

APPLICATION OF CAPUTO FRACTIONAL DERIVATIVES TO THE
THERMAL RADIATIVE CONVECTIVE CASSON FLOW IN A
MICROCHANNEL

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ABSTRACT

The application of fractional derivative is currently convenient and anticipated in the industrial and technological fields due to its unique properties. Therefore, the goal of this research is to learn more about the characteristics of the Caputo fractional derivative, which is one of the most often used fractional derivative operators. Additionally, microchannels exist in many industries and engineering process equipment, and their geometrical structure is one of the most important factors influencing fluid flow. Therefore, in this thesis, the Casson fluid behavior flowing in three different forms of microchannel which are static, accelerated, and oscillating is investigated. The effect of thermal radiation on the Casson fluid is also considered. The formulation of the governing equation for the problems is thoroughly discussed. First, the partial differential equations and boundary conditions are transformed into dimensionless equations by using appropriate dimensionless variables. Second, the resultant dimensionless governing equations are transformed into fractional form by using Caputo fractional derivatives. The equations are then reduced to linear ordinary differential equations by using the Laplace transform technique and solved by using appropriate methods. Finally, the numerical solution is obtained by using the inverse Laplace transform technique with the help of Zakian's explicit formula approach. The result of velocity and temperature profiles are plotted by using Mathcad software. The obtained solutions are reduced to the published results for such problem for verification and accuracy, and have achieved excellent agreement. The influence of key physical parameters on the velocity and temperature profiles is analyzed and discussed in depth. The results reveal that as the fractional and radiation parameters are increased, the velocity and temperature profiles for all three geometries of the microchannel increase. On the contrary, high Prandtl numbers have increased the viscous force, resulting in a reduction in both profiles. Since the Grashof number has a positive influence on the buoyancy force, it has caused the velocity profile to increase. Meanwhile, the velocity profile reveals a contrasting pattern, with the Casson fluid parameter increasing due to increased viscous forces compared to thermal forces.

ABSTRAK

Penggunaan terbitan pecahan pada masa ini mudah dan dijangkakan penggunaannya dalam bidang perindustrian dan teknologi kerana sifatnya yang unik. Oleh itu, matlamat penyelidikan ini adalah untuk meneroka lebih lanjut tentang ciri-ciri terbitan pecahan Caputo iaitu salah satu operator terbitan pecahan yang paling banyak digunakan. Tambahan pula, mikrosalur banyak terdapat dalam peralatan proses di industri dan kejuruteraan, dan struktur geometri mikrosalur merupakan salah satu faktor paling kritikal yang mempengaruhi aliran bendalir. Oleh itu, dalam tesis ini, kelakuan bendalir Casson yang mengalir dalam tiga jenis mikrosalur iaitu statik, dipercepat, dan berayun diselidiki. Kesan sinaran terma ke atas bendalir Casson juga dipertimbangkan. Formulasi persamaan menakluk bagi semua masalah dibincangkan secara terperinci. Pertama, persamaan terbitan separa dan semua syarat sempadan diubah menjadi persamaan tak berdimensi, dengan menggunakan pembolehubah tak berdimensi yang sesuai. Kedua, persamaan menakluk tak berdimensi yang diperoleh diubah menjadi bentuk pecahan, dengan menggunakan terbitan pecahan Caputo. Persamaan tersebut kemudiannya diturunkan ke persamaan terbitan biasa linear dengan menggunakan teknik penjelmaan Laplace dan diselesaikan dengan menggunakan kaedah yang bersesuaian. Akhirnya, penyelesaian berangka diperoleh menggunakan teknik penjelmaan Laplace songsang dengan bantuan pendekatan formula eksplisit Zakian. Keputusan profil halaju dan suhu diplot dengan menggunakan perisian Mathcad. Penyelesaian yang diperoleh diturunkan kepada keputusan yang telah diterbitkan bagi setiap masalah tersebut bagi tujuan pengesahan dan ketepatan, dan telah memperoleh persetujuan yang baik. Pengaruh parameter fizikal ke atas profil halaju berserta suhu dianalisis dan dibincangkan secara terperinci. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa dengan peningkatan parameter pecahan dan sinaran, profil halaju dan suhu meningkat untuk ketiga-tiga geometri mikrosalur. Sebaliknya, nombor Prandtl yang tinggi telah meningkatkan daya likat, mengakibatkan kedua-dua profil menurun. Oleh kerana nombor Grashof mempunyai pengaruh positif ke atas daya keapungan, maka profil halaju telah meningkat. Sementara itu, profil halaju menunjukkan keadaan yang bertentangan apabila meningkatnya parameter bendalir Casson yang disebabkan oleh peningkatan daya likat berbanding dengan daya terma.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

