

Study of fluid flow inside closed cavities using computational numerical methods

Mariya Helen Mercy JK* and Prabhakar V

School of Advanced Sciences, VIT Chennai, Chennai 600127, Tamil Nadu, India

Received: 26 January 2021 / Accepted: 30 March 2021

Abstract. The temperature distribution and distortion of fluid flow inside the closed cavities, square and triangle, are studied for different boundary conditions. Two different conditions of thermal boundary conditions are used for studying square cavities: (i) Left wall is hot, right wall is cold, top and bottom walls are adiabatic. (ii) Left and right walls are cold, top wall is adiabatic, bottom wall is hot. For triangular enclosure, the boundary conditions are (i) the vertical wall is insulated, bottom wall is hot. (ii) The vertical wall is hot, the bottom wall insulated and the inclined walls are kept cold in both conditions. The velocity of the flow is observed by means of stream function and the temperature distribution is displayed in the form of contours. The study is carried out in ANSYS software. The mathematical procedure for solving the nonlinear system of partial differential equations by penalty finite element method involving bi-quadratic elements is also discussed in detail.

Keywords: Penalty finite element analysis / ANSYS / closed cavities / temperature distribution / fluid distortion

1 Introduction

The temperature distribution and distortion of fluid flow inside the square and triangular cavities are mathematically formulated by means of finite elements and studied with the help of ANSYS. The cross section of a flow in rectangular and triangular ducts results in a square and triangular cavity. In the current study, behavior of the temperature and velocity of fluid flowing inside the closed cavities with different boundary conditions is considered. The literature explains a vivid usage of the natural convection flow within the closed entities because of its practical relevance in various applications, such as heat exchangers [1] and [2], room heating and ventilation design [3–5], melting [6], etc., Different shapes of cavities, circle [7], trapezoid [8], square [9] and [10], triangle [11–13] has been grabbing the attention of researchers since decades. The non-dimensional governing equations of the 2D flow problem is formulated with the penalty finite element method. Detailed solution procedure to obtain a finite element equation from a nonlinear system of partial differential equations is discussed. The studies of fluid flow inside the square and triangular enclosures is performed with ANSYS, a renowned, trustworthy and widely used

tool by researchers. Two occurrences in square cavities and two from triangular structure are studied varying the temperature boundary condition. Thermal boundary condition is varied throughout the study, but the velocity of the fluid at the solid boundary will be zero. Study 1: Square cavity, Case 1: Left wall is hot, right wall is cold and the top and the bottom walls are adiabatic and. Case 2: Left and right walls are maintained cold, top wall is adiabatic and the bottom wall is heated. Study 2: Triangular enclosures, Case 1: The vertical wall is insulated, bottom wall heated up and the inclined wall is kept cold. Case 2: The vertical wall is hot, the bottom wall insulated and the inclined wall is kept cold. The governing equations, mathematical formulation and the study in ANSYS can be observed in the article.

2 Mathematical formulation

2.1 Governing equations and solution procedure

The nonlinear system of partial differential equations, involving, Navier-Stokes and energy balance equation governs the fluid flow and the temperature distribution. The density due to temperature variation is calculated using Boussineq approximation. All the physical quantities are constant but for density. Equations (1)–(4) are the

* e-mail: meetmercy@outlook.com

non-dimensional form of the governing equations.

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$U \frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial U}{\partial Y} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial X} + Pr \left(\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial Y^2} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$U \frac{\partial V}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial Y} + Pr \left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial Y^2} \right) + R\alpha Pr\theta \quad (3)$$

$$U \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial Y} = \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial Y^2} \quad (4)$$

where

$$X = \frac{x}{L}, Y = \frac{y}{L}, \text{ (} X \text{ and } Y \text{ dimensionless distances)}$$

$$U = \frac{uL}{\alpha}, V = \frac{vL}{\alpha}, \text{ (} U \text{ and } V \text{ dimensionless velocity components)}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\tau - \tau_c}{\tau_h - \tau_c}, \text{ (} \theta \text{ dimensionless temperature components, } T_h \text{ and } T_c \text{ are the temperatures at hot and cold walls respectively)}$$

$$P = \frac{pL^3}{\rho\alpha^2}, \text{ (} P \text{ dimensionless pressure)}$$

$$Pr = \frac{\nu}{\alpha}, \text{ (} Pr \text{ Prandtl number)}$$

$$R\alpha = \frac{g\beta(\tau_h - \tau_c)L^3 Pr}{\nu}, \text{ (} R\alpha \text{ Rayleigh number)}$$

The penalty finite element method [14] aids the formulation of governing differential equations, introducing the penalty parameter (γ). To eliminate pressure P in equations (2) and (3), equation (5) containing the relationship between the penalty parameter (γ) and the incompressibility is substituted. Generally, $\gamma = 10^7$, for reliable solutions.

