  is the thermal diffusivity with  $k_{nf}$  is the thermal conductivity of the fluid,

where  $k_{nf} = k_f \frac{(k_s + 2k_f) - 2\phi(k_s - k_f)}{(k_s + 2k_f) + \phi(k_s - k_f)}$ ,  $c_p$  is the heat capacity at constant pressure and  $(\rho c_p)_{nf} = (\rho c_p)_f(1 - \phi) + (\rho c_p)_s\phi$ .

The radiative heat flux under rosseland approximation [17] has the form:

$$q_r = -\frac{4\sigma}{3k_1} \frac{\partial T^4}{\partial y}, \tag{5}$$

where  $k_1$  and  $\sigma$  are the mean absorption coefficient and the Stefan-Boltzman constant.

We suppose that the temperature difference inside the flow is adequately small such that  $T^4$  can be expressed as a linear function of temperature. Hence expanding  $T^4$  in Taylor series about  $T_\infty$  and neglecting higher order terms, we get:

$$T^4 \cong 4T_\infty^3 - 3T_\infty^4 \tag{6}$$

Using (5) and (6), equation (3) reduces to:

$$u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \alpha_{nf} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \tau \left\{ D_B \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + \frac{D_T}{T_\infty} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right\} + \frac{16\sigma T_\infty^3}{3k_1(\rho c_p)_{nf}} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} \tag{7}$$

The corresponding boundary conditions are:

$$\begin{aligned} u = U_w(x, t), \quad v = 0, \quad T = T_w(x, t), \quad C = C_w(x, t) \text{ at } y = 0 \\ u \rightarrow U(x), \quad T \rightarrow T_\infty, \quad C \rightarrow C_\infty \text{ at } y \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

Following Ishak et al. [18], the stretching velocity is considered as  $U_w(x, t) = \frac{ax}{1-\alpha t}$ , where  $a$  and  $\alpha$  are constants (with  $a \geq 0, \alpha \geq 0$  such that  $\alpha t < 1$ ) and both have dimension  $t^{-1}$ . We have  $a$  as the initial stretching rate  $\frac{a}{1-\alpha t}$  and it increases with time.

The temperature of the sheet is:  $T_w = T_\infty + \frac{bx}{(1-\alpha t)^2}, \tag{9}$

where  $T_0$  is the reference temperature,  $T_w$  is the surface temperature and  $T_\infty$  is the temperature of the fluid exterior the boundary layer. The wall surface concentration  $C_w(x, t)$  is given by the expression:

$$C_w = C_\infty + \frac{bx}{(1-\alpha t)^2} \tag{10}$$

$c_w$  is the wall surface concentration and  $C_\infty$  is the concentration of the fluid outside the boundary layer and  $K = K_0(1 - \alpha t)$ .

Now introducing the following similarity transformations:

$$\eta = \left(\frac{a}{v}\right)^{1/2} (1 - \alpha t)^{-1/2} y, \quad \psi = (av)^{1/2} (1 - \alpha t)^{-1/2} x f(\eta) \tag{11}$$

$$\theta(\eta) = \frac{T - T_\infty}{T_w - T_\infty}, \quad h(\eta) = \frac{C - C_\infty}{C_w - C_\infty}, \tag{12}$$

Where  $\psi$  is the stream function that satisfies Eq. (1) with:

$$u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \text{ and } v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \tag{13}$$

In terms of these variables the velocity components can be expressed as:

$$u = \frac{ax}{1-\alpha t} f'(\eta), \quad v = -\sqrt{\frac{av}{1-\alpha t}} f(\eta) \tag{14}$$

Making use of similarity transformations, the governing equations take the form:

$$f'''' - (1 - \phi)^{2.5} \left\{ 1 - \phi + \phi \frac{\rho_s}{\rho_f} \right\} \left[ A \left( f' + \frac{\eta}{2} f'' \right) + M f' + \left\{ 1 - \phi + \phi \frac{(\rho\beta)_s}{\rho\beta_f} \right\} \zeta \theta \right] \tag{15}$$

$$\theta'' + \frac{1}{(1+Nr)} Pr \frac{k_f}{k_{nf}} \left\{ 1 - \phi + \phi \frac{(\rho c_p)_s}{(\rho c_p)_f} \right\} \left\{ f \theta' - f' \theta + N b h' \theta' \right\} + N t \theta'^2 - A \left( 2\theta + \frac{\eta}{2} \theta' \right) \right\} = 0 \tag{16}$$

$$h'' + Le \left\{ (f' h - f h') - A \left( 2h + \frac{\eta}{2} h' \right) - \lambda h \right\} = 0 \tag{17}$$

And the transformed boundary conditions are:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(0) &= \varepsilon, \theta(0) = 1, h(0) = 1 \text{ at } \eta = 0 \\ f(0) &= 0, \theta(0) = 0, h(0) = 0 \text{ at } \eta = \infty \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is the stretching/shrinking parameter according as  $\varepsilon > 0$  or  $\varepsilon < 0$ .  $A = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha_f}$  is the parameter that measures the unsteadiness.  $Pr = \frac{\nu_f}{\alpha_f}$  is the Prandtl number,  $Nr = \frac{16\sigma T_\infty^3}{3kk_1}$  is the parameter of radiation,  $Le = \frac{\nu_f}{D_B}$  is the Lewis number,  $Nb = \tau D_B \frac{(c_w - c_\infty)}{\nu_f}$  is the Brownian motion number,  $Nt = \tau D_T \frac{(T_w - T_\infty)}{T_\infty \nu_f}$  is the thermophoresis number,  $M = \frac{\sigma B_0^2}{\alpha \rho_n f} + \frac{\nu_n f}{\alpha K_0}$  is the combined magnetic and porosity parameter,  $\lambda = \frac{\gamma}{b} (1 - \alpha t)$  is the instantaneous reaction rate parameter and  $\zeta = \frac{gb\beta}{\alpha^2}$  is a dimensionless constant with  $\zeta > 0$  and  $\zeta < 0$  correspond to assisting and opposing flows respectively and  $\zeta = 0$  is for forced convection flow situation.

The physical quantities of interest are the skin friction coefficient, the local Nusselt number and Sherwood number which are defined as:

$$C_f = \frac{\mu}{\rho_f U_w^2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} \tag{19}$$

$$Nu = \frac{x}{k(T_w - T_\infty)} \left[ k \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} - \frac{4\sigma}{3k_1} \left( \frac{\partial T^4}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} \right] \tag{20}$$

$$Sh = - \frac{x}{(c_w - c_\infty)} \left( \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} \tag{21}$$

with  $\mu$  and  $k$  are the dynamic viscosity and thermal conductivity, respectively. Using non-dimensional variables, we have:

$$C_f Re_x^{1/2} = f''(0) \tag{22}$$

$$Nu Re_x^{1/2} = -(1 + Nr)\theta'(0) \tag{23}$$

$$Re_x^{1/2} Sh = -\phi'(0) \tag{24}$$

### Methods of Solution

The set of non-linear differential equations (15)-(17) with boundary conditions (18) constitute a two-point boundary value problem. These highly non-linear differential equations cannot be solved analytically. As a result, these equations are solved by the software MATLAB function ‘bvp4c’. The function has three key variables: the name of the M-file enumerating an ordinary differential equation system of the design, the term of the M-file enumerating the boundary values, and an initial approximation of the result prepared with the MATLAB function ‘bvpinit’.

### Results and Discussion

The numerical solutions of governing equations are solved by using the function ‘bvp4c’ of MATLAB. To certify our result, the numerical computations of skin friction, Nusselt number and Sherwood number are presented in tabular form and the comparison is done with Nazar et al [19] and Lok et al [20] for skin friction and Nusselt number. There is an excellent agreement of the results obtained with them.

**Table 2:** Comparison between present study and previous reported results when  $\varepsilon = 0, \zeta = 1$ .

Pr	Nazar et al [19]		Lok et al [20]		Present result	
	$f''(0)$	$-\theta'(0)$	$f''(0)$	$-\theta'(0)$	$f''(0)$	$-\theta'(0)$
0.7	1.7063	0.7641	1.706376	0.764087	1.076203	0.764054
7	1.5179	1.7224	1.517952	1.722775	1.517913	1.722371
10	-	-	-	-	1.492842	1.944609
60	1.3903	3.5514	1.390311	3.355404	1.390278	3.551417
90	-	-	-	-	1.372393	4.066227
100	1.3680	4.2116	1.368070	4.218462	1.368043	4.211689

To analyse the consequence, Numerical computations have been conceded for the velocity, temperature and concentration profile for diverse governing parameters namely, unsteadiness parameter  $A$ , combined magnetic and porosity parameter  $M$ , mixed convection parameter  $\zeta$ , Solid volume fraction  $\phi$ , Prandtl number  $Pr$ , radiation parameter  $Nr$ , thermophoresis parameter  $Nt$ , Brownian motion number  $Nb$ , Lewis number  $Le$  and varying reaction rate parameter  $\lambda$  on the coefficient of skin friction coefficient, Nusselt number and Sherwood number correspondingly. The skin friction coefficient  $f''(0)$  rises with the rise in solid volume fraction  $\phi$ . It is also observed that the local Nusselt number decreases while Sherwood number enhances with enhancement in solid volume fraction  $\phi$ .