MHD	-	Magnetohydrodynamic
ODE	-	Ordinary Differential Equations
PDE	-	Partial Differential Equations

LIST OF SYMBOLS

A	-	Acceleration of plate
C_p	-	Specific heat at constant pressure
d	-	Distance between two plates
$D_t^\alpha(..)$	-	Time fractional derivative of order α
e	-	Internal energy
g	-	Gravitational acceleration
Gr	-	Grashof number
$H(t)$	-	Heaviside function
\mathbf{i}	-	Cartesian unit vector in x – axis direction
\mathbf{j}	-	Cartesian unit vector in y – axis direction
\mathbf{k}	-	Cartesian unit vector in z – axis direction
k	-	Thermal conductivity
k_1	-	Mean absorption coefficient
\mathcal{L}	-	Laplace transform
p	-	Pressure
p_d	-	Dynamic pressure
p_h	-	Hydrostatic pressure
p_y	-	Yield stress
Pr	-	Prandtl number
q	-	Laplace transform parameter
q_r	-	Radiative heat flux
\mathbf{q}''	-	Heat conduction per unit area
R	-	Radiation parameter
t	-	Time
T	-	Temperature
T_w	-	Wall temperature
T_o	-	Ambient temperature
u	-	Velocity in x – axis direction
U	-	Amplitude of the plate oscillations

v	-	Dimensionless velocity
V^2	-	Magnitude of velocity
x	-	Dimensional coordinate axis along the plate
y	-	Dimensional coordinate axis normal to the plate

Greek Letters

α	-	Fractional parameter
β	-	Casson fluid parameter
β_T	-	Volumetric coefficient of thermal expansion
β_o	-	Dimensionless Casson fluid parameter
∇	-	Vector operator Del
γ	-	Dimensionless acceleration of plate
μ	-	Dynamic viscosity
μ_B	-	Plastic dynamic viscosity
τ	-	Shear stress
π	-	Product of deformation rate with itself
π_c	-	Critical value of product
ρ	-	Fluid density
$\rho\mathbf{b}$	-	Body force
$\bar{\theta}$	-	Dimensionless temperature
ν	-	Kinematic viscosity
ξ	-	Dimensionless coordinate axis normal to the plate
$\Omega\tau$	-	Phase angle
σ	-	Stefan-Boltzmann constant
ω	-	Frequency of oscillation

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

In this chapter, research background, problem statement, research objectives, scope of study as well as the significance of study is presented. The research background briefly describes the study of fractional derivative which is the Caputo fractional derivative operator. The discussion is focused on the convective flow of Casson fluid in a microchannel with the presence of thermal radiation. The problem statement provides some questions on the mathematical modelling, analytical solutions using Laplace transform method and the effects of pertinent parameters. The research objectives have fulfilled the problem statement together with scope and significance of the study.

1.2 Research Background

Generally, the motion in the nature such as fluid flow, heat transfer, wave of sound and others can be mathematically described by using the partial differential equation (PDE). Stated by Strauss (2007), PDE is an equation that consist of more than one independent variable such as x , y , and z . For example, Farlow (1993) declared that the temperature $T(x, t)$ is dependent on two variables which are x (location) and t (time). Moreover, Renardy and Rogers (2004) have mentioned that partial differential equation (PDE) is more advanced as compared to ordinary differential equations or theory of functions of a single complex variable.

PDE is widely use in various area such as engineering, physics, and stochastic problems, since natural phenomena including velocity and acceleration are

normally described in derivatives (Farlow, 1993). Besides, PDEs are often used by scientist and engineers to explore a wide range of physical phenomenon including fluid dynamics, electricity, magnetic fields, and thermal transfer (Farlow, 1993). The Maxwell's equations, the Navier-Stokes equations and Newton's equations of motion are some examples of physicist's natural law that is stated in terms of PDE. There are a few PDE that are well-known and commonly used without being notice. Some of the PDE are as shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Examples of commonly used PDE

$u_t = u_{xx}$	Heat equation in one dimension
$u_t = u_{xx} + u_{yy}$	Heat equation in two dimensions
$u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}u_{\theta\theta} = 0$	Laplace's equation in polar coordinates
$u_t = u_{xx} + u_{yy} + u_{zz}$	Wave equation in three dimensions