$$P = -\gamma \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} \right) \quad (5)$$

Hence equations (2) and (3) becomes,

$$U \frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial U}{\partial Y} = -\gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial X} \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} \right) + Pr \left(\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial Y^2} \right) \quad (6)$$

$$U \frac{\partial V}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} = -\gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial Y} \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} \right) + Pr \left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial Y^2} \right) + R\alpha Pr\theta \quad (7)$$

The square and the triangular cavities considered for the study is discretized into biquadratic elements. Figure 1, depicts the discretization of the domains and mapping from X - Y plane to s - t plane.

Galerkin finite element method is employed in solving the system of governing differential equations (6), (7) and (4). The thermal and the velocity components are expanded through basis set given in equation (8).

$$U \approx \sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j(X, Y), V \approx \sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j(X, Y), \quad (8)$$

$$\theta \approx \sum_{j=1}^9 \theta_j N_j(X, Y)$$

Equation (8) expands the governing equations. A weighted function (N_i) is multiplied and integrated over the domain, resulting in the nonlinear residual partial differential equations.

See equation (9) and (10) below.

$$R_i^{(1)} = \sum_{j=1}^9 U_j \times \left[\int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] N_i dXdY$$

$$+ \gamma \left[\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} dXdY + \sum_{j=1}^9 V_j \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} dXdY \right] \quad (9)$$

$$+ Pr \sum_{j=1}^9 U_j \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] dXdY$$

$$R_i^{(2)} = \sum_{j=1}^9 V_j \times \left[\int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] N_i dXdY$$

$$+ \gamma \left[\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} dXdY + \sum_{j=1}^9 V_j \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} dXdY \right] \quad (10)$$

$$+ Pr \sum_{j=1}^9 V_j \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] dXdY - R\alpha Pr \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 \theta_j N_j \right) N_i dXdY$$