Fig. 1-Fig. 4 shows the variation in velocity profile intended for combined magnetic and porosity parameter  $M$ , unsteadiness parameter  $A$ , mixed convection parameter  $\zeta$  and solid volume fraction  $\phi$  respectively. It is obvious from Fig. 1 that the velocity profile decrease by increase in value of  $\eta$  tends asymptotically to zero. Fig. 2 illustrates that the velocity profile is increased with increase in mixed convection parameter  $\zeta$ . Fig. 3 shows that the velocity profile is decreased with increase in  $A$  once more it decreases to zero. Fig. 4 exhibits that the velocity profile is decreased and it is extreme at  $\phi = 0.1$ . This happens due to the presence of solid nano-particles which leads to further thinning of the velocity boundary layer thickness.

Fig. 5-Fig. 10 is for variation in temperature profile for diverse parameters. Fig. 5 is for variation in solid volume fraction  $\phi$  on temperature profile. The temperature profile decline with increase in  $\eta$  and the thickness of boundary layer also increases. Fig. 6 is for variation in Prandtl number  $Pr$  on temperature profile. The temperature profile decreases with raise in  $Pr$  and the thickness of boundary layer is also declined. Fig. 7 is for variation in unsteadiness parameter  $A$  and it is obvious from the figure that the temperature profile increases with increase in  $A$  and thermal boundary layer thickness also rises. Fig. 8 is aimed at variation in thermal radiation  $Nr$  on temperature profile. The fluid temperature decreases with increase in  $Nr$ . This reality disclosed the result that the decrease in value of  $Nr \left( = \frac{16T_{\infty}^3 \sigma}{kk_1} \right)$  for given  $k$  and  $T_{\infty}$  means an enhancement in Rosseland absorptivity  $k_1$ . According to equations (3) and (5), the divergence of the radiative heat flux  $\frac{\partial q_r}{\partial y}$  decreases as  $k_1$  increases which in turn decrease the rate of heat transferred to the fluid and hence the fluid temperature decreases and thermal layer also decreases with increase in  $Nr$ .

Fig. 9 is for deviation in thermophoresis parameter  $Nt$  taking place on temperature profile. It is visible from the figure that the fluid temperature rises with rise in  $Nt$  in the boundary layer region and, as a result, thickness of boundary layer also increased as thermophoresis assists nanoparticle diffusion in the boundary layer. Fig. 10 is for variation in Brownian motion number  $Nb$  on temperature profile. Figure itself shows that the temperature profile increases with an increment in  $Nb$  as well as it decreases with increase in  $\eta$ . There is an increment in thermal boundary layer thickness as well. Therefore, the distribution of nanoparticles in the flow regime can be arranged by the Brownian motion mechanism and the thermal boundary layer thickness increased.

Fig. 11-Fig. 13 is for variation in variant parameters on concentration profile. Fig. 11 shows that the temperature profile decreases with increase in unsteadiness parameter  $A$  and the boundary layer is also declined. Fig. 12 is for deviation in Lewis number  $Le$  on concentration profile and it depicted that the concentration profile decreased as  $Le$  increases as well as boundary layer is also decreased. Fig. 13 is for varying reaction rate parameter  $\lambda$  and figure itself shows that the concentration profile is decreased as rise in value of  $\lambda$  as well as boundary layer is also decreased. Fig. 14 and Fig. 15 are for variation in Nusselt number and Sherwood number respectively.

**Table 3.** Skin friction coefficient, local Nusselt number, Sherwood number for  $\zeta=0.1$ ,  $Pr=3$ ,  $\phi=0.1$ ,  $A=0.2$ ,  $M=0.2$ ,  $Nt=Nb=0.5$ ,  $Nr=0.4$ ,  $Le=2$ 

$\phi$	$f''(0)$	$-\theta'(0)$	$-h'(0)$
0.0	-0.0917	0.5139	0.7686
0.1	-0.0614	0.4595	0.7971
0.2	-0.0405	0.4091	0.8273
0.3	-0.0259	0.3610	0.8583
0.4	-0.0159	0.3154	0.8887
0.5	-0.0092	0.2724	0.9175

### Conclusion

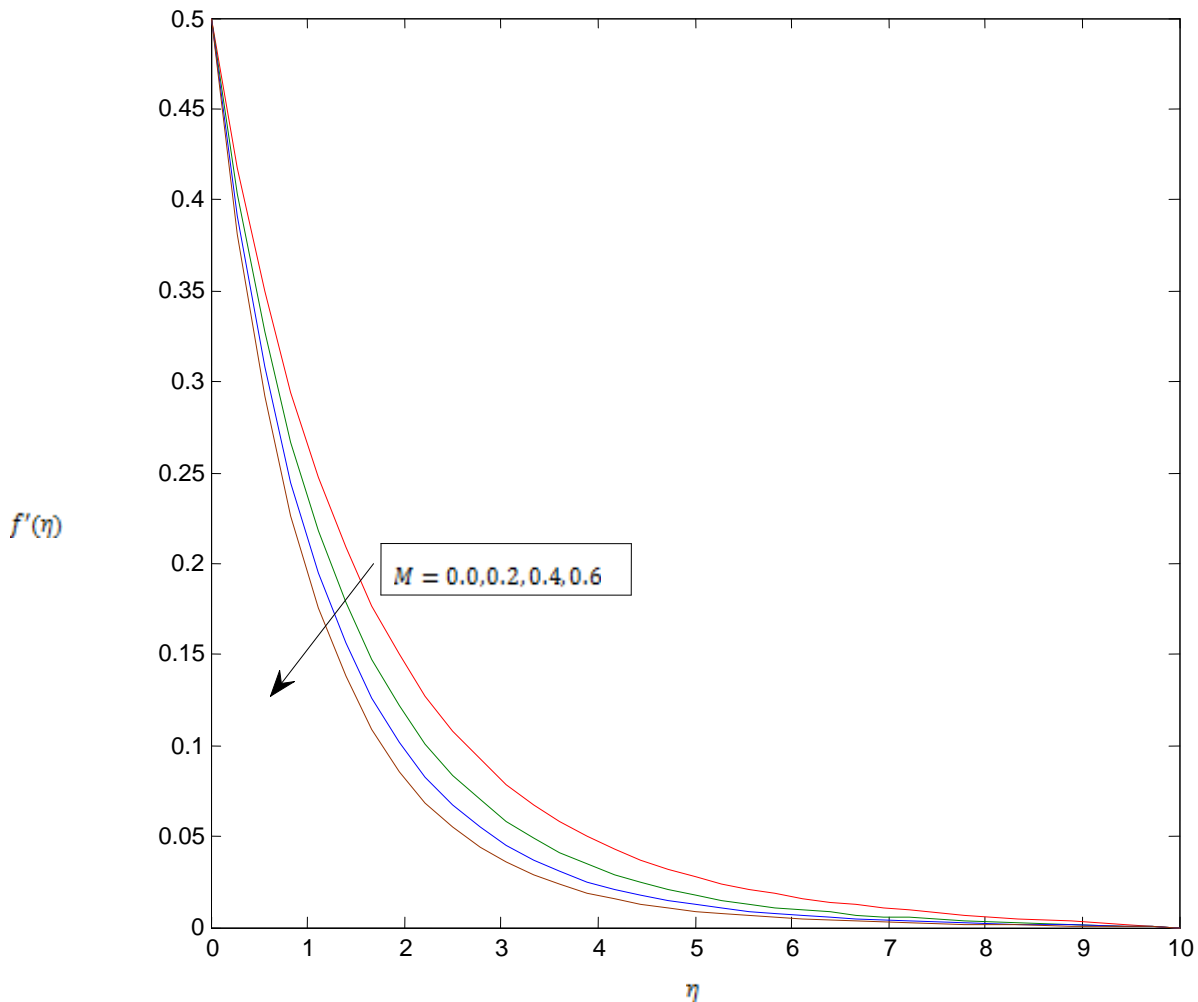
In this paper, the consequences of MHD mixed convection boundary layer flow over an unsteady stretching surface with chemical reaction, non-uniform heat source and thermal radiation through a porous medium in *CuO* nanofluid has been analyzed. The investigation is performed for variant mentioned parameters and some conclusions are summarized as follow:

- The thermal boundary layer thickness decreased as Prandtl number increased.
- The Sherwood number is greatest at  $\phi = 0.5$ .
- The local Nusselt number is highest at  $\phi = 0.0$ .
- The temperature profile increases with increase in Brownian motion number  $Nb$ .
- The divergence of the radiative heat flux decreases as Rosseland absorptivity increases which in turn decrease the rate of heat transferred to the fluid.

