

## Mixed Convection Numerical Study Within Lid-Driven Cavity Heat Transferring with Variable Prandtl Number

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### Abstract

Heat transfer mixed convection for laminar fluid flow within a vented rectangular cavity is numerically studied. The enclosure's upper wall heated to a consistent temperature while the bottom wall is maintained at a steady speed while it remains cold. An opening in the upper left wall of the cavity allows an external flow to enter, and one in the lower left vertical wall of the cavity allows an external flow to exit. The finite element method is used in conjunction with the Flex PDE software package to solve the conservation governing equations for continuity, energy, and momentum. Results from streamlines, isotherms, and the average Nusselt number demonstrate the impact. of Reynolds number ( $Re = 20, 50, 80, 100$ ) Richardson number ( $Ri = 1, 6, 10$ ) and the variable Prandtl number ( $Pr = 0.71, 1.7, 50$ ) for air, water and oil, respectively on heat transfer. The findings indicate that the average Nusselt value rises as  $Pr$  and  $Re$  grow and falls when  $Ri$  number drops. The findings show a good agreement when compared to those of other authors in the literature.

**Key Words** *Mixed convection ; Free Heating ; Rectangular Enclosure*

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## Introduction

In recent years, there has been a lot of interest in the phenomenon of free convection in cavities with different geometries. This is because it has so many important engineering and scientific uses, like in boilers, energy storage, fire suppression, chemical building insulation, solar collectors, nuclear reactor cooling systems, and lake convection processes [1,2]. When temperature gradients within fluids cause buoyancy-induced flows, natural convection develops as a heat transfer mode. A summary was also provided of the results of internal body processes with various geometries (such as circular, square, and elliptical cylinders) on mixed convection heat transfer. Multiple studies on the phenomenon of natural convection within holes with varying boundary conditions have been conducted to satisfy distinct objectives because of the importance of convection-based heat exchange in engineering systems [3]. The review of the literature revealed that the enclosures under study were either filled with liquid water, oil, or air. As a result, the water-filled enclosures are listed first, followed by the air-filled ones. An investigation by Ali et al. [4] looked at a naturally occurring dimensionless heat transfer efficiency inside two square water-filled chambers. Average Nusselt and modified Rayleigh values were calculated for every enclosure. Using the ratio of aspect ( $AR = S/H$ ) and the modified Rayleigh number, specific Each enclosure's correlations were obtained, and the two enclosures' combined correlations were also discovered as follows:

$$Nu = 16.676 (Ra_{IH}^*)^{0.0502} k^{-1.018}, 4 \times 10^6 < Ra_{IH}^* < 3.5 \times 10^8$$

Shobha et al. [5] presented a mixed convection inside a four-sided lid-driven square porous cavity whose right wall is maintained at a sinusoidal temperature condition, the left wall of the cavity is maintained at a cold temperature, while the top and the bottom walls are adiabatic. They discussed numerically two different cases depending upon the direction of the moving walls. They investigated by ranging the various dimensionless numbers such as Grashof number ( $10^3 \leq Gra \leq 10^5$ ), Darcy number ( $10^{-1} \leq Dar \leq 10^{-5}$ ), Reynolds number ( $10 \leq Re \leq 1000$ ) while maintaining the Prandtl number ( $Pra = 0.7$ ) fixed.

Olanrewaju et al. looked studied the effects of aspect ratio, Rayleigh, and Nusselt on flow and heat transmission in rectangular holes. [6]. In accordance with the predicted Nusselt numbers with a Prandtl number of (0.71) at air temperature, they provided variations of stream lines and temperatures, contours, and isotherms of the resulting flow fields. They discovered that heat transmission in rectangular cavities rises at larger Rayleigh numbers of flow. However, the Nusselt number, which was calculated close to the hot wall's edge, showed that convection was the primary method of heat transmission with a greater aspect ratio. They claimed that when aspect ratio grew, the thickness of

the thermal boundary layer also increased continuously, significantly enhancing the amount of fluid heat transfer by convection in the rectangular cavities.

In order to compute the friction of fluid and the spread of entropy produced by the heat move mechanism for Rayleigh numbers ranging from  $10^5$  to  $10^8$  and ratios of aspect ranging from 3, 5, 7, and 12, Souda et al. [7] studied the free convection phenomenon using numerical techniques in rectangular holes with different ratios of aspects. It was discovered that the ratios of aspect are significantly influenced by the rate at which Rayleigh numbers grow relative to the generation of all entropy. According to the experimental view, when a cavity is heated at the bottom and cooled at the top, the Rayleigh number increases and the average heat transfer coefficient rises.

Other scholars have examined the natural process of convection of heat transfer for various parameters inside a cavity filled with air [8,9,10]. Not much research has been done on thermally induced flows in triangular cavities with varying aspect ratios in variably warmed vertical walls and adiabatic horizontal walls, notwithstanding the fact that natural convection in cavities has been extensively studied using numerical simulations and experimental methods. This may be partially attributed to the issue's complexity as well as other related problems. It is important to note that research in this field may advance our knowledge and result in better system design and performance, particularly for practical applications like the drying and storage of phenomena. Additionally, it is possible to test for the Navier-Stokes equations in laminar, steady, and incompressible flows using the program validated codes.

The present study's main goals are to show how mixed heating affects mixed convection and how streamlines, isotherms, average temperature, Reynolds number, Prandtl number, and Nusselt number all have an impact.