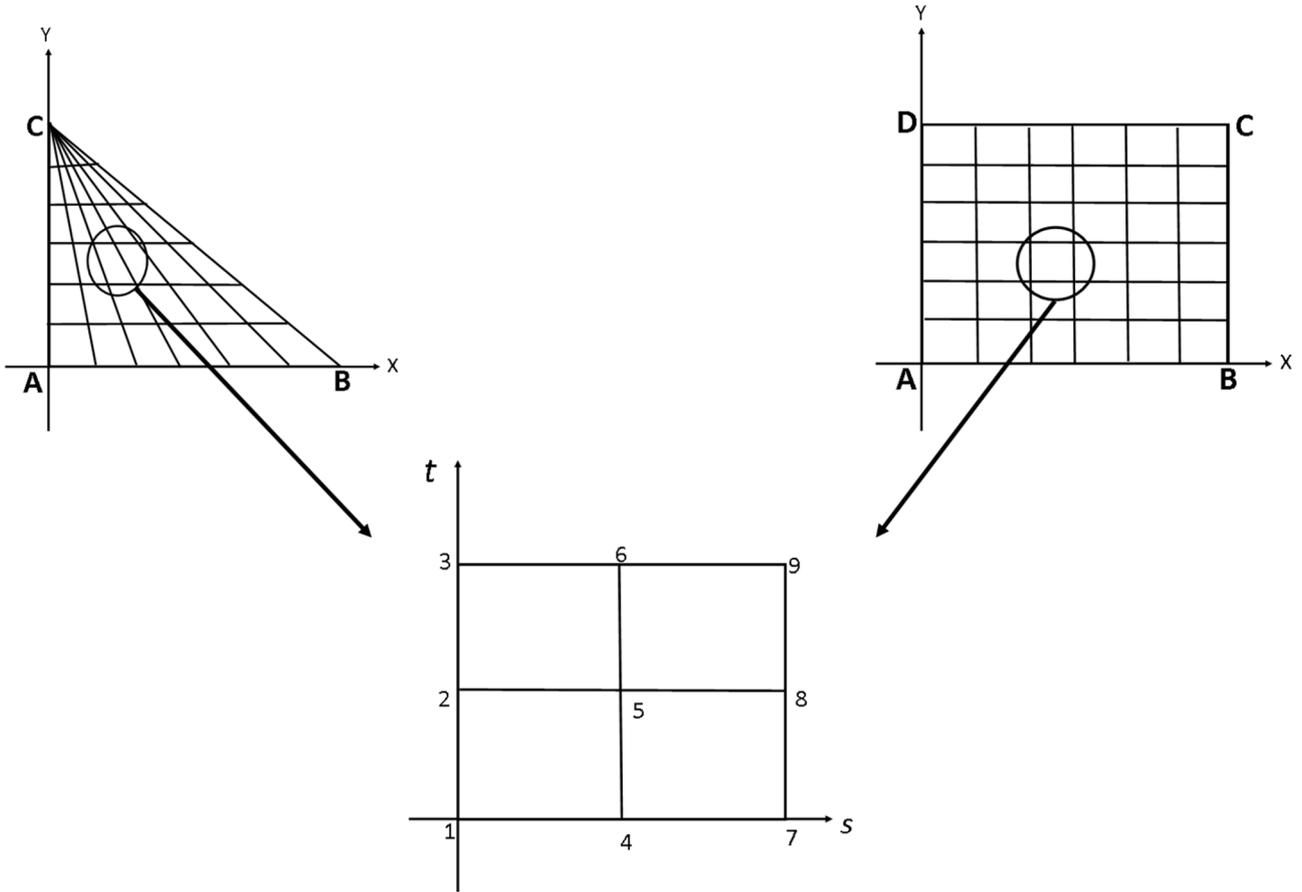


Fig. 1. Mapping of X-Y coordinates to s-t local coordinates.

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_i^{(3)} &= \sum_{j=1}^9 \theta_j \\
 &\times \left[\int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] N_i dXdY \\
 &+ \sum_{j=1}^9 \theta_j \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] dXdY \quad (11)
 \end{aligned}$$

Equations (9)–(11) are the nonlinear residues, from which the finite element equation should be formed.

Grouping the the co- efficient of $\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j$ from all three residues

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_{11} &= \left[\int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] N_i dXdY \\
 &+ \gamma \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} dXdY + Pr \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right) dXdY \quad (12)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$s_{12} = \gamma \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} dXdY \quad (13)$$

$$s_{13} = 0 \quad (14)$$

Grouping the co-efficient of $\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j$ from all three residues

$$s_{21} = \gamma \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} dXdY \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_{22} &= \left[\int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] N_i dXdY \\
 &+ \gamma \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} dXdY + Pr \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right) dXdY \quad (16)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$s_{32} = -Ra Pr \int_{\Omega} N_j N_i dXdY \quad (17)$$

Grouping the co-efficient of $\sum_{j=1}^9 \theta_j$ from all three residues

$$s_{13} = 0 \quad (18)$$

$$s_{23} = 0 \quad (19)$$

$$s_{33} = \left[\int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 U_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^9 V_j N_j \right) \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right] N_i dX dy + \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right) dX dY \quad (20)$$

Rewriting the governing equations, with the above substitutions, in matrix form

$$\begin{Bmatrix} R_i^{(1)} \\ R_i^{(2)} \\ R_i^{(3)} \end{Bmatrix} = \sum_{j=1}^9 \begin{bmatrix} s_{11}^{i,j} & s_{12}^{i,j} & s_{13}^{i,j} \\ s_{21}^{i,j} & s_{22}^{i,j} & s_{23}^{i,j} \\ s_{31}^{i,j} & s_{32}^{i,j} & s_{33}^{i,j} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} U_j \\ V_j \\ \theta_j \end{Bmatrix} \quad (21)$$

Let

$$[k_{i,j}] = \sum_{j=1}^9 \begin{bmatrix} s_{11}^{i,j} & s_{12}^{i,j} & s_{13}^{i,j} \\ s_{21}^{i,j} & s_{22}^{i,j} & s_{23}^{i,j} \\ s_{31}^{i,j} & s_{32}^{i,j} & s_{33}^{i,j} \end{bmatrix}, \{ \overline{R}_i \} = \begin{Bmatrix} R_i^{(1)} \\ R_i^{(2)} \\ R_i^{(3)} \end{Bmatrix}, \{ \overline{U}_i \} = \begin{Bmatrix} U_j \\ V_j \\ \theta_j \end{Bmatrix} \quad (22)$$

$$\{ \overline{R}_i \} = [k_{i,j}] \{ \overline{U}_j \} \quad (23)$$

It is evident that every node (i) has 3 degrees of freedom, resulting in 27 unknowns for one biquadratic element. The local nodal numbering with global nodal numbers yields the element connectivity which will support in 2D assembly.

2.2 Jacobian transformation

The integrand is a function of the global coordinates X and Y . Figure 1 shows the co-ordinate transformation for the discretized elements from the $X - Y$ plane to the $s - t$ plane.

$$X = \sum_{j=1}^9 x_j N_j \text{ and } Y = \sum_{j=1}^9 y_j N_j \quad (24)$$

The integrand contains not only functions but also derivatives with respect to the global coordinates (x_j, y_j). Therefore, $\frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X}$ and $\frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y}$ is related to $\frac{\partial N_j}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial N_j}{\partial t}$.