According to Causon and Mingham (2010), PDE can be existed in several dimensions depending to the number of independent spatial variables it contains as represented on the Table 1.1. However, the most common dimensions that PDE ever use is in 2D and 3D. They also stated that second order linear PDE are classified into 3 generic types which are elliptic, parabolic and hyperbolic. The importance of PDE can be seen to describe the conservation laws in fluid dynamic since the flow variables rely on other independent variables. The partial derivative of a multivariable function is its derivative with respect to one of the variables while the rest are held constant. The symbol of partial derivative is represented as ∂ . Researchers are always curious on the usage of fluid dynamics due to its development in sciences and the utilization of it's as a critical tool in numerous industrial and technological applications for centuries. Fluid dynamics has evolved from a well-developed research field to a widely practical topic with a greater scope.

Fluids can be categorized in two main classes which are known as Newtonian fluids and non-Newtonian fluids. A Newtonian fluid is one in which the stress versus strain rate curve shows a linear trend and passes through origin. Viscosity is the

result of having a constant proportionality. Hence Newtonian fluid is said to be the simplest mathematical model of fluid. Historically, Isaac Newton was the founder to the fluid hence it is named after him who first used the differential equation to hypothesize the interaction between shear stress and shear rate. This fluid has a linear relationship which obey the Newton's law of viscosity,

$$\tau_s = \mu \frac{du}{dy}, \quad (1.1)$$

where the τ_s denoted the shear stress in the fluid, the shear viscosity of the fluid, μ , is a scalar constant of proportionality and u is the velocity in the direction of y -axis. There are a few examples of Newtonian fluids such as water and oil. These are the examples over the range of shear stress and shear rate that people experience in daily life. Whereas benzene, glycerine and alcohol are examples of Newtonian fluids that are commonly found in scientific lab. Stated by Khan *et. al.* (2014) many researchers have been including shear stress as the boundary related to fluid mechanics.

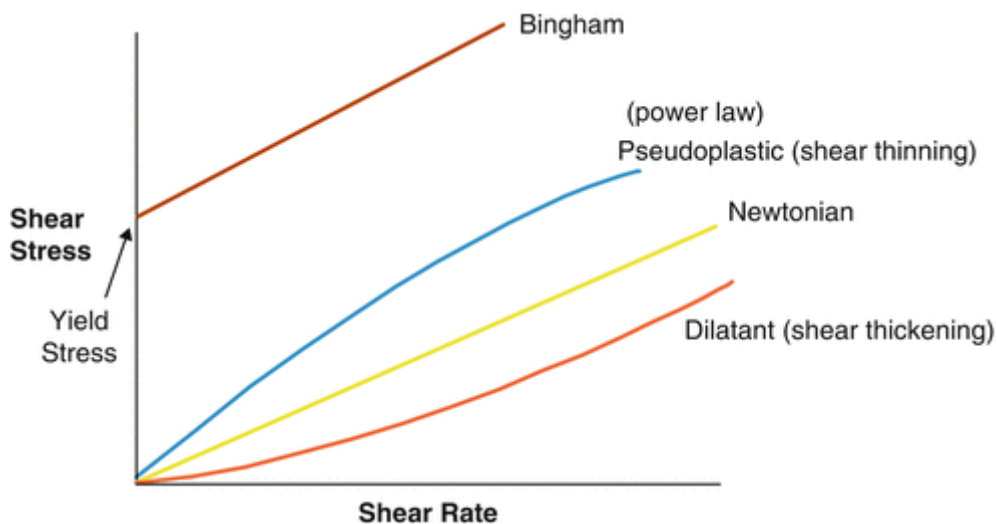


Figure 1.1: Shear stress versus shear rate of Newtonian fluids

Figure 1.1 is retrieved from George and Qureshi, 2013. Based on Figure 1, it shows the plot of shear stress versus shear rate shows Newtonian offer a linear increase in stress as shear rates increase. Meanwhile the viscosity of the fluid is represented by the slope. Hence, it means that their viscosity will remains constant

all the time as no matter how quick the Newtonian fluids are pressured to flow through such a pipe or channel.