### **Theoretic Analysis**

A diagram representation of the issue at hand is shown in Figure 1. It is a rectangular, vented enclosure that has a height of  $W$  and a base of  $L$ . The side walls are adiabatic, the bottom wall is cold and lid driven with constant velocity while the upper wall is heated at constant temperature ( $T_{e_h}$ ). The enclosure's inflow opening is on the upper left vertical wall, and its exit opening is on the lower right wall. Radiation and the term for viscous dissipation in the energy equation are not taken into account. In non-dimensional form, the equations that govern steady, laminar, two-dimensional, incompressible flow with constant fluid properties and the Boussinseq approximation look like as this [11]:

**Equation of continuity**

$$\frac{\partial UU}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial VV}{\partial Y} = 0 \quad (1)$$

**Equation of momentum in x-direction**

$$U \frac{\partial UU}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial UU}{\partial Y} = -\frac{\partial P^*}{\partial X} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left( \frac{\partial^2 UU}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 UU}{\partial Y^2} \right) \quad (2)$$

**Equation of momentum in y-direction**

$$U \frac{\partial VV}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial VV}{\partial Y} = -\frac{\partial P^*}{\partial Y} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left( \frac{\partial^2 VV}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 VV}{\partial Y^2} \right) + \text{Ric} \theta \quad (3)$$

**Equation of energy**

$$U \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{\text{Re Pr a}} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial Y^2} \right] \quad (4)$$

The dimensionless variables are defined as:

$$XX = \frac{xx}{L}, \quad YY = \frac{y}{L} y, \quad U = \frac{u}{u_{in}}, \quad V = \frac{v}{u_{in}}, \quad \theta = \frac{Te - Te_{in}}{T_h - Te_{in}}$$

$$P^{**} = \frac{pa}{\rho u_{in}^2}, \quad \text{Pr a} = \frac{\nu}{\alpha}, \quad \text{Ric} = \frac{Gr}{\text{Re}^2}, \quad Gr = \frac{g\beta(Te_h - Te_{in})L^3}{\nu^2} \quad (5)$$

The boundary conditions are:

$UU=1, VV=0$  and  $\theta = 0$  at the inlet

$UU=VV=0$  and  $\theta = 1$  at the upper wall

$UU=1, VV=0$  and  $\theta = 0$  at the bottom wall

$UU=VV=0$  and  $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial N} = 0$  at the other walls of enclosure

$P^{**} = 0$  at the outlet

The average Nusselt number on the wall that is warm is calculated using the following technique: [12]

$$Nu_{av} = \int_0^1 \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} \right)_{y=w} dx \quad (6)$$

and the bulk average temperature is defined as:

$$\theta_{av} = \int_0^1 \frac{\theta dv}{\underline{v}} \quad (7)$$

Where  $\underline{v}$ : the volume of occupying fluid in rectangular enclosure.

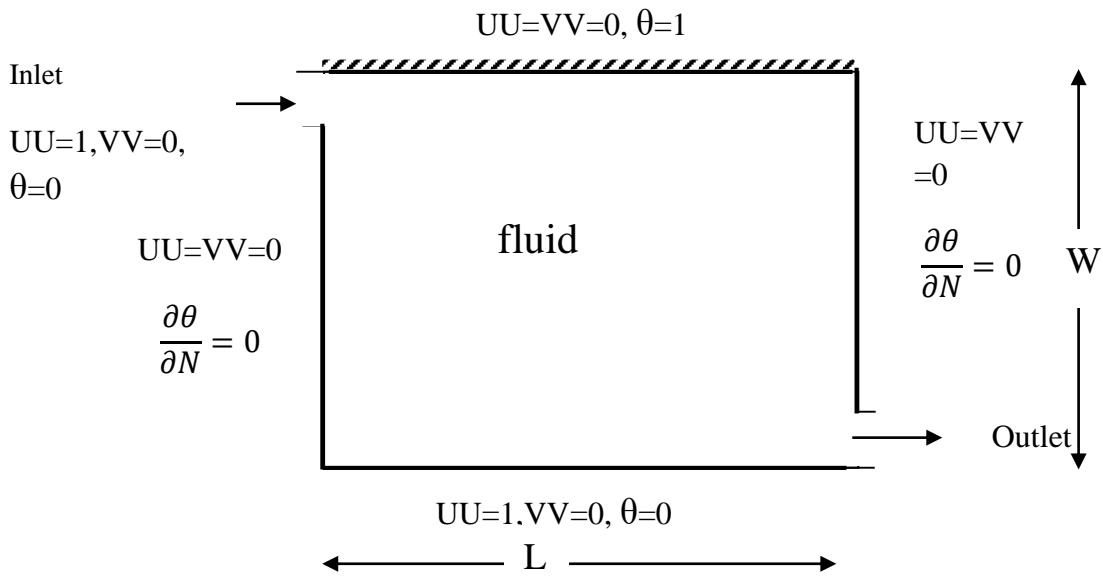


Figure 1. An illustration of the physical model's boundary conditions

### Numerical Solution

Using the software program Flex PDE, the finite element method is used to numerically solve the boundary conditions and governing equations (1) to (4) [13]. Due to mass conservation, the equation of continuity (1) must be adopted as a constraint, so this restraint can be employed to determine the pressure distribution [6]. Using a penalty parameter and the equation-based compressibility criterion (1), we can solve equations (3) to (5), yielding:

$$\nabla^2 P = \gamma \left( \frac{\partial uu}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial vv}{\partial y} \right) \tag{8}$$