The functions N_j can be expressed in terms of the local coordinates s and t . The following matrix notation, equation (25), involving the relation between the derivatives of N_j with respect to the global and local coordinates,

is attained by implementing the chain rule of partial differentiation.

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial t} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial X}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial X}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} \\ \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (25)$$

$$[J] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial X}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial X}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

The matrix $[J]$ is called the Jacobian matrix of the transformation.

To evaluate $\frac{\partial X}{\partial s}$, $\frac{\partial X}{\partial t}$, $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial t}$ we use the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial X}{\partial s} &= \sum_{j=1}^9 x_j \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} = \sum_{j=1}^9 y_j \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial X}{\partial t} &= \sum_{j=1}^9 x_j \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial Y}{\partial t} = \sum_{j=1}^9 y_j \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial t} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} \\ \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \end{Bmatrix} = [J]^{-1} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial t} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (28)$$

Equation (28) requires that the Jacobian matrix $[J]$ should be nonsingular. Thus, given the global coordinates (x_j, y_j) of element nodes and the interpolation functions, N_j used for geometry [15], the Jacobian matrix can be evaluated using equation (27).

$$dX dY = |J| ds dt \quad (29)$$

Consequently, solving equation (21) for every node in the domain provides the thermal and velocity components. The commonly used numerical integration methods for the definite integrals can be classified into two groups: (i) Newton-Cotes formulae that employ values of the integrand at equally spaced points and (ii) Gaussian quadrature formula that employs unequally spaced points.

2.3 Stream function

The stream function is used to display the fluid flow and is acquired from velocity components U and V . The relationships between stream function, ψ and velocity components for 2D flows are

$$U = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial Y} \text{ and } V = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial X} \quad (30)$$

It yields the governing equation for stream function

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial Y^2} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial Y} - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial X} \quad (31)$$

Expanding the stream function ψ using the basis set

$$\psi \approx \sum_{j=1}^9 \psi_j N_j(X, Y) \quad (32)$$

and the relation for U , V from the Galerkin finite element method yields in the linear residual equations.

$$\begin{aligned} R_i^{(\psi)} &= \sum_{j=1}^9 \psi_j \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial X} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial Y} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} \right) dXdY \\ &\quad - \int_{\Gamma} N_i \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla \psi d\Gamma + \sum_{j=1}^9 U_j \int_{\Omega} N_j \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial Y} dXdY \\ &\quad - \sum_{j=1}^9 V_j \int_{\Omega} N_j \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial X} dXdY \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

The no-slip condition is imposed at all boundaries as mentioned earlier and there is no cross flow too, hence $\psi = 0$ at the nodes of the walls. The bi-quadratic basis function is used to evaluate the integrals in equation (33) and ψ 's are obtained by solving the same. Stream functions (ψ 's) thus obtained might be positive or negative. The positive and negative signs of ψ denotes anti-clockwise and clockwise circulation respectively.

3 Studies of fluid flow inside closed cavities using ANSYS

How heat moves from point A to B, precisely explains heat transfer. Three ways in which the heat transfers, is as follows. Conduction, heat transfer by molecular contact; Convection, result of density differences and Radiation happening by wave motion. This article concentrates only on natural convection, driving force is the natural gravity as always. Fluid flow inside closed triangular and square cavities is calculated employing ANSYS, Workbench 2020 R1. Geometry is built in the Design Modeler. Many flow problems solved in engineering practice involve complex geometries; Here the simple 2D geometry is meshed with quadrilateral elements. This simulation is limited to steady state. The free convection dealing with the gravity is added in y-direction. Enable heat transfer by checking energy in the model. The energy dialogue box favors the input of parameters related to energy or heat transfer. The fluid taken for this study is air, $Pr = 0.71$. In all the cases laminar nature of the fluid is sustained. The solid within which the flow takes place is aluminum. In the cell zone conditions, the operating conditions are set. Boundary conditions for square and the triangular cavities are detailed in their respective sections. Post initialization, the calculations are carried out. Temperature distribution and flow distortion are visualized as contours and are substantiated with the existing literature.