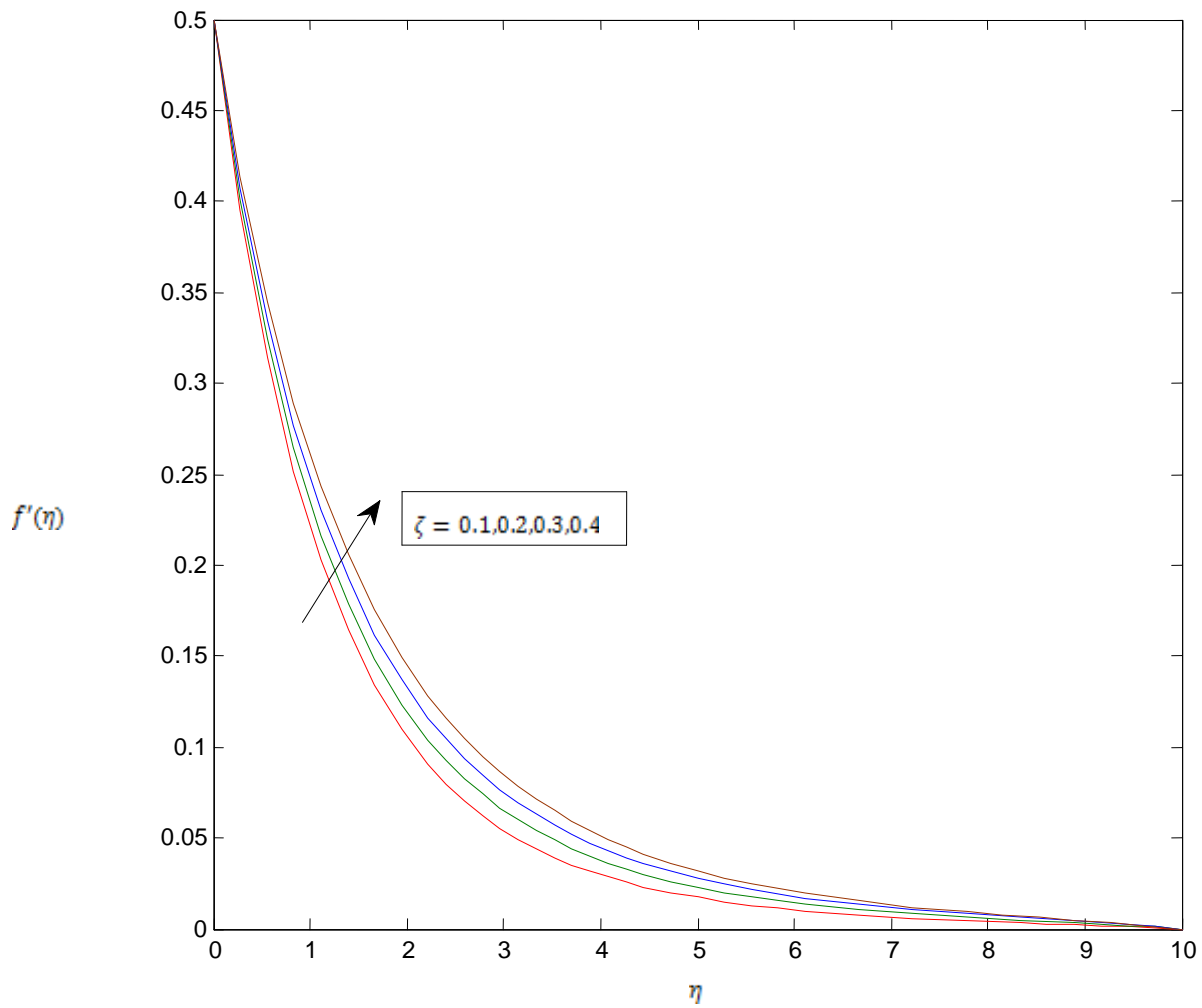
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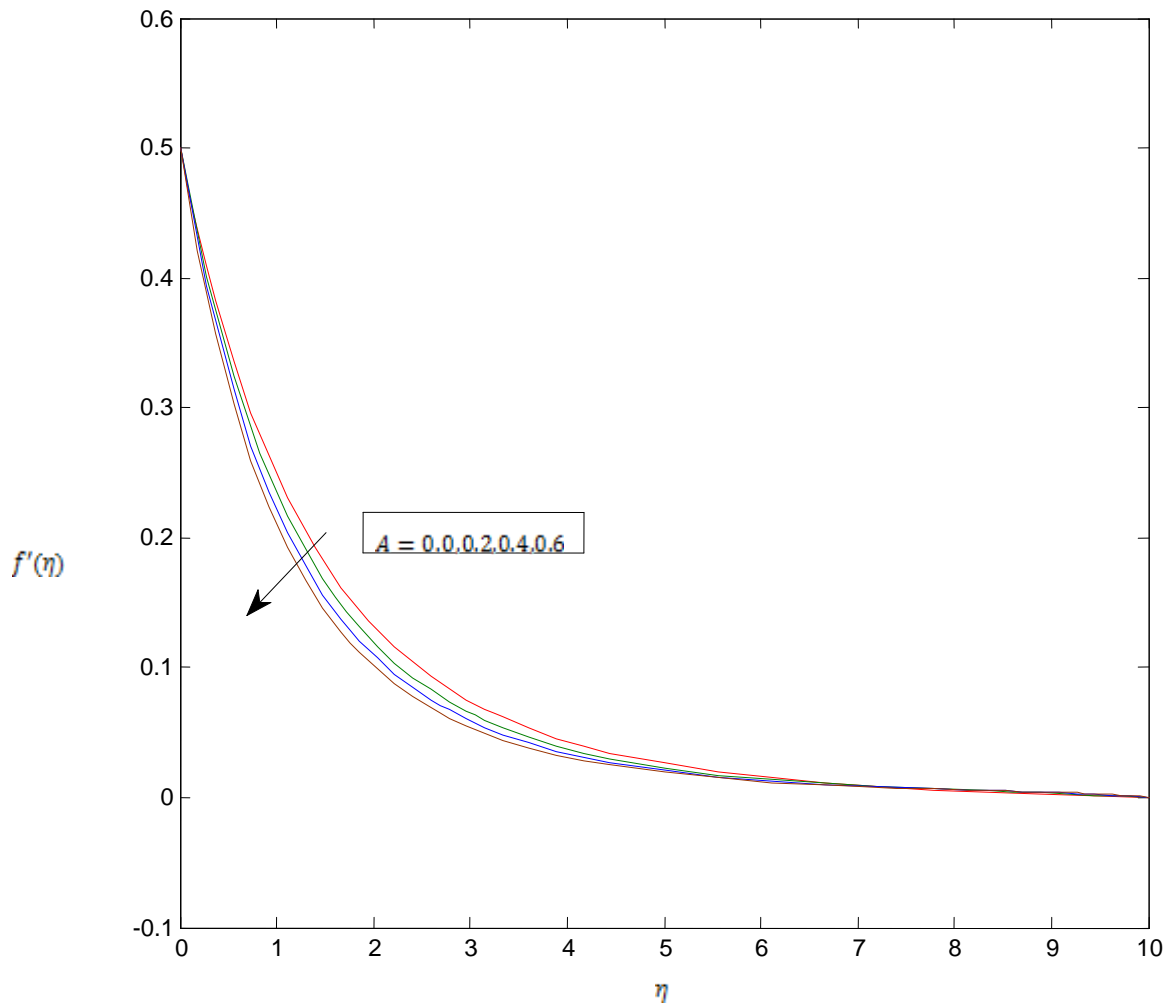


**Figure 1:**  $M=0.0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, \phi=0.1, A=0.2, \zeta=0.2, \omega=0.5$ . Velocity profile for different values of porosity parameter  $M$ .