$\gamma$  is a penalty parameter that ought to be determined either through other methods or by using physical knowledge [14]. In this study, a most practical value for  $\gamma$  was found to be  $(10^{11} \text{ L}^{-2})$ . The numerical solutions are derived in terms of isotherms, streamlines. The heated surface's average Nusselt number (upper wall) is used to calculate the heat transfer coefficient.

$$N_{ua_{av}} = \int_0^1 \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0} dx. \text{ Also, the bulk temperature is calculated from the relation } \theta_{av} = \int_0^1 \frac{\theta dv}{v}$$

### Comparison and Validation of the Study:

The geometry under study in this paper is a mixed ventilated cavity, so a number of grid size sensitivity tests, along with the continuity equation  $\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) = 0$ , were conducted. The results showed that the distribution of velocity for the grid size determined by enforcing a precision of  $10^{-3}$  was validated precisely. This precision represents a compromise between run-by-run time and result

accuracy. Fig. ( 2-a )depicts the grid domain for  $Ri = 1$ ,  $Re = 20$  and Figure (2-b )shows the distribution of  $\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right) = 0$  over the domain. The grid independency test is presented in table-1 . this table shows that the  $Nu_{av}$  becomes stable beyond grid 5 therefore, the grid 6 (nodes=4445) is adopted in this paper.

Abood et al. [15] and Rahman et al. [16] validate a computational model for mixed convection heat transfer through examining the correlation of mixed convection with uniform circulation of heat in the left side . Fig. (3) illustrates how the current investigation's flow and thermal fields compare, and Abood et al [15] and Rahman et al [16]. The findings indicate a good agreement.

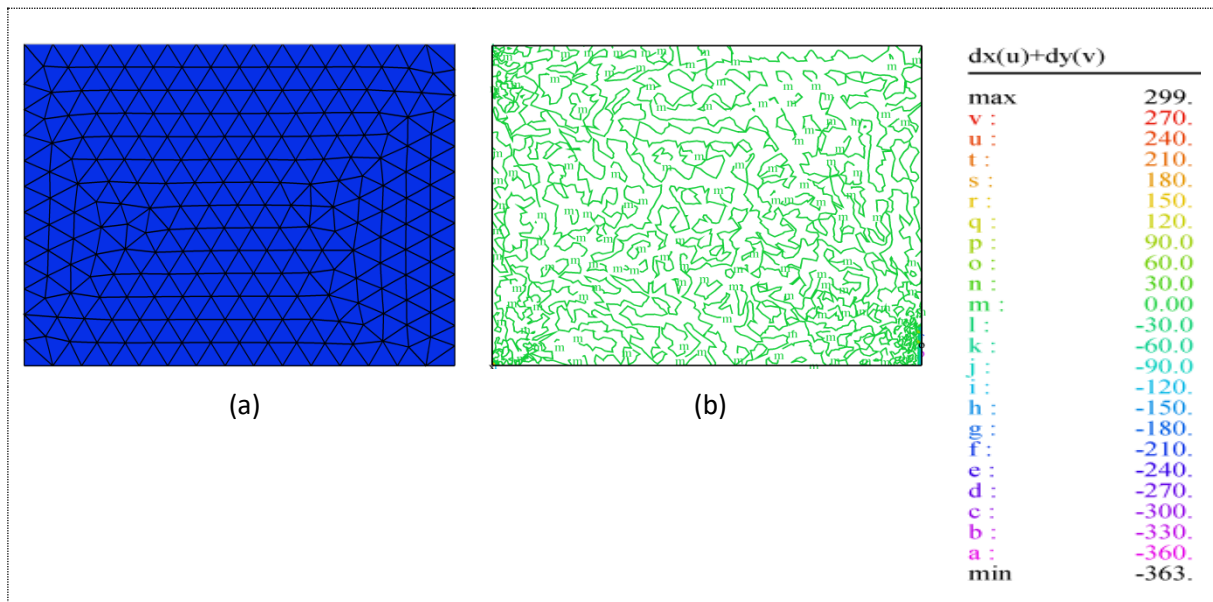
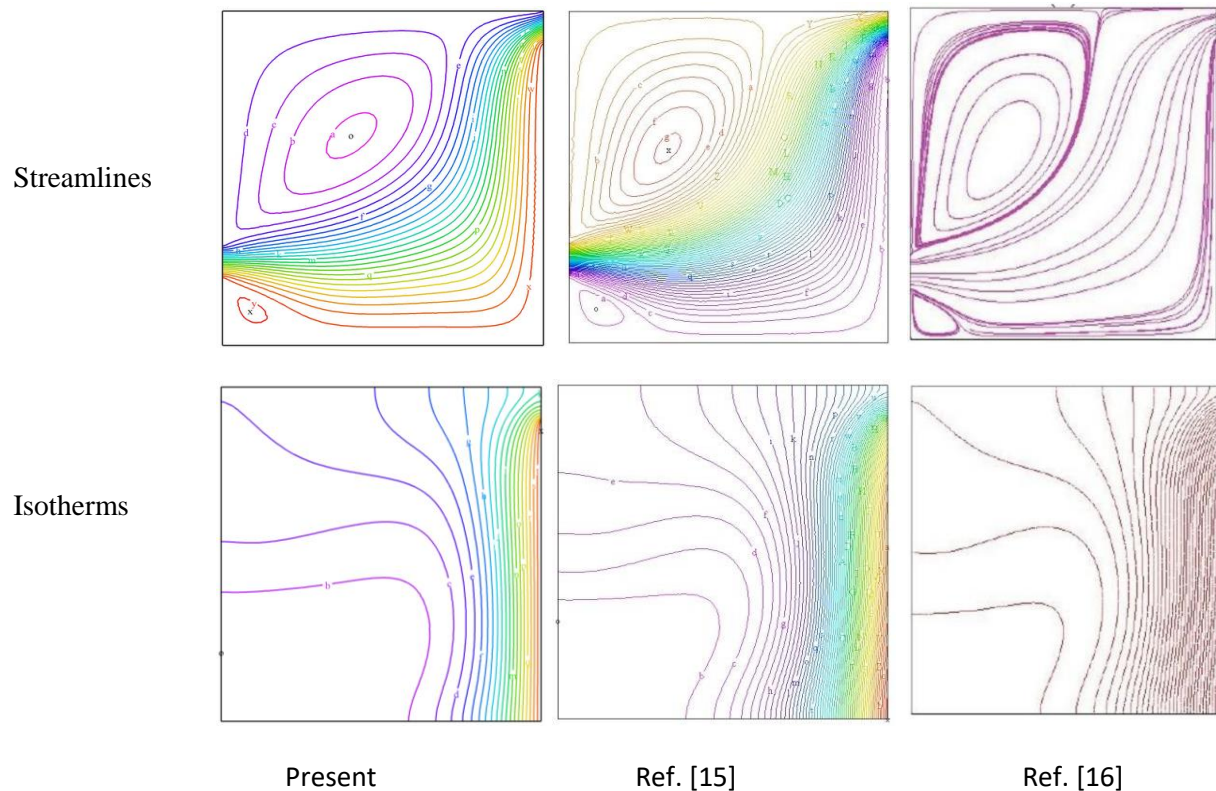