3.1 Square cavity

The square cavity, cross section of a rectangular duct, is built with 1 m all sides. The fluid with $Pr = 0.71$ and

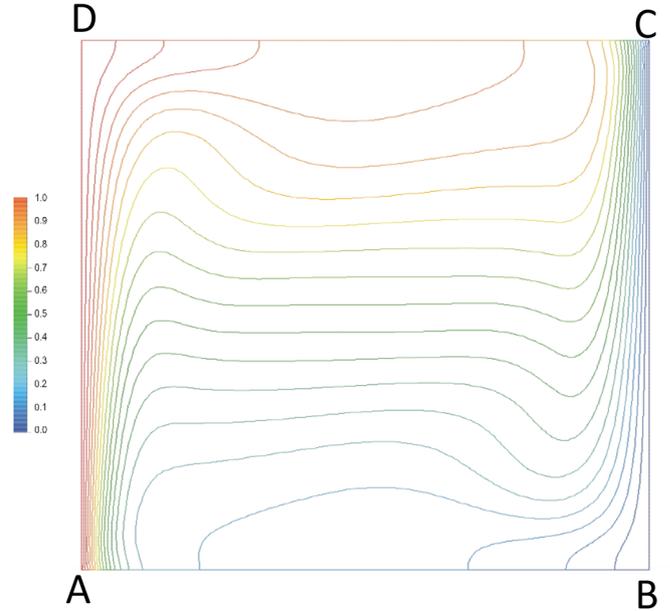


Fig. 2. Temperature contour of the square cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB and CD, $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n} = 0$, DA, $\theta = 1$, BC, $\theta = 0$, $Pr = 0.71$, $Ra = 10^5$.

$Ra = 10^5$ is taken for studying the flow with varying thermal boundary conditions. The fluid in contact with the walls are at rest. Quadrilateral elements are involved in the meshing. The heat inputs are given on the walls, hence, the edges are meshed with bias factor 5.0. For a square cavity with the left wall, DA, experiencing the heat source, right wall, BC, cold and the top wall, CD, and the bottom wall, AB, are adiabatic, Figures 2 and 3 explains the temperature distribution and velocity respectively. From the contour it is evident that the temperature reduces from the left wall to right. The stream function clearly states that the clockwise flow is laminar. The results obtained are aligned with Singh et al. [10]. In other circumstance of square cavity taken for study, walls DA and BC are maintained cold, wall CD is adiabatic and the wall AB is alone heated up. There is a temperature flow from the bottom to the top, the temperature descends as it moves upward, can be seen in Figure 4. The laminar flow for this case, displayed in Figure 5, is unique consisting of clockwise and anticlockwise flows. This pattern is observed to be in relevance with Basak et al. [9].

3.2 Triangular enclosure

The base and the height of the right angled triangle is 1 m. The quadrilateral elements are used for meshing the triangular enclosure. Bias factor 5.0 is applied for the edges while meshing to get a thick mesh considering the thermal inputs in the boundary. Two different sets of boundary condition are taken for study. In both situations the inclined wall is kept cold. In the triangular entity, the velocity boundary condition is restricted to no slip condition on all sides. The triangle with fluid parameters $Pr = 0.71$ and $Ra = 710$, and the boundary conditions on

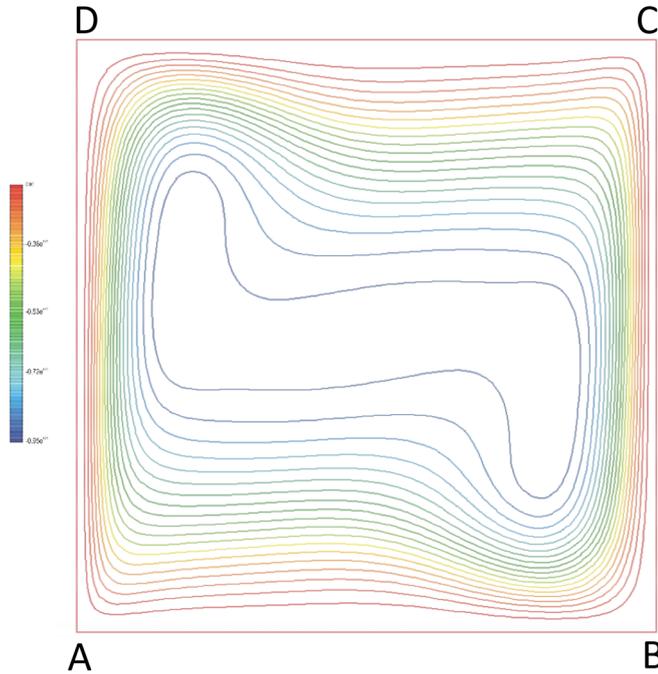


Fig. 3. Stream function contour of the square cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB and CD, $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, DA, $\theta = 1$, BC, $\theta = 0$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 10^5 .