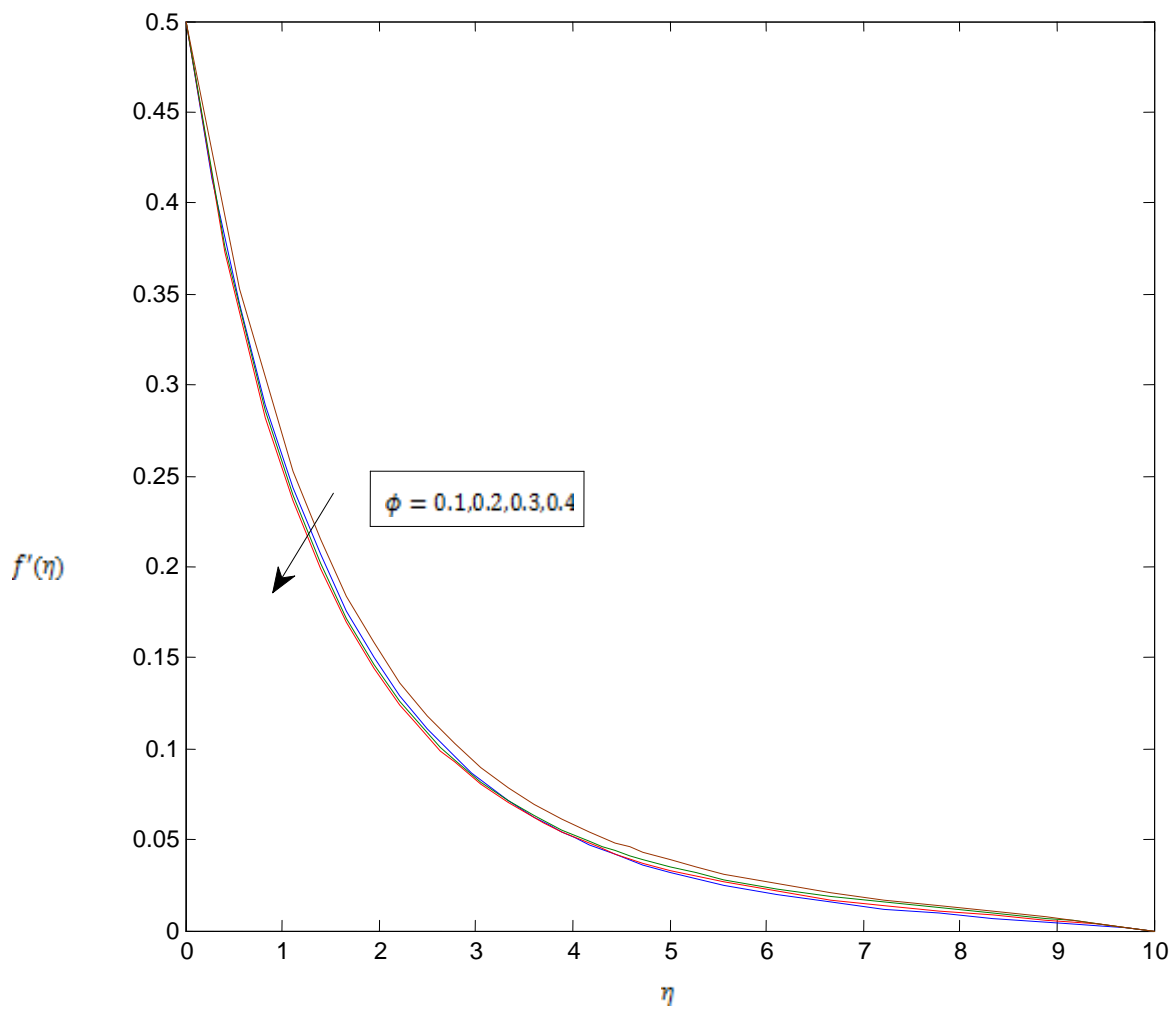


**Figure 2:**  $\zeta = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4$ ,  $M=0.2$ ,  $\phi=0.1$ ,  $A=0.2$ ,  $\varepsilon=0.5$ . Velocity profile for different values of mixed convection parameter  $\zeta$ .

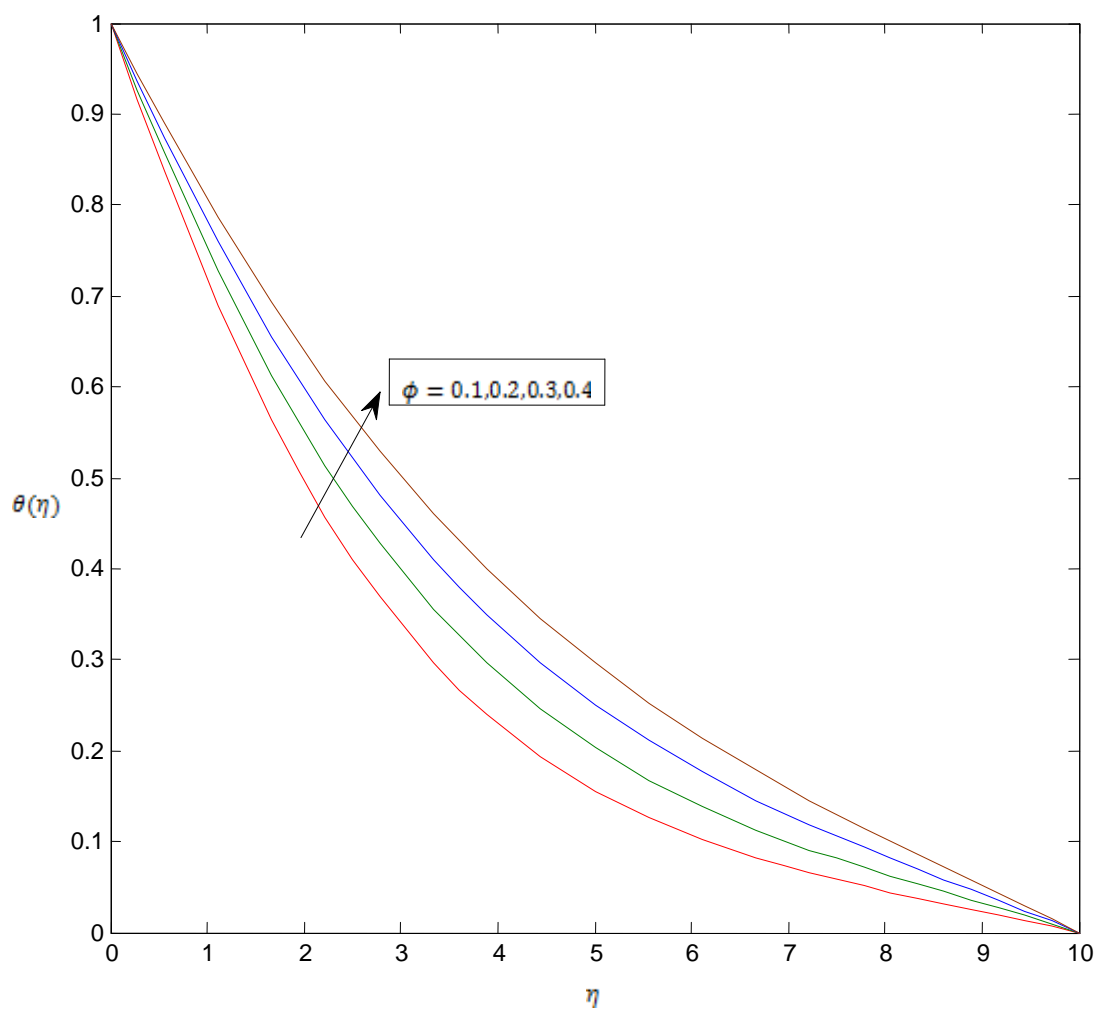




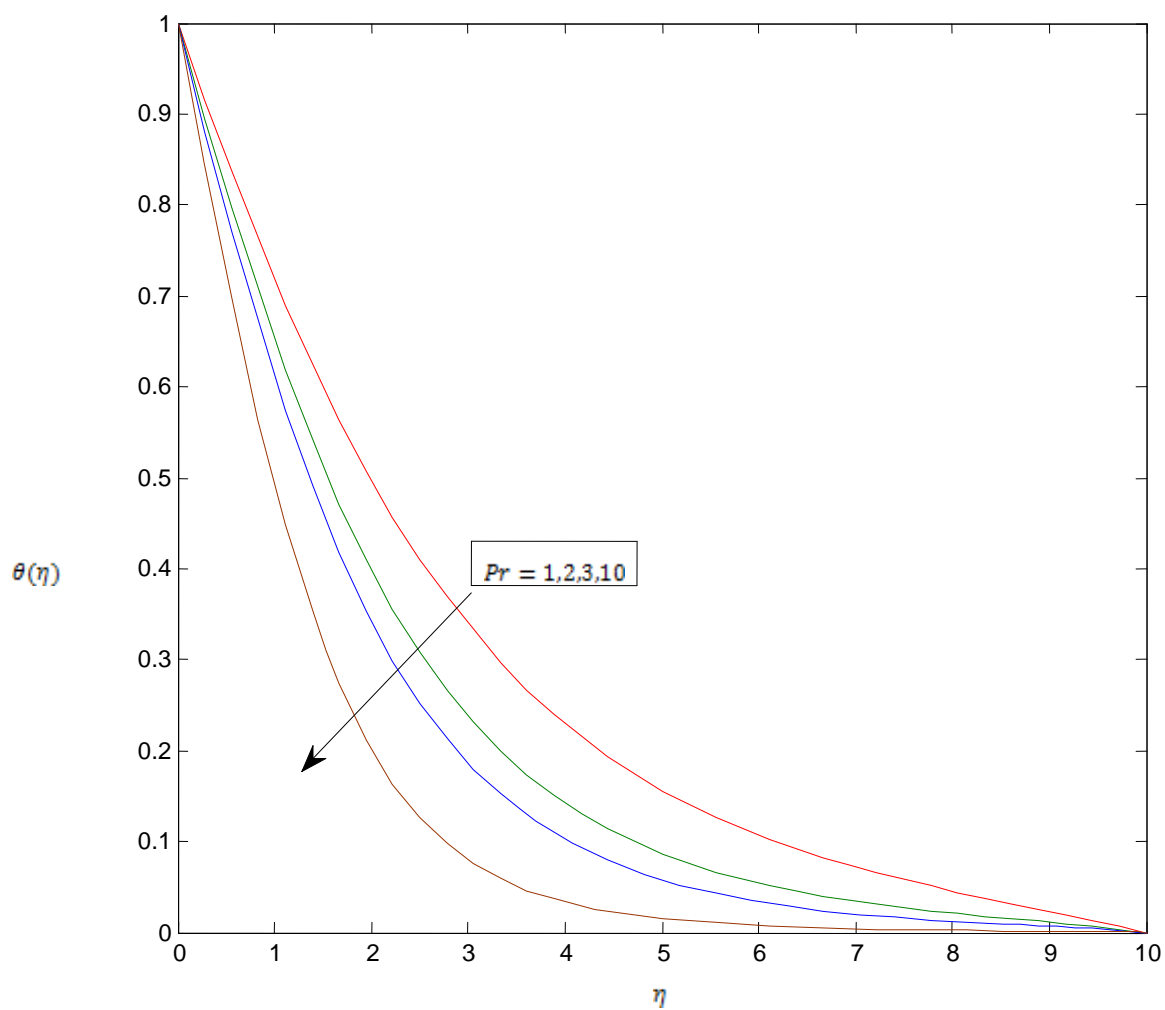
**Figure 1:**  $A=0.0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, M=0.2, \zeta=0.2, A=0.2, \phi=0.1, \varepsilon=0.5$ . Velocity profile for different values of unsteadiness parameter  $A$ .