Meanwhile, non-Newtonian is a vice versa of Newtonian fluid. Non-Newtonian fluid does not obey the Newton's Law hence the shear stress is not necessarily proportional to the shear rate. Referring to Figure 1.2 (UKEssays, 2018), the viscosity of non-Newtonian fluid is depending on shear rate either the shear will be thickening or thinning. Shear thinning fluid is known as pseudoplastic fluid whereas shear thickening fluid is recognized as dilatant fluid. The contrary of non-Newtonian fluid is the fluid shows either a non-linear relationship between shear stress and shear rate, as well as yield stress or a viscosity that is time or deformation dependent. If the viscosity of the fluid increase, the shear rate increases hence the fluid is called as shear thickening. A mixture of a corn starch and water is the examples of shear thickening fluids whereas the example of shear thinning fluids is wall paint.

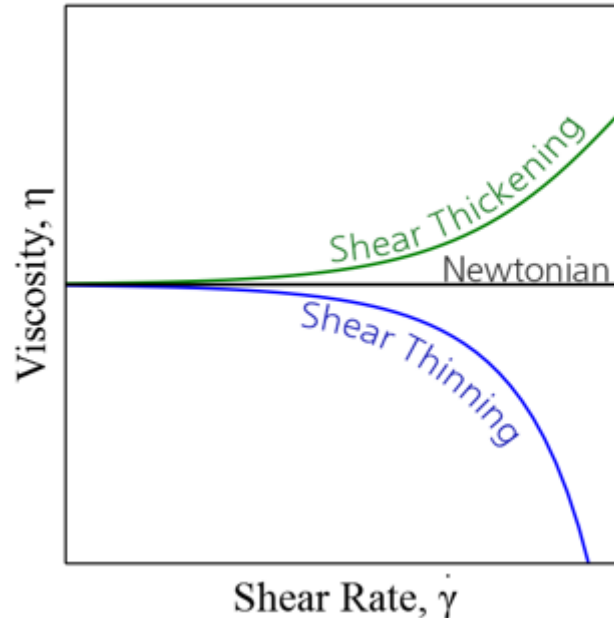


Figure 1.2: Viscosity versus shear rate of non-Newtonian fluids

Moreover, many researchers agreed that the governing equation for non-Newtonian fluid is much non-linear and complicated compared to Newtonian fluid. The statement is acknowledged by Khalid *et. al.* (2015) where the governing

equations of non-Newtonian fluids manipulate highly non-linear differential equations that are normally difficult to solve. Non-Newtonian fluid are commonly used in industry such as in printing. As non-Newtonian fluid is more viscous compared to Newtonian fluid, it can enhance the sharpness and the quality of the printing. The shear thinning contributes to the properties of the printing ink. Therefore, to thicken the viscosity of the ink, this is where non-Newtonian will help as a thickening agent. Other than in printing industry, Hussanan *et. al.* (2013) also mentions that non-Newtonian fluids are used in cosmetics, pharmaceutical and food industries. Also supported by Khalid *et. al.* (2015) applications of non-Newtonian fluids are broad including in geophysics and petroleum industries.

The most common type of non-Newtonian fluid used by researchers is Casson fluid (Arthur *et. al.* (2015) and Oke *et. al.* (2020)). Basically, Casson fluid is a fluid that behaved as a shear thinning liquid. The characteristics of Casson fluid are, firstly, at zero rate of shear, it is simulated to have an infinite viscosity. Secondly, a yield stress below which there is no flow. Lastly, it has a zero viscosity at an infinite rate of shear. If lesser shear stress compared to yield stress is applied to the fluid, Casson fluid will behaves like a solid. While on the other hand, Casson fluid will be moving when greater shear stress compared to the yield stress is applied. There are several examples of Casson fluid that can be seen in real-life such as ketchup, honey, and even human blood.

Casson fluids are extensively studies theoretically employing classical or ordinary PDE. However, it is widely acknowledged that fractional PDE's are more efficient for accurately illustrating physical phenomena. Dalir and Bashour (2010) mentioned that heat transfer, biology, physics, chemistry, quantum mechanics, viscoelastic material, rheology, fluid flow, diffusive transport, probability, electrical networks and electromagnetic theory are among the fields where time fractional model has grabbed a growing focus.

Based on Khalil *et. al.* (2014), fractional derivative has been existed a long time ago, and even as old as calculus. Fractional derivative has erupted after a conversation between L'Hospital and Leibniz take place. Since then, definition for

fractional derivative has been tried to put by many researchers and most of them used an integral form to express fractional derivative. Fractional calculus is a division of mathematics that extend the concept of classical integral and derivatives of integer order to non-integer order integral and derivatives. The application of fractional derivatives has provided more general and accurate models of a system compared to the traditional calculus. Ray *et. al.* (2014) has mentioned the vast range of fields on the usage of fractional derivatives in science as well as engineering fields. In example for accurate modelling of systems that require correct damping modelling, the fractional derivative models are used. Furthermore, fractional order PDEs control most physical processes in electricity, quantum physics and other models within their scope of validity. Consequently, to solve fractional order PDEs are important for researchers to know all the traditional and the develop methods.