Figure 2. (a) domain-wide grid distribution (b) Verification of continuity equation

Table 1. Independency grid test

| Grids | Nodes | Nu <sub>av.</sub> |        |         |
|-------|-------|-------------------|--------|---------|
|       |       | Air               | Water  | Oil     |
| 1     | 930   | 2.9212            | 3.3298 | 7.6952  |
| 2     | 2074  | 3.7942            | 3.7595 | 8.9601  |
| 3     | 2699  | 4.3006            | 4.1887 | 10.3718 |
| 4     | 3421  | 4.7522            | 4.6251 | 11.0615 |
| 5     | 4152  | 5.6539            | 5.69   | 11.948  |
| 6     | 4445  | 5.654             | 5.70   | 11.95   |



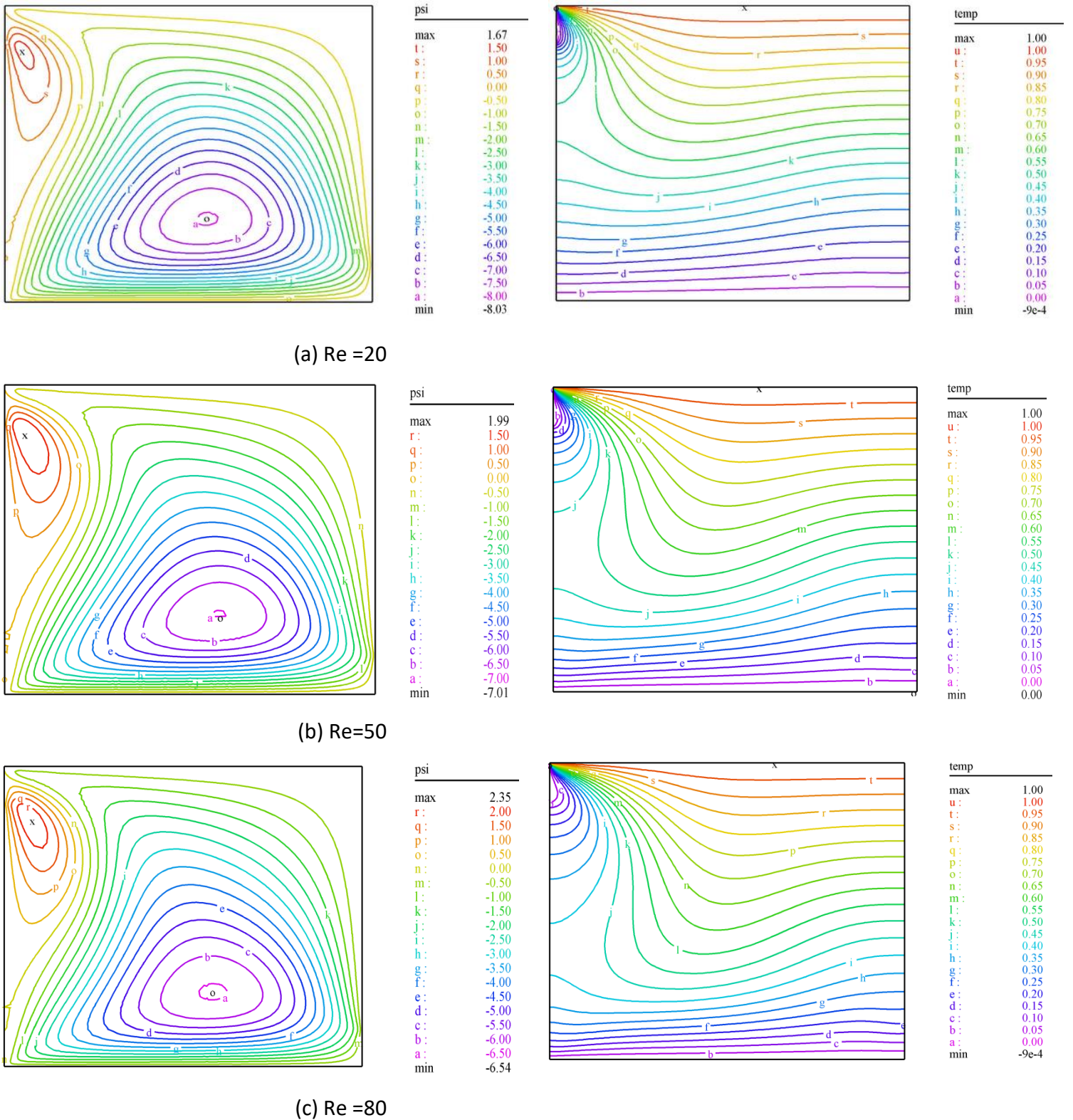
**Figure 3.** Validation through comparison of streamlines and isotherms at  $Pra=0.71$ ,  $Ric=1$  and  $Re=100$  with Ref. [15] and Ref. [16]