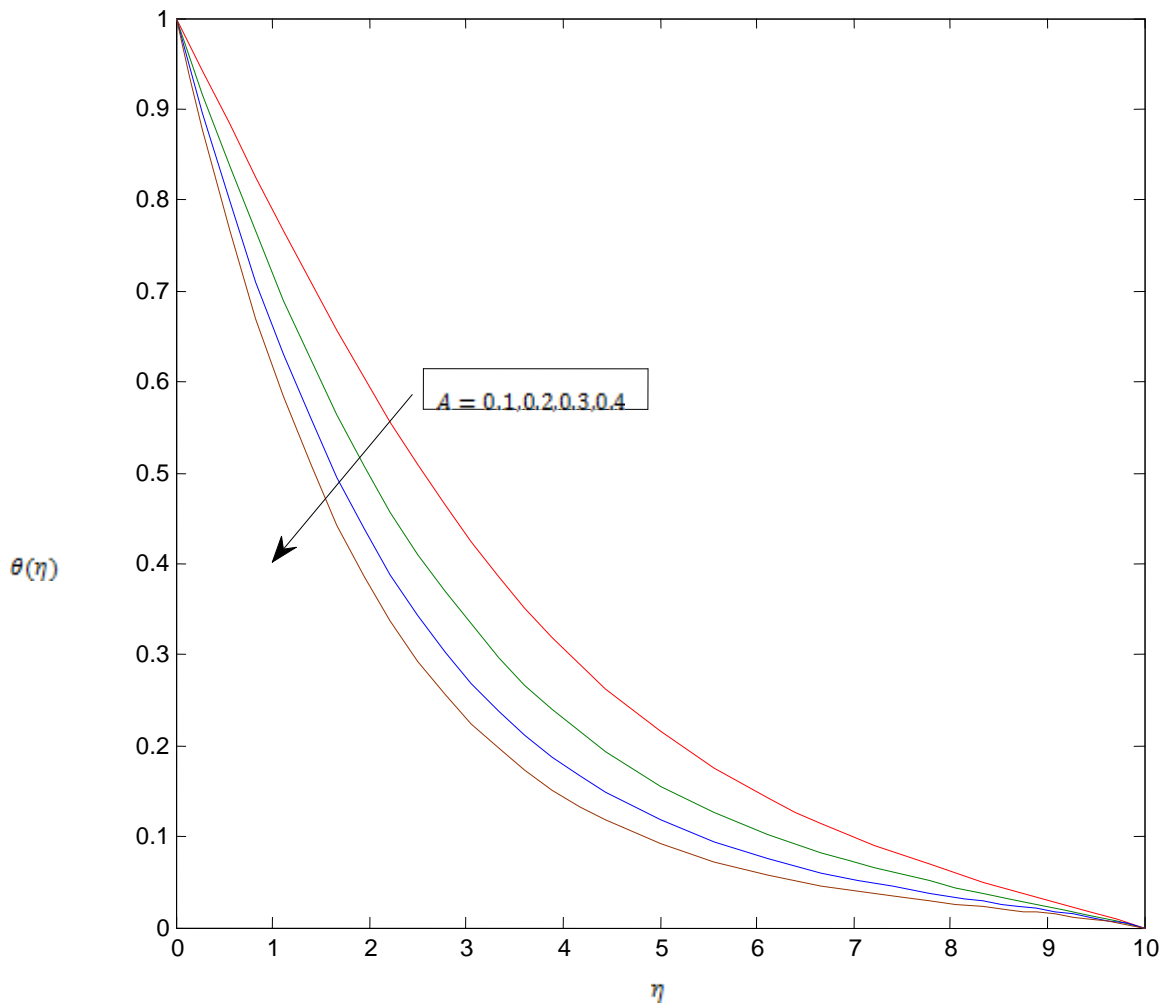
**Figure 4:**  $\phi=0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4$ ,  $A=0.2$ ,  $M=0.2$ ,  $\zeta=0.4$ ,  $\varepsilon=0.5$ . Velocity profile for different values of solid volume fraction  $\phi$



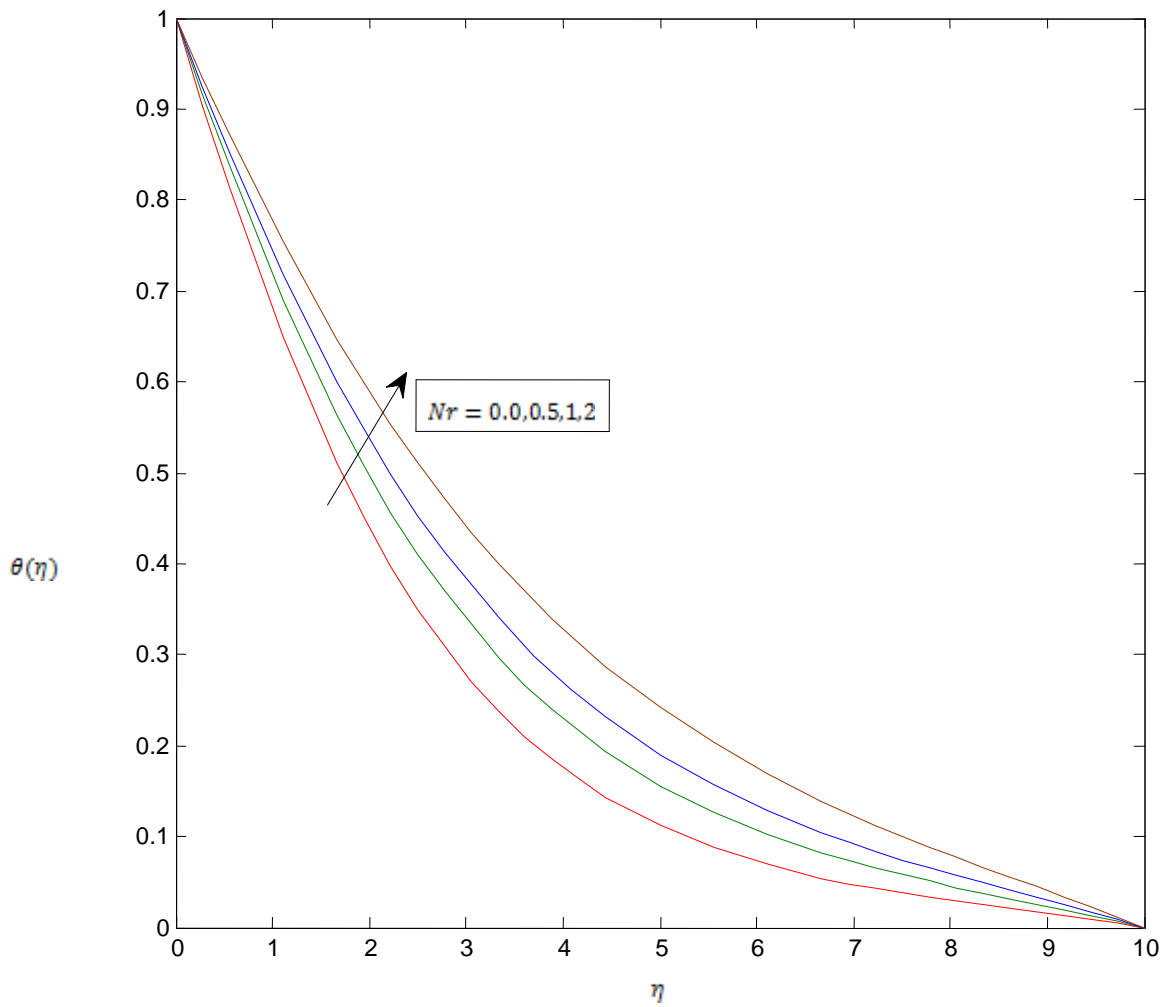
**Figure 5:**  $\phi=0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, A=0.2, Pr=1, Nr=Nt=Nb=0.5, Le=1$ . Temperature profile for different values of solid volume fraction  $\phi$ .