The most popular and frequently used of fractional derivative operators are Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative as well as Caputo fractional derivative. The Riemann-Liouville and Caputo fractional operators have been extensively employed in a variety discipline of science and technology (Metzler and Klafter, 2000). However, the development of fractional derivatives has brought it to a various definition according to its type. Each fractional derivative operator has development in its features such as the kernel features, singularity, locality, and the benefits of the implementation. Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative is said to have an unusual initial condition. In addition, the derivative of a constant is not zero. Therefore, the existence of Caputo fractional derivative operator solves the problem of this unusual initial condition that has no physical meaning and is difficult to compute.

According to Luchko and Gorenflo (1999), Caputo was the first to realise that the Laplace transform could be used to create a fractional derivative operator from the convolution product: the convolution of the function's classical derivative with the power Law kernel, which is given by

$$D_t^\alpha f(y,t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{1}{(t-\tau)^\alpha} \frac{\partial f(y,\tau)}{\partial \tau} \partial \tau; 0 < \alpha < 1, \\ \frac{\partial f(y,t)}{\partial t}; \alpha = 1, \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

where the Laplace transform of equation (1.2) is as follows

$$\mathcal{L}\{D_t^\alpha f(y,t)\}(q) = q^\alpha \bar{f}(y,q) - f(y,0). \quad (1.3)$$

From equation (1.2), $D_t^\alpha(\cdot)$ represents the Caputo fractional derivative, α depicts the fractional order, q is the Laplace transform variable, $\bar{f}(y,q)$ illustrate the Laplace transform of function $f(y,t)$ and the usual initial conditions is represented by $f(y,0)$. Kernel of Caputo fractional derivative is singular. The result acquired from equation (1.2), shows that the power law kernel's singularity vanishes. With the existence of Caputo fractional derivative operator, the flaws of the Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative were fixe. It was competently implemented in a variety of fields of science and technology. As mentioned by Haque *et. al.* (2018), application of Caputo fractional derivative can be seen as such in glass blowing, biometric foods and metallic plate cooling.

Many researchers have demonstrated the importance and effectiveness of fractional derivatives in engineering applications through their research and studies. From previous research conducted by Song and Jiang (1998), they empirically confirmed that the fractional Jeffrey model is suitable for illustrating the behaviour of Sesbania gel with xanthan gum. In 2007, Jumarie has investigate PDE using fractional derivative and solve using modified Riemann-Liouville derivative. Recently, Abro *et. al.* (2019) analyses fractional derivate approach to solve PDE problem. Then, Abro and Aguilar (2019) also have discussed on fractional derivative approach to solve Walter's-B fluid. The fractional Voigt model is demonstrated by Meral *et. al.* (2010) in simulating the wave response of soft tissue, such as phantoms. Meanwhile heat transmission in biological tissues can be consistently evaluated

using fractional wave models, according to Jiang and Qi (2012). According to Chen *et. al.* (2013), the data produced from fractional derivative models had a significantly better agreement with experimental data as compared to the classical model.

For fractional differential equations, a broad class of initial value problems is solved by applying the Laplace transform technique. A French mathematician, Pierre Simon de Laplace has introduced the Laplace transform. It is widely used since its main purpose is to solve differential equations easier as it provides a structured alternative approach. Moreover, Kexue and Jigen (2011) has investigate the rationality of solving fractional differential equations by using Laplace transform approach. The Laplace transform is very efficient in solving linear ODEs that usually occurs in the study of electronic circuits and control systems. While the Laplace inverse is used to transfer any variable domain back to its basic domain in a fractional differential equation.

The application of fluid problem in micro devices is currently in attention by many researchers due to its importance in real-life problems. Due to its deep mathematical significance and wide variety of applications in biological research, industries, and engineering, convection heat transfer of fluid flow in a microchannel are of immense interest in fluid dynamics. The analysis of microchannel flow problems to investigate trends and properties of embedded flow parameters in microchannel flows has mathematical impact. Khan *et. al.* (2018) agrees that many researchers has gain interest to study on the fluid flow in microchannel since its practical uses include in space technology, engineering, and material processing operations as well as in high power density processors in supercomputers and many other devices. In engineering context, microfluidics is flows of fluid and gases in single or multiple phases through microdevices fabricated by Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (MEMS) technology (Tabeling, 2001). Stated by Gad-el-Hak (1999), MEMS devices that involves fluid flows are such as microducts, micropumps, microturbines and microvalves.