## Results and Discussion:

### 1. Effect of Re

Numerical simulations are run for various  $Pra$  (varying from 0.71, 1.7 and 50) to cover various working fluids (water, air, and oil) under the influence of  $Re$ , and  $Ric$ , varying from (20, 80, and 100) for  $Re$ , (1,6,10) for  $Ric$ , respectively. In the case of mixed convection,  $Pra$  affects the temperature distribution and the rate of heat transfer regime are mainly investigated. For a better layout, notice that the streamlines' and isotherms' contours are arranged horizontally.

The velocity direction always aligns with the  $y$  direction and is the opposite of the gravity direction. The streamlines, isotherms lines and  $Nu_{av}$  as representations of the numerical results. The studied parameters have the following ranges:  $Ric= (1,6,10)$ ,  $Pra = (0.71,1.7,50)$ ,  $Re = 20-80$ , and 100, respectively. For air,  $Pra = 1.7$ ,  $Ric = 1$  and  $Re = (20,50, 80)$ . Figure 4(a, b, and c) illustrate the effect of variations in Reynolds number on streamlines (left) and isotherms (right). As evidenced by this figure that The formation of two circulating cells, one located the bottom and the other in the left upper corner. The streamlines increased with increasing  $Re$  number due to the flow circulation's impact. Additionally, this figure demonstrates a growth in the expansion of the thermal boundary layer along the top wall of the space.



**Figure 4.** Streamlines (left) and isotherms (right) at Ric =1 and Pra =0.71, (a) Re =20, (b)Re=50 and (c) Re=80.

For water, Pra = 1.7, Re = 20,50, 80 and Ric =1, Figure 5(a, b, and c) illustrate the effect of variations in Reynolds number on streamlines (left) and isotherms (right). The streamlines increased with increasing Re number due to the flow circulation's impact, it can be seen the thickness of vortex



lines near the bottom moved wall. Furthermore, this image shows an increase in the temperature boundary layer's expansion across the space's upper heated wall.