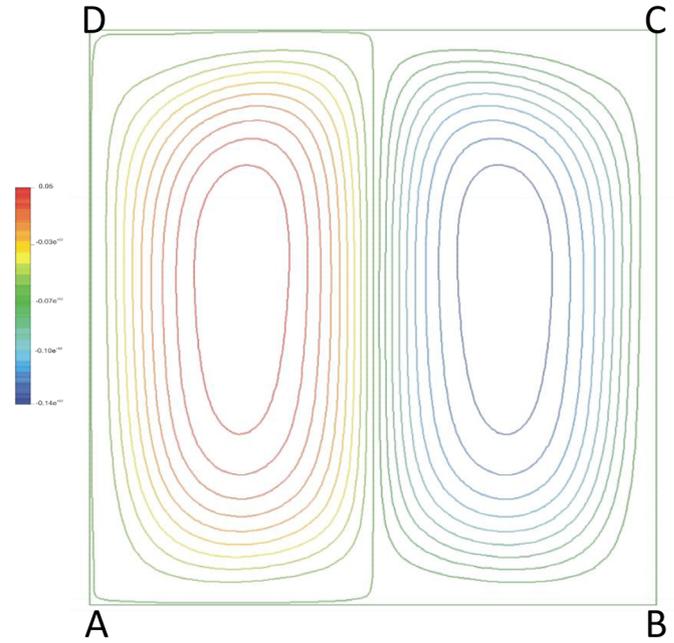


Fig. 5. Stream function contour of the square cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB, $\theta = 1$, CD $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, DA and BC, $\theta = 0$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 10^5 .

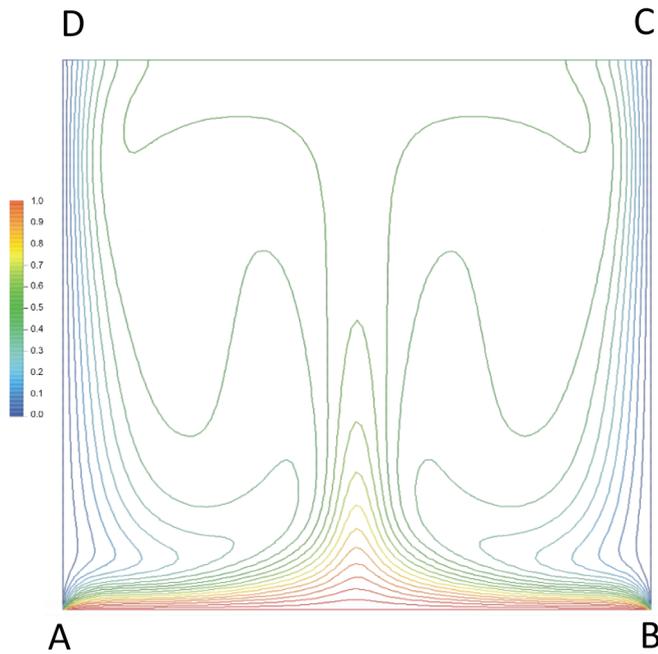


Fig. 4. Temperature contour of the square cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB, $\theta = 1$, CD $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, DA and BC, $\theta = 0$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 10^5 .

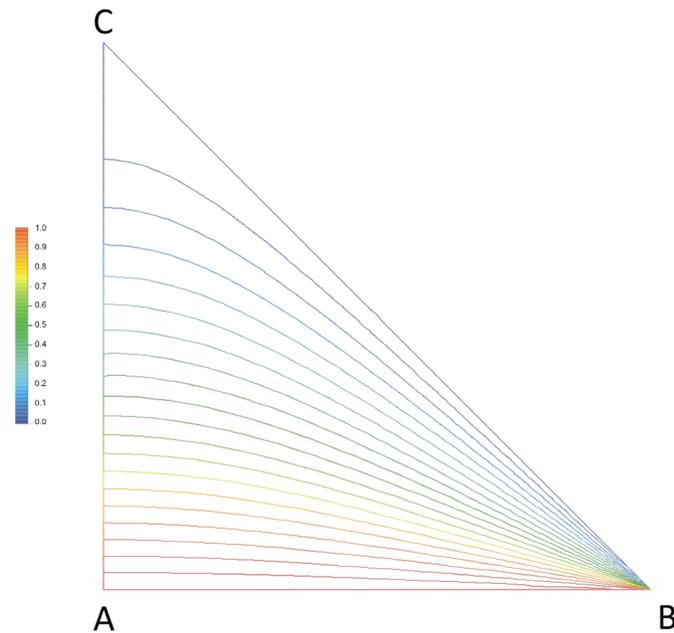


Fig. 6. Temperature contour of the triangular cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB, $\theta = 1$, CA, $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, BC, $\theta = 0$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 710.

wall AB, bottom wall has the heat source, wall BC, inclined wall is cold and the wall CA, is adiabatic. A clear picture of the anticlockwise laminar flow can be seen in Figure 7. The temperature distribution is observed in Figure 6; the heat reduces from the base as it moves upwards. This can be related to [12] and the similarity is perceived. The other

situation dealing with the triangle, wall AB insulated, BC cold and CA hot with Pr = 0.71 and Ra = 10^3 . Figure 8 briefs the temperature increase, as it moves to the vertical wall. Figure 9 delineates the flow of stream function with its laminar nature maintained and the flow is clockwise as in [13] makes the contour look promising as it is identical with those in the literature.