Heat convection is the transport of heat from one spot to another. It can either be free, force or even mixed convection. According to Ullah *et. al.* (2017), non-

Newtonian fluids have poor thermophysical properties by nature and are incapable of transferring the desired quantity of heat in a heat transport system. In heat transport systems, the convection heat transmission has become a tricky problem for engineers and industrialist. Therefore, there was a sense of urgency in dealing with this issue. Changes in boundary conditions, flow geometry or by enhancing the thermal conductivity of the flowing fluid can all improve heat transfer in a convective flow of fluid. Thermal radiation is widely use in the application of industries. It is the emission of electromagnetic waves from any type of matter that has temperature greater than absolute zero. In other words, when there is a thermal motion of particles present in matter, the thermal radiation is produced. In addition, whenever there is particle motion also, it will activate charge-acceleration or dipole oscillation which will eventually results in an electromagnetic radiation. As an example, electric heater emits an infrared radiation which will help a person to feel a radiated heat of the fire even the surrounding air is very cold. Obeying the Kirchhoff's radiation law, objects that are good emitters are also nominated as good absorbers, such as a black surface which is an excellent emitter, hence it will absorb excellently. In contrast with black surface, silver surface is a poor emitter and poor absorber.

In the present research, the application of Caputo fractional derivative for Casson fluid is studied. The geometry of this research is a vertical microchannel. The result from this study can be used to improve industrial thermal conductivity activities. Furthermore, the application of Caputo fractional derivative itself is recognized in solving the accurate description of physical phenomena. The involution product of fractional derivative and power-law function has successfully made up a Caputo fractional derivative operator. Hence, the issue of an unusual initial condition with no physical meaning that had been difficult to compute was resolved. Bearing in mind the importance of fractional derivatives, very few studies have been reported on non-Newtonian fluid flowing in microchannel with fractional derivative approach. Khan *et. al.* (2017) discussed on the application of Caputo-Fabrizio fractional derivative to the convective flow of Casson fluid in a microchannel. Whereas the application of Caputo-Fabrizio and Atangana-Balenau fractional derivative to a rotational second grade fluid is discussed by Abro *et. al.* (2020). To fill in the research gap, this study also adds physical parameter which is

thermal radiation to enhance the knowledge on thermal radiation effect on convective flow of Casson fluid with the application of Caputo fractional derivative.

1.3 Problem Statement

Non-Newtonian fluid is a type of fluid that is important for researchers and engineers. Furthermore, non-Newtonian fluid currently have gained much attention by them due to its potential in industrial and technological processes, where it can help testing on automotive heat industries as well as heat changers situation. Non-Newtonian fluids such as Casson fluid is normally used by researchers to describe the blood flow due to its characteristics. Previous researchers have discussed that fluid behave differently in micro and macro scale. Bearing in mind, that most of arteries in human body are in micro scale. So, studying the behaviour of fluid flow in microchannel should be given an attention. In addition, limited research has been noticed on usage of fractional derivative on unsteady fluid flow problem in microchannel. Furthermore, since most of real-life plate is not in static mode, oscillating movement of the plate is appropriate to consider. This situation will become more realize if heat transfer in an oscillating microchannel is studied together with the influence of thermal radiation. Thus, to fill this research gap, present study on solving equation of Casson fluid flow in an oscillating microchannel with thermal radiation approached by Caputo fractional derivative. Therefore, to understand the fluid field in this study the following questions are explored:

1. How to model mathematically the Caputo fractional Casson fluid flow over a static, an accelerating and an oscillating vertical microchannels?
2. How do the fractional mathematical models behave in the problem involving thermal radiation?
3. How does the Laplace transform technique be applied to obtain the analytical solutions of the governing equations?

4. How can approximation solutions of fractional mathematical model solutions be obtained in different geometries?
5. How does the pertinent parameter such as fractional parameter, and radiation parameter affect the velocity and temperature profiles?

1.4 Objectives

The purpose of this research is to analyse the convection flow of Casson fluid over a static, an accelerating and an oscillating vertical microchannels. Laplace transform method is applied to acquire the exact solutions. Then to validate the solution, graphical illustrations from published results are used in comparing with the graphical outcomes of the obtained solutions. Specifically, the objectives of this study are:

1. To formulate the Caputo fractional derivative governing equations for the concerned fluid problem.
2. To solve the governing equations by using the Laplace transform technique to obtain the exact solution for the velocity and temperature profiles.
3. To acquire the approximation solutions by applying Zakian explicit formula approach.
4. To analyse the effect of fractional parameter applied to the fluid flow problem with thermal radiation effect.
5. To investigate the behaviour of the velocity and temperature profiles for various important physical flow parameters.