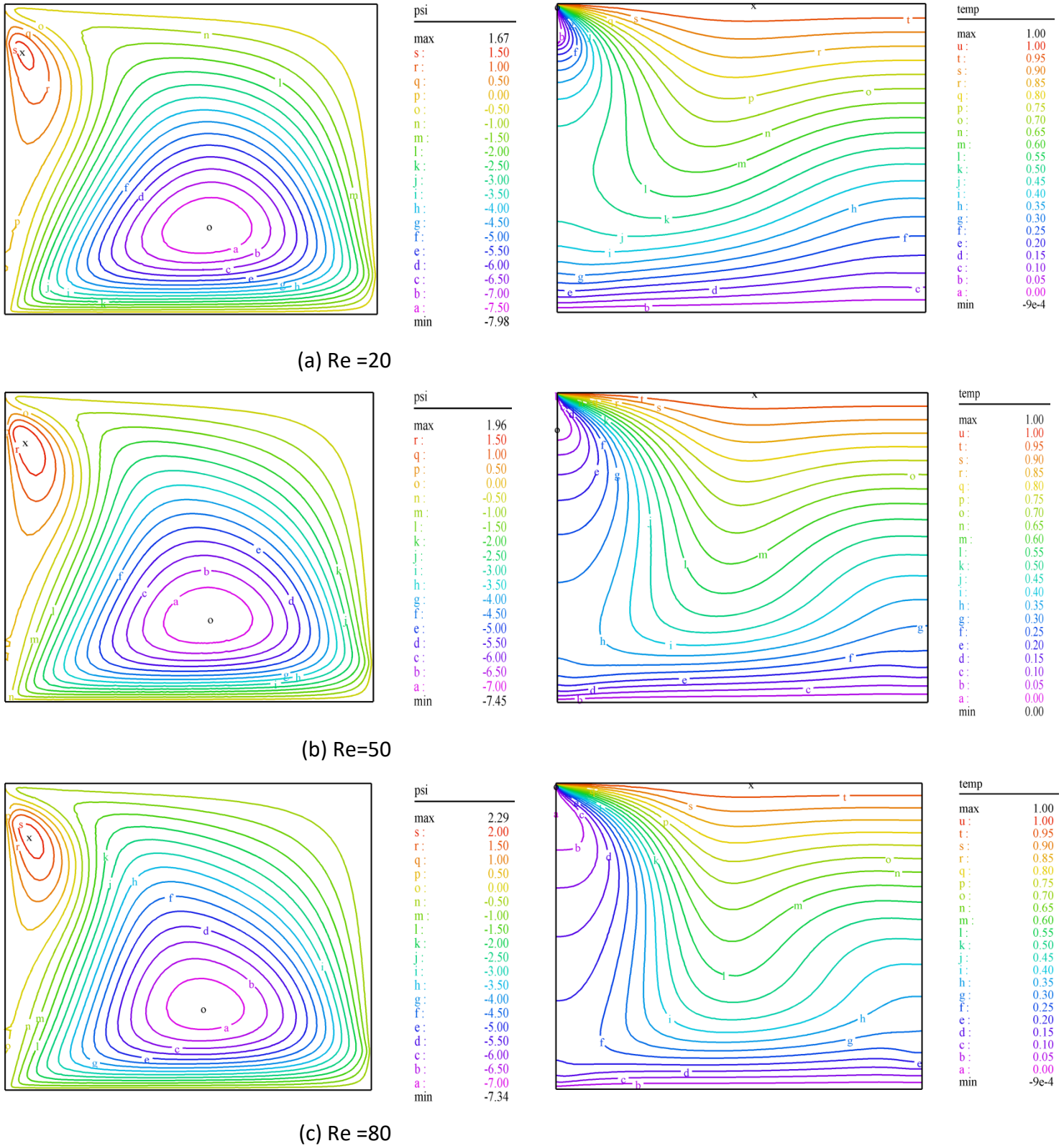


Figure 5. Streamlines (left) and isotherms (right) at Ric=1 and Pra =1.7, (a) Re =20, (b)Re=50 and (c) Re=80

For oil,  $Pra = 50$ ,  $Re = 20, 50, 80$  and  $Ric = 1$ , Figure 6(a, b, and c) illustrate the effect of variations in Reynolds number on streamlines (left) and isotherms (right). In streamlines contours, the secondary vortex developed near the left top corner will be grown. The streamlines increased with increasing Re number due to the flow circulation's impact. The same graph also shows an increase in the thermal boundary layer's extension along the space's upper wall. This illustrates how buoyancy increases when Re is low, resulting in a drop in air density and a flow toward the exit.