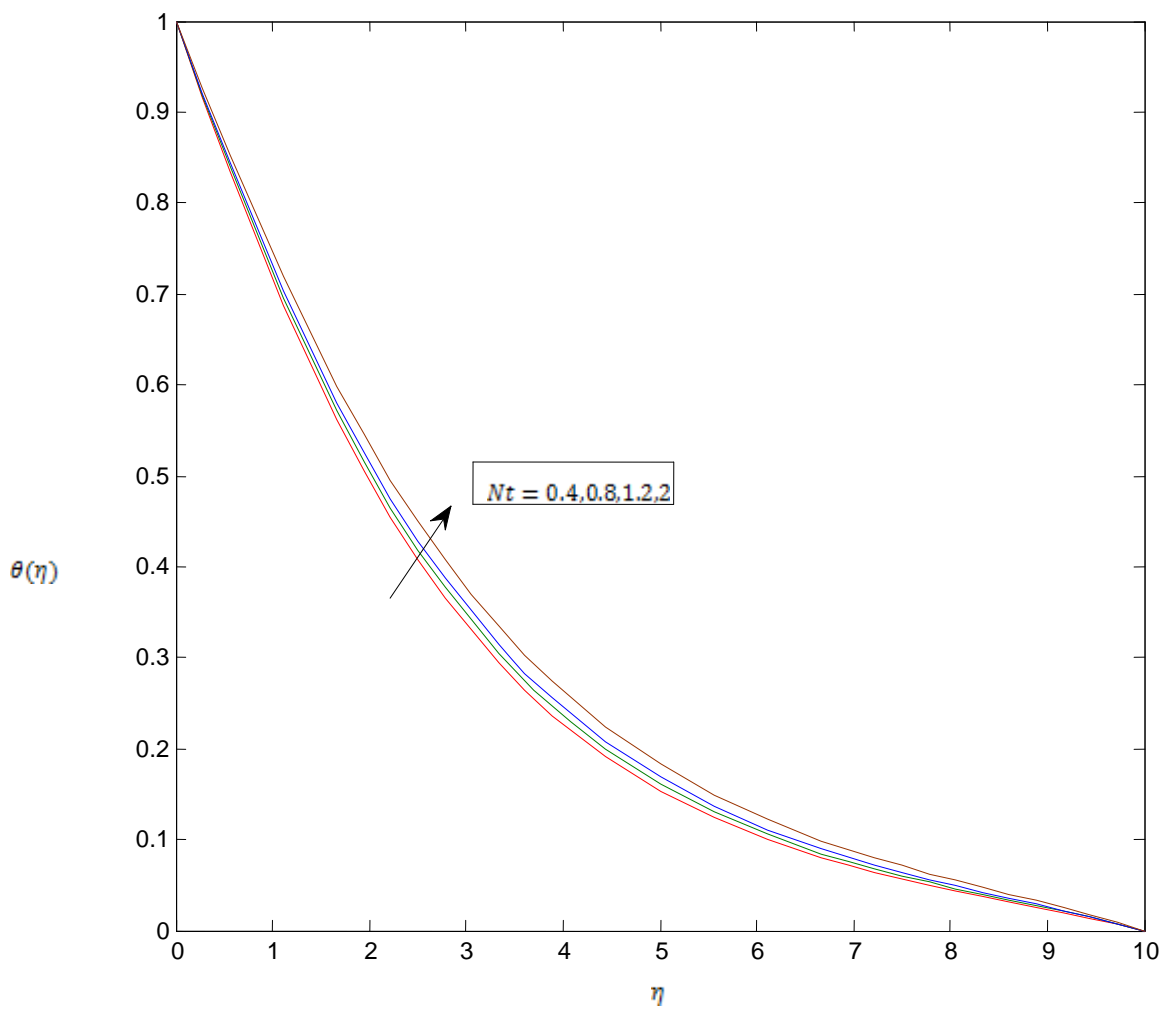
**Figure 6:**  $Pr=0.72, 1, 3, Nr=0.5, A=1.5, Nr=Nt=Nb=0.5, Le=1, \phi=0.1$ . Temperature profile for different values of Prandtl number  $Pr$ .



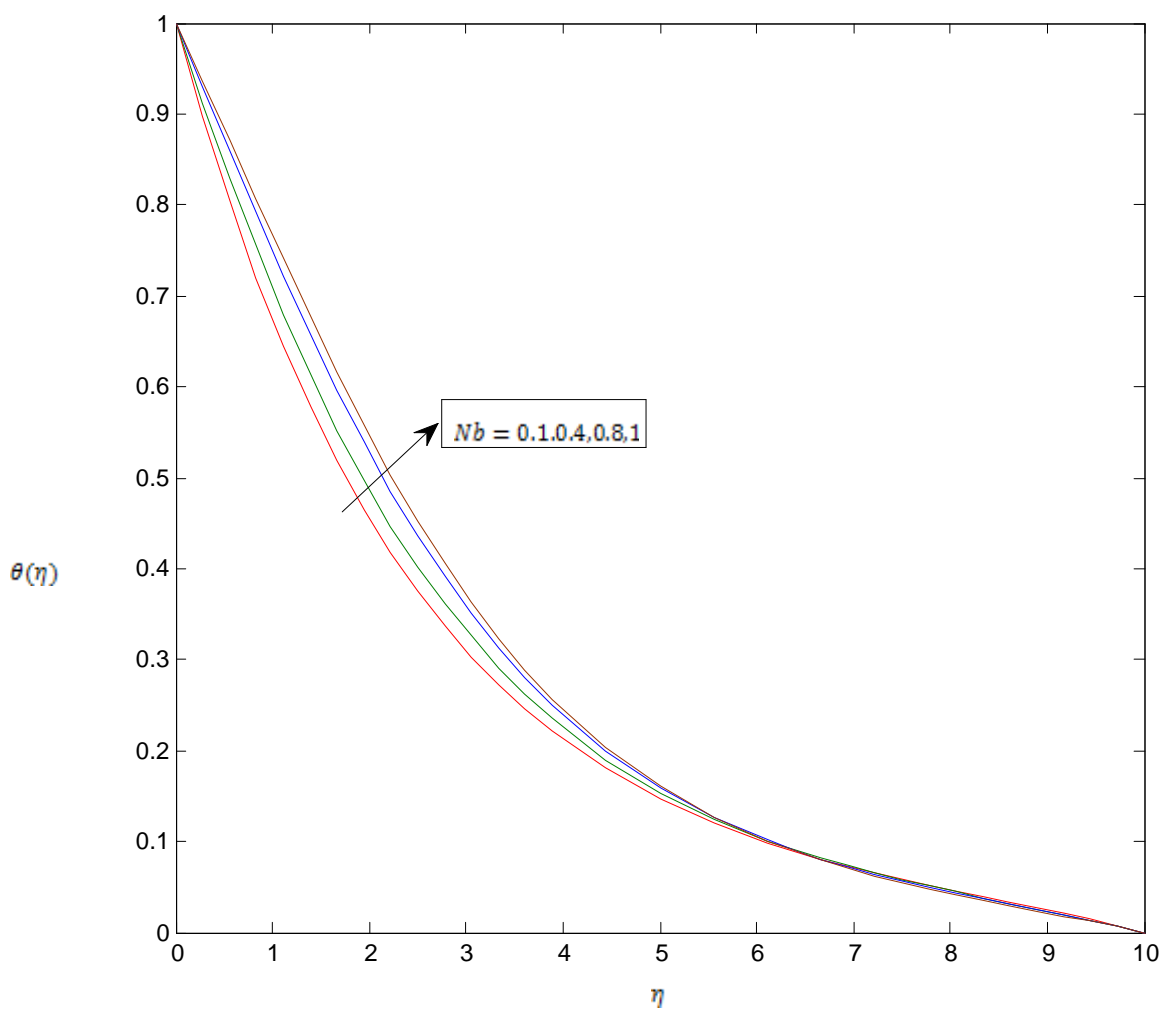
**Figure 7:**  $A=0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4$ ,  $Pr=1$ ,  $Nr=Nt=Nb=0.5$ ,  $Le=1$ ,  $\phi=0.1$ . Temperature profile for different values of unsteadiness parameter  $A$ .



**Figure 8:**  $Nr=0.0, 0.5, 1, 2, \phi=0.1, A=0.2, Pr=1, Nt=Nb=0.5, Le=1$ . Temperature profile for different values of radiation parameter  $Nr$ .