1.5 Scope of Research

This research applying Caputo fractional derivative approach on the governing equation of unsteady flow problem. The non-Newtonian fluid which is Casson fluid is considered to flow through a vertical microchannel. Three proposed problems are highlighted in this research. The first problem is emphasis on the Casson fluid flowing through a static microchannel with the presence of thermal radiation. Caputo fractional derivative operator is used to fractionalize the governing equations of momentum as well as energy equations. Next, the second problem is focusing on an accelerated microchannel for the Casson fluid to be flowing. Whereas the third problem is intensified on the geometry of the fluid where the Casson fluid flowing in an oscillating microchannel. All the proposed problems are based on the assumptions and limitations as follow:

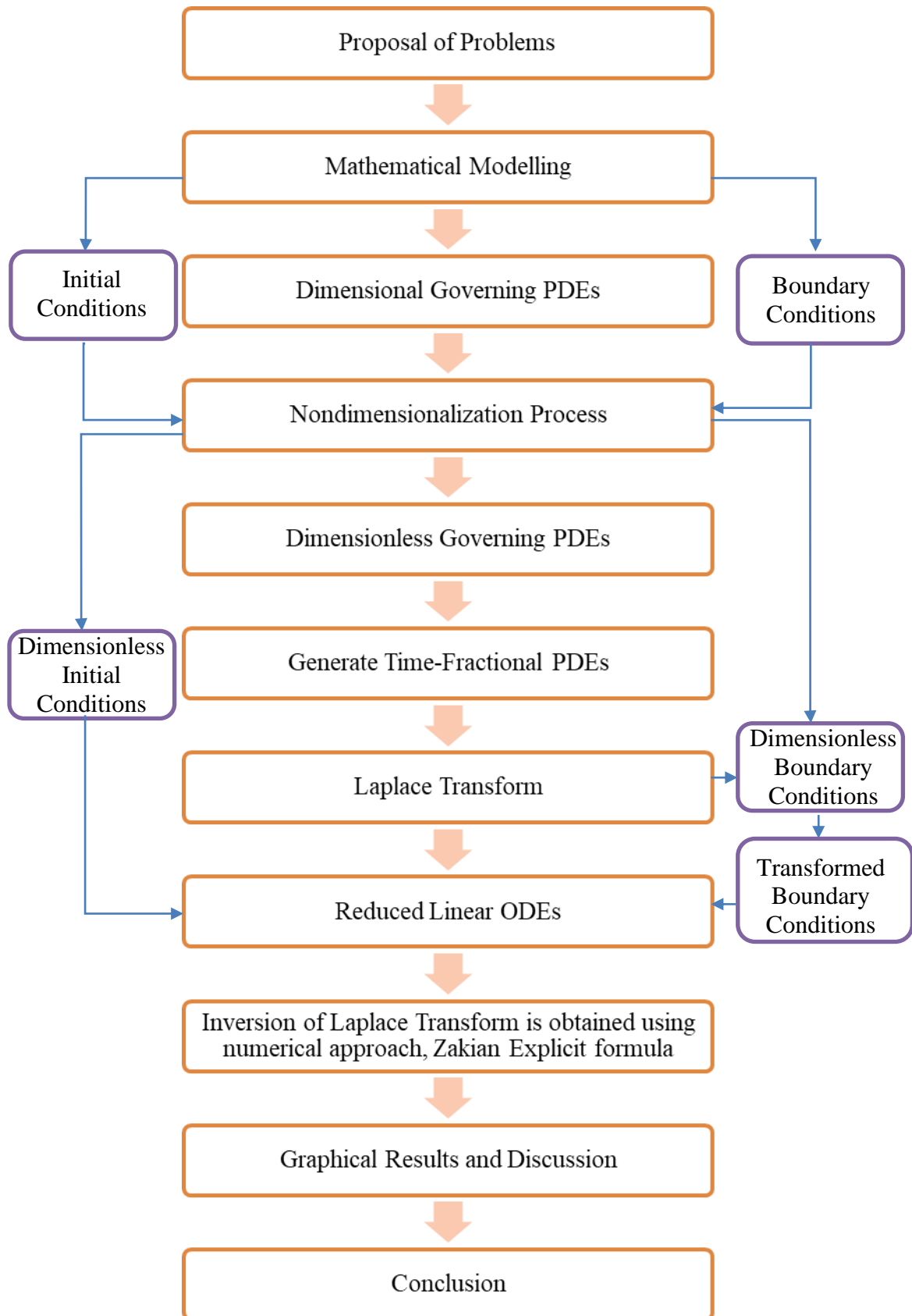
1. The Casson type fluid model as well as energy and momentum equations are fractionalized using Caputo fractional derivative operator.
2. The thermal radiation variables are considered and solve using Taylor series where the higher order terms are neglected.
3. The Laplace transform method is used to generate analytical solutions for each of the suggested problems.
4. The vertical microchannel has a ramped wall temperature and non-homogenous boundary conditions.
5. The inverse Laplace transform is numerically obtained by employing Zakian explicit formula approach.
6. The approximation solutions are generated, and the results are for velocity and temperature profiles are plotted using Mathcad software.