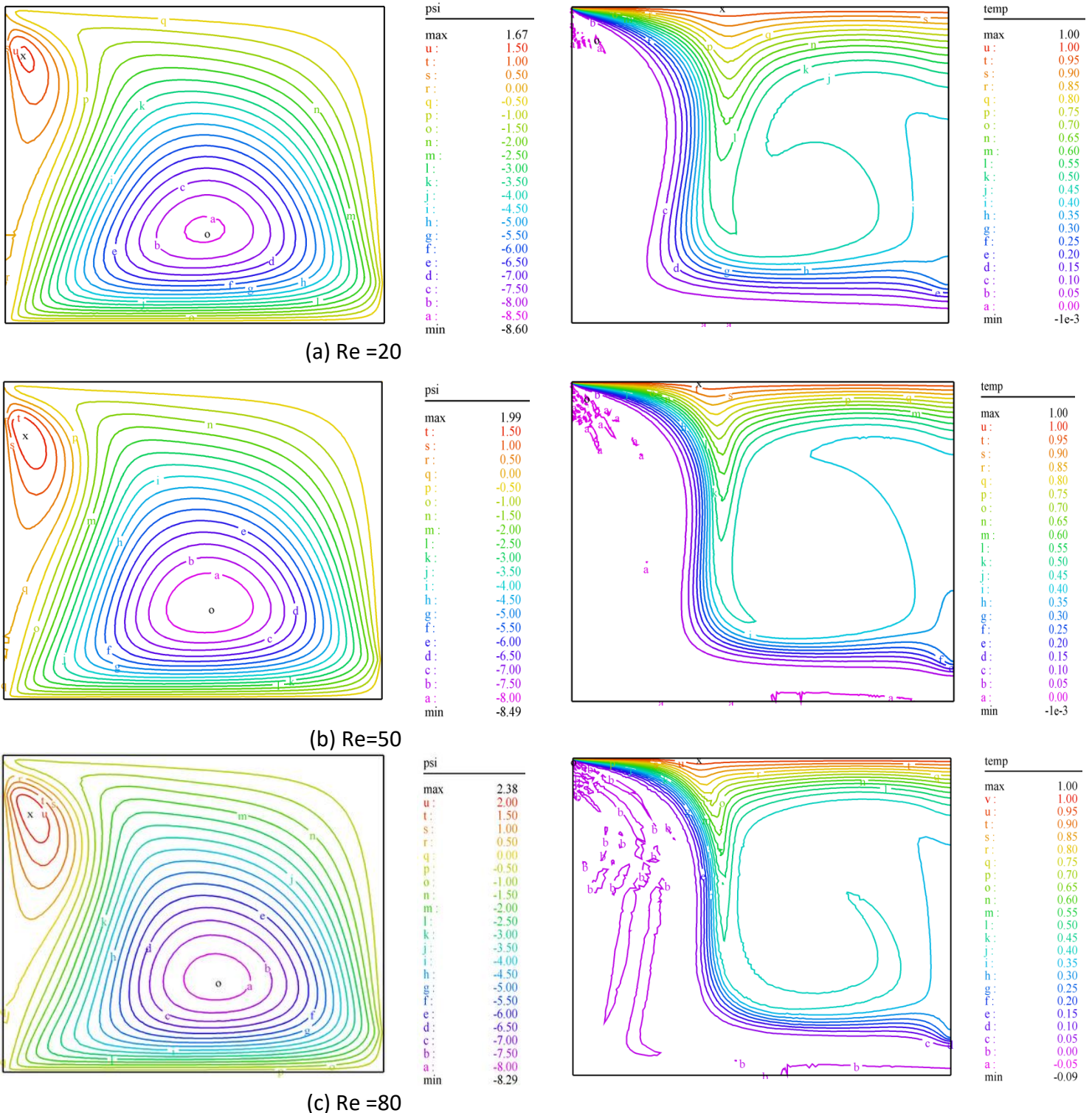


Figure 6. Streamlines (left) and isotherms (right) at  $Ric = 1$  and  $Pra = 50$ , (a)  $Re = 20$ , (b)  $Re = 50$  and (c)  $Re = 80$ .

## 2. Effect of Ri

Richardson's number  $Ri$  is in order to accurately predict the weather and investigate density and turbidity currents in lakes, oceans, and reservoirs,  $Ri$  is crucial. It represents the proportion of the buoyancy term to the flow shear term as a dimensionless number. Figure 7. (a, b, and c) show the effect of different values of  $Ri$  number variation on  $Nu_{av}$  for  $Re=20$ , and  $Pra=50$ . It is evident that the  $Nu_{av}$  increases progressively as the  $Ri$  number increases. Due to the buoyancy effect, this increases roughly linearly.

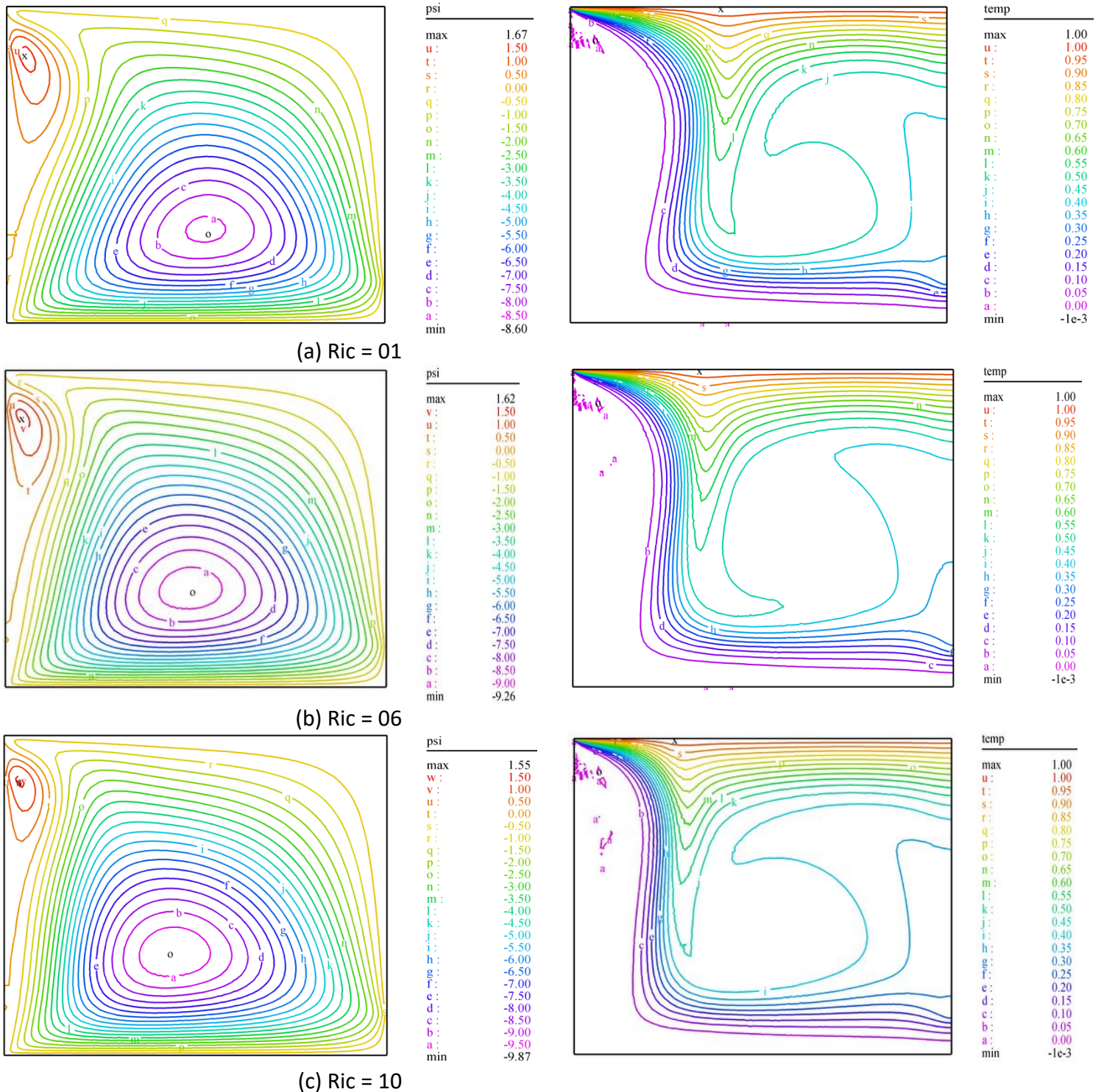


Figure 7. Streamlines (left) and isotherms (right) at  $Re = 20$  and  $Pra = 50$ , (a)  $Ri = 1$ , (b)  $Ri = 6$  and (c)  $Ri = 10$ .