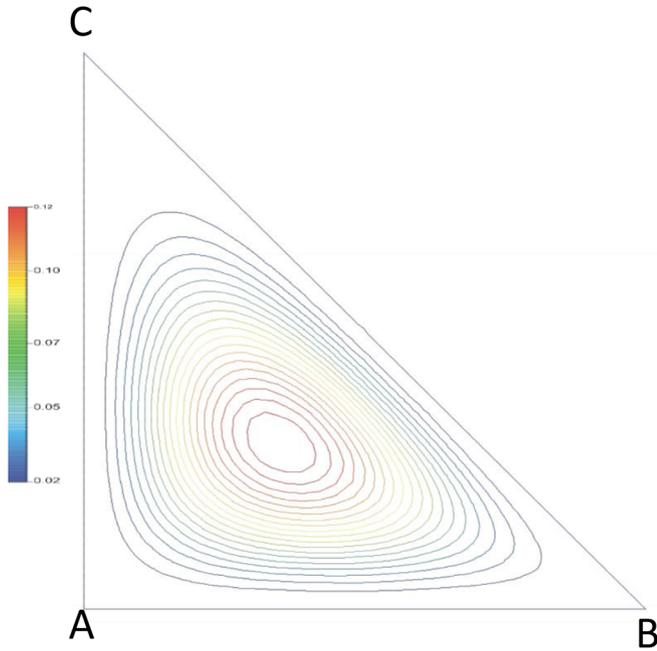


Fig. 7. Stream function contour of the triangular cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB, $\theta = 1$, CA, $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, BC, $\theta = 0$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 710.

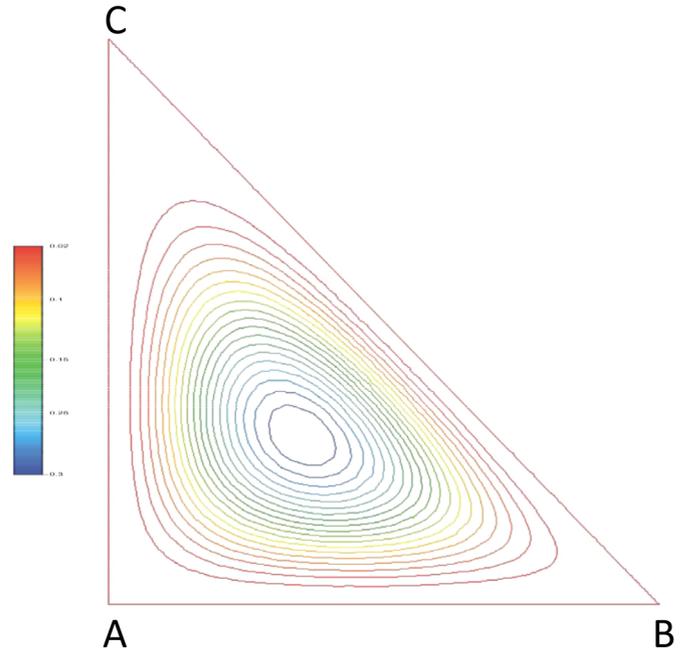


Fig. 9. Stream function contour of the triangular cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB, $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, BC, $\theta = 0$, CA, $\theta = 1$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 10^3 .

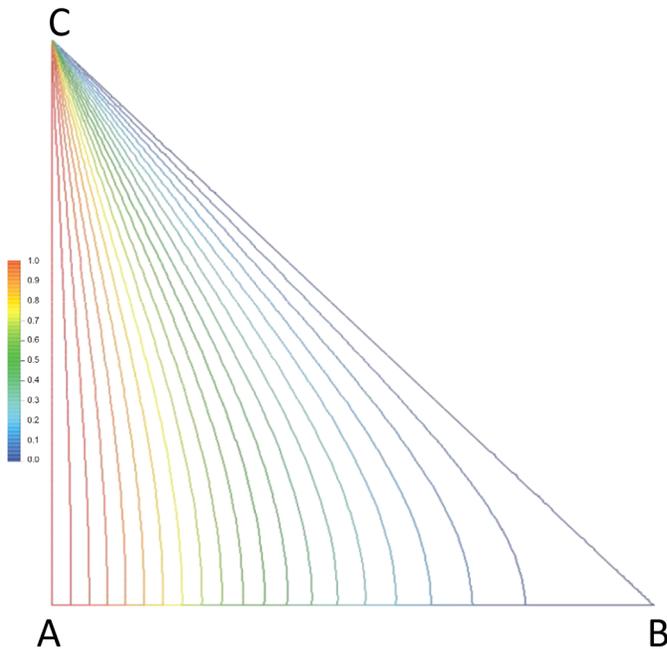


Fig. 8. Temperature contour of the triangular cavity with boundary condition on the walls, AB, $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} = 0$, BC, $\theta = 0$, CA, $\theta = 1$, Pr = 0.71, Ra = 10^3 .