1.6 Significance of Research

The significance of this research is listed as follows:

1. Enhance more knowledge on formulation of Caputo fractional derivatives.
2. The result of this study will improve the knowledge of fractional derivatives in equation of motion over a static, an accelerating and an oscillating microchannels.
3. The result will help in understanding the thermal radiation behaviour in fluid flow applications.

1.7 Research Operational Framework



1.8 Thesis Outline

There are six chapters in all organized in this thesis. The research background is described in Chapter 1, which includes the general introduction, problem statements, research objectives, scope of research, research methodology, and significance of the current research. Then, in Chapter 2 contains a thorough survey of the literature on the issues raised in the study objectives. Chapter 3 discussed the first problem to be solved regarding the unsteady free convection flow of Casson fluid generated by a static microchannel with the presence of thermal radiation. The momentum equation as well as energy equation are all deduced in detail within this chapter. The governing equations of the specified problems are formulated in terms of linear partial differential equations associated to momentum and energy transformations together with specified initial and boundary conditions. The dimensional governing equations, as well as the initial and boundary conditions, are simplified using dimensionless variables. Applying the time-fractional Caputo fractional derivative, the dimensionless equations are converted into time-fractional notation. Exact solutions of the time-fractional governing equations are obtained via Laplace transform technique. As limiting cases, the general solutions discovered in this chapter are found to reduce to several well-known solutions in the literature. Finally, graphs depict the effect of significant flow parameters on velocity and temperature equations.

Chapter 4 is studied by taking into consideration the flow of Casson fluid passing through an accelerated microchannel with thermal radiation. The velocity and temperature expressions are generated. To construct the system dimensionless, certain adequate dimensionless variables are embedded into the governing expressions and initial and boundary conditions to abolish units and reduce the number of variables. Similar process as in Chapter 3 is implemented to solve the governing equations in this chapter by transformed into a time-fractional equations using Caputo fractional derivative operator definition. Graphs are used to assess the graphical outcomes for various embedded flow parameters. The acquired solutions are compared to those already published in the literature. Moreover, the result for the addition of thermal radiation to the problem, is explained graphically.

Chapter 5 investigates the unsteady free convection flow of Casson fluid over an oscillating microchannel based on the Caputo time-fractional fractional derivative with the presence of thermal radiation effect. This chapter starts with the mathematical formulation of the problem to simulate the Casson fluid's governing equation in an oscillating movement of microchannel system. The governing equations are subjected to appropriate initial and boundary conditions which are then transformed into dimensionless partial differential equations using suitable dimensionless variables. Then, the equations are solved using the Laplace transform technique. The acquired solutions are reduced to the existing solutions in the literature. The velocity and temperature results are graphically shown and analysed.

The overview of this research, as well as ideas for further research, are offered in Chapter 6. At the end of this thesis, the references are listed.

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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

1. Marjan Mohd Daud, Lim Yeou Jiann, Rahimah Mahat, and Sharidan Shafie. (2022). Application of Caputo Fractional Derivatives to the Convective Flow of Casson Fluids in a Microchannel with Thermal Radiation. *Journal of Advanced Research in Fluid Mechanics and Thermal Sciences*, 93(1), 50–63. (Published)
2. Daud, M. M., Jiann, L. Y., Shafie, S., and Mahat, R. (2022) Casson Fluid Convective Flow in an Accelerated Microchannel with Thermal Radiation using the Caputo Fractional Derivative. *CFD Letters*. (Accepted)