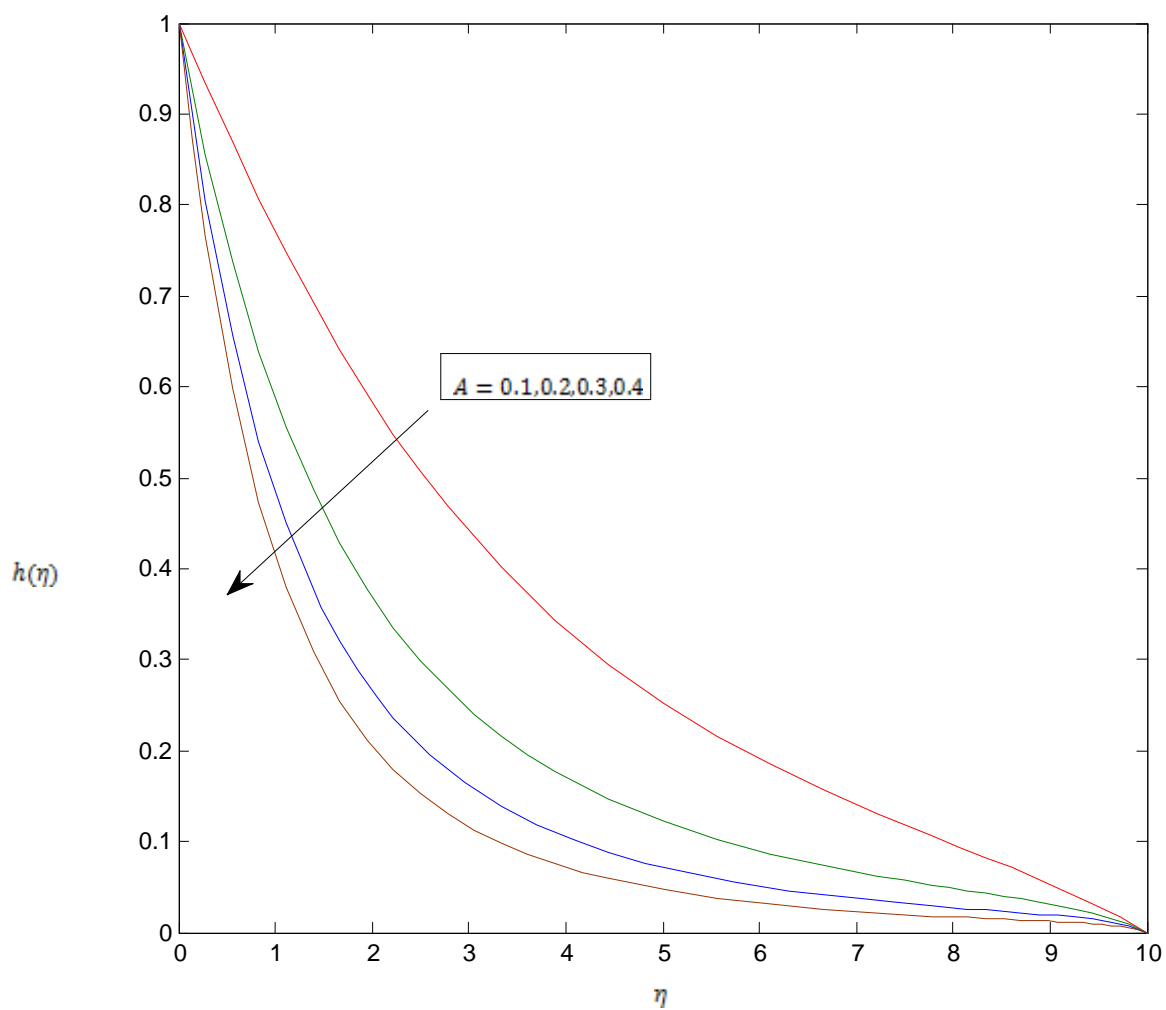


**Figure 9:**  $Nt= 0.4, 0.8, 1, 2, A=0.2, Pr=1, \phi=0.1, Nr=Nb=0.5, Le=1$ . Temperature profile for different values of thermophoresis number  $Nt$ .

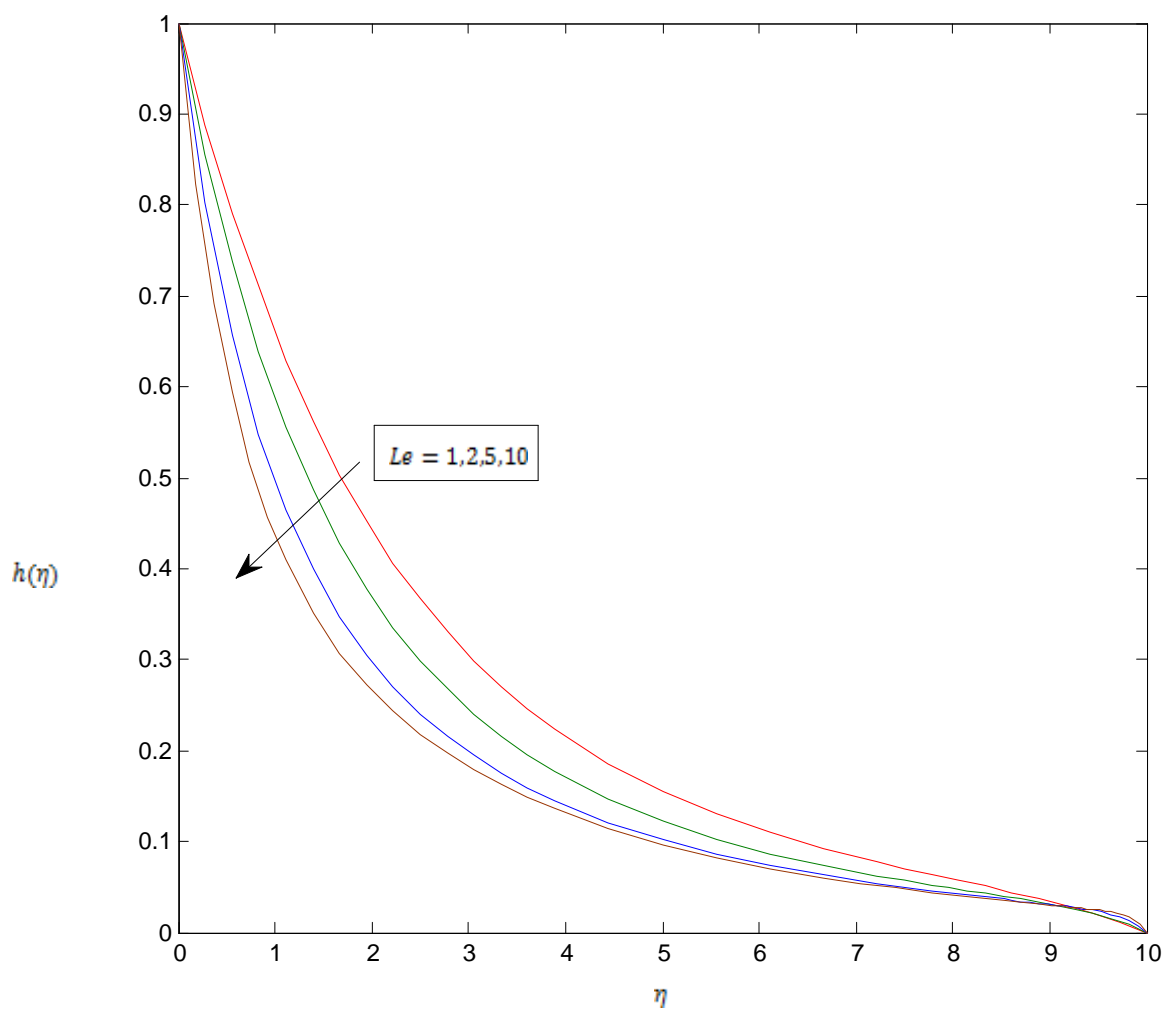


**Figure 10:**  $Nb = 0.1, 0.4, 0.8, 1$ ,  $A = 0.2$ ,  $Pr = 1$ ,  $\phi = 0.1$ ,  $Nr = Nt = 0.5$ ,  $Le = 1$ . Temperature profile for different values of Brownian motion number  $Nb$ .