Figure 8. (a, b, and c) show the effect of different values of Ric number variation on  $Nu_{av}$  for  $Re=20$ , and  $Pra=1.7$ . It is evident that when the Ric number increases, the  $Nu_{av}$  increases progressively. This increases almost linearly as a result of the buoyancy impact.

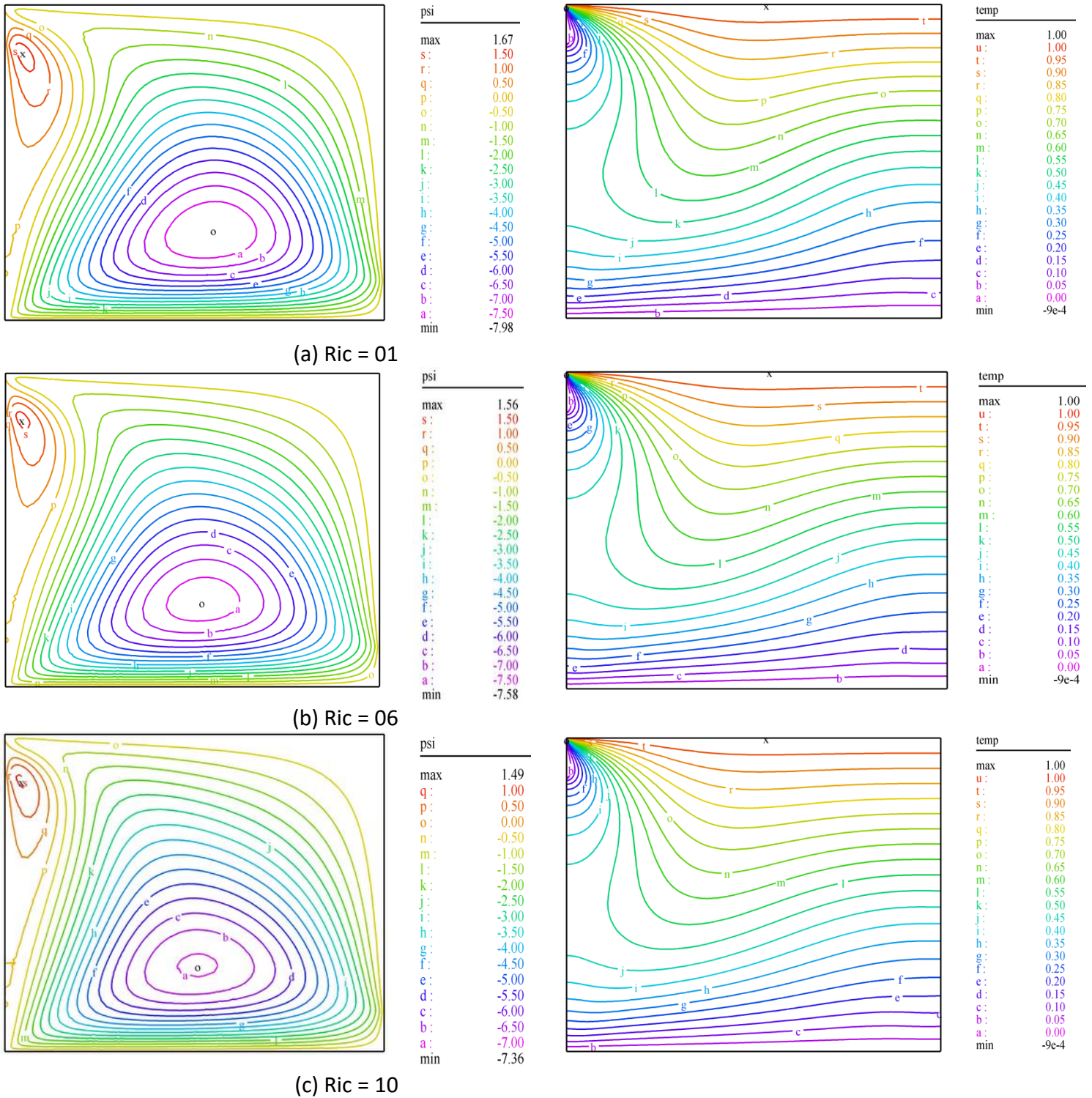


Figure 8. Streamlines (left) and isotherms (right) at  $Re = 20$  and  $Pra = 1.7$ , (a) Ric=1, (b) Ric=6 and (c) Ric=10.

Figure 9. (a, b, and c) show the effect of different values of Ri number variation on  $Nu_{av}$  for  $Re=20$ , and  $Pra=0.71$ . As can be seen, the  $Nu_{av}$  gradually increases as the number of Rics increases. This increases roughly linearly as a result of the buoyancy effect.