4 Conclusion

The temperature distribution and distortion of fluid flow inside the square and triangular cavities, for different boundary conditions are analyzed with ANSYS. Fluids in

the present study for specific boundary conditions is observed to be laminar. Absence of variation with temperature spreading and fluid alteration is observed from the contours of the closed cavities, Figures 2–9 and the result agrees well with [9,10,12,13]. In future, the closed form solution of the current work will be pondered using a programming language in a numerical environment with penalty finite element method involving bi-quadratic elements. Upcoming studies in the same category can be done by varying a set of Rayleigh number and Prandtl number. When making it time dependent, the flow inside the full length of the pipe can be investigated. Keeping the flow laminar throughout, at various boundary conditions will support practical real time problems like injection molding processes [16].

References

1. L. Magistri, A. Traverse, A.F. Massardo, R.K. Shah, Heat exchangers for fuel cell and hybrid system applications, *J. Fuel Cell Sci. Technol.* **3**, 111–118 (2006)
2. R. Kocheril, J. Elias, CFD simulation for evaluation of optimum heat transfer rate in a heat exchanger of an internal combustion engine, *Int. J. Simul. Multidisci. Des. Optim.* **11**, 6 (2020)
3. Y. Varol, A. Koca, H.F. Oztop, Laminar natural convection in saltbox roofs for both summerlike and winterlike boundary conditions, *Appl. Sci.* **6**, 2617–2622 (2006)
4. A. Omri, J. Orfi, S.B. Nasrallah, Natural convection effects in solar stills, *Desalination* **183**, 73–178 (2005)
5. G.D. Mey, M. Wojcik, J. Pilarski, M. Lasota, J. Banaszczyk, B. Vermeersch, A. Napieralski, M.D. Paepe, Chimney effect on natural convection cooling of a transistor mounted on a cooling fin, *J. Electron. Packag.* **131**, 14501–14503 (2009)

6. M.C. Kim, C.K. Choi, D.Y. Yoon, Analysis of the onset of buoyancy-driven convection in a water layer formed by ice melting from below, *Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer* **51**, 5097–5101 (2008)
7. T. Basak, K.G. Ayappa, Influence of internal convection during microwave thawing of cylinders, *AIChE J.* 835–850 (2001)
8. T. Basak, S. Roy, I. Pop, Heat flow analysis for natural convection within trapezoidal enclosures based on heatline concept, *Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer* **52**, 2471–2483 (2009)
9. T. Basak, S. Roy, A.R. Balakrishnan, Effects of thermal boundary conditions on natural convection flows within a square cavity, *Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer* **49**, 4525–4535 (2006)
10. A.K. Singh, S. Roy, T. Basak, Analysis of Bejan's heatlines on visualization of heat flow and thermal mixing in tilted square cavities, *Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer* **55**, 2965–2983 (2012)
11. H. Golchoobian, S. Saedodin, M.H. Taheri, A. Sarafraz, Numerical study of natural convection in a triangular enclosure as an attic for different geometries and boundary conditions, *Int. J. Energy Power Eng.* **14**, 63–69 (2020)
12. P.M. Haese, M.D. Teubner, Heat exchange in an attic space, *Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer* **45**, 4925–4936 (2002)
13. T. Basak, S. Roy, Ch. Thirumaleshaa, Finite element analysis of natural convection in a triangular enclosure: effects of various thermal boundary conditions, *Chem. Eng. Sci.* **62**, 2623–2640 (2007)
14. J.N. Reddy, *An Introduction to the Finite Element Method*, McGraw-Hill, New York (1993)
15. L.J. Segerlind, *Applied finite element analysis*, 2nd edition, John Wiley & Sons, New York (1984)
16. N. Pirc, F. Schmidt, M. Mongeau, F. Bugarin, 3D BEM-based cooling-channel shape optimization for injection molding processes, *Int. J. Simul. Multidisci. Des. Optim.* **2**, 245–252 (2008)

Cite this article as: Mariya Helen Mercy JK, Prabhakar V, Study of fluid flow inside closed cavities using computational numerical methods, *Int. J. Simul. Multidisci. Des. Optim.* **12**, 4 (2021)