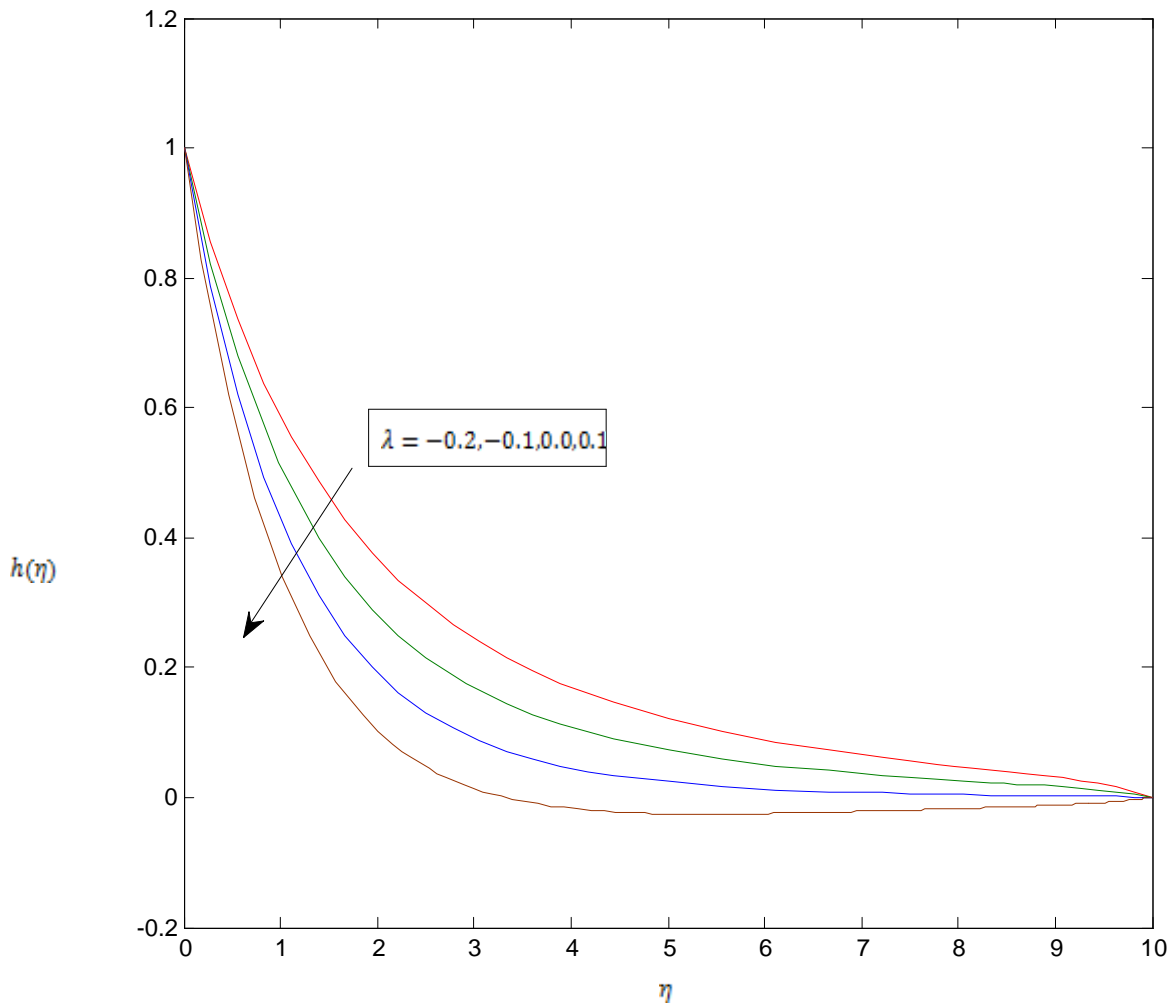




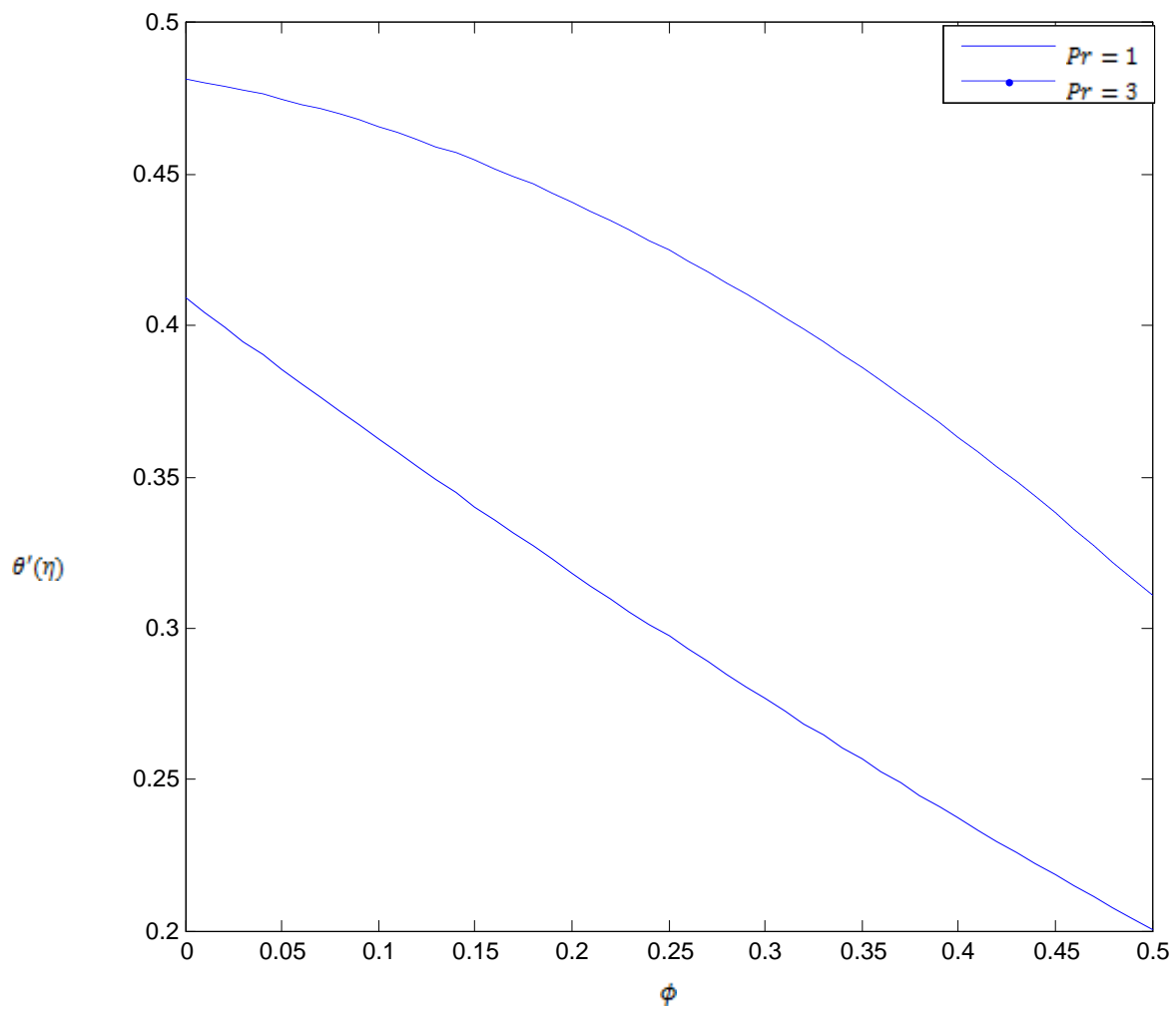
**Figure 11:**  $A=0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, \lambda=-0.2, Le=2$ . Concentration profile for variation in unsteady parameter A.



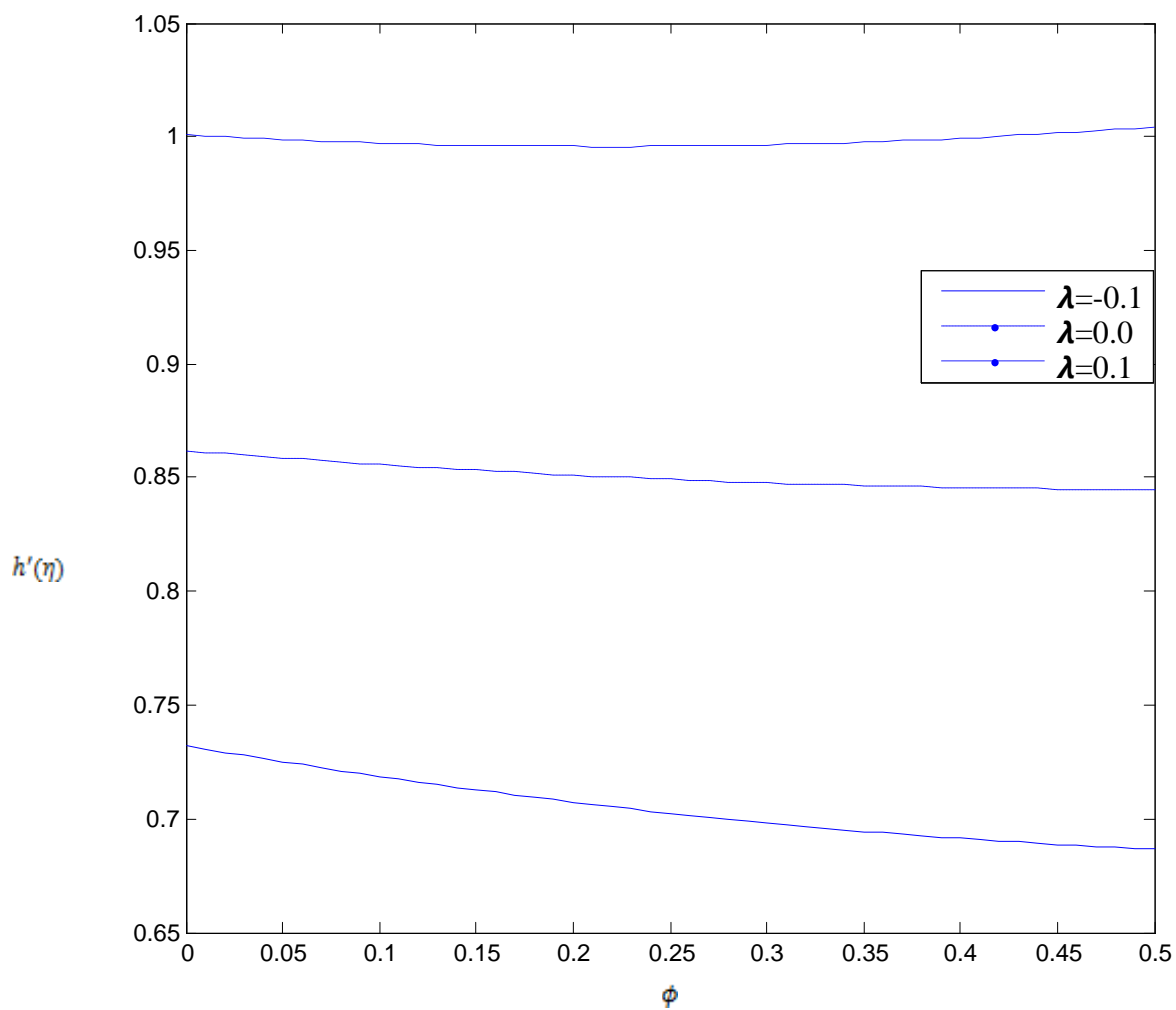
**Figure 22:**  $Le=1, 2, 5, 10$ ,  $A=0.2$ ,  $\lambda=-0.2$ . Concentration profile for variation in Lewis number  $Le$



**Figure 13:**  $\lambda = -0.2, -0.1, 0.0, 0.1, A = 0.2, Le = 2$ . Concentration profile for variation in varying reaction rate parameter  $\lambda$ .



**Figure 14:** Nusselt number against different values of  $\phi$ .



**Figure 15:** Sherwood number against different values of  $\phi$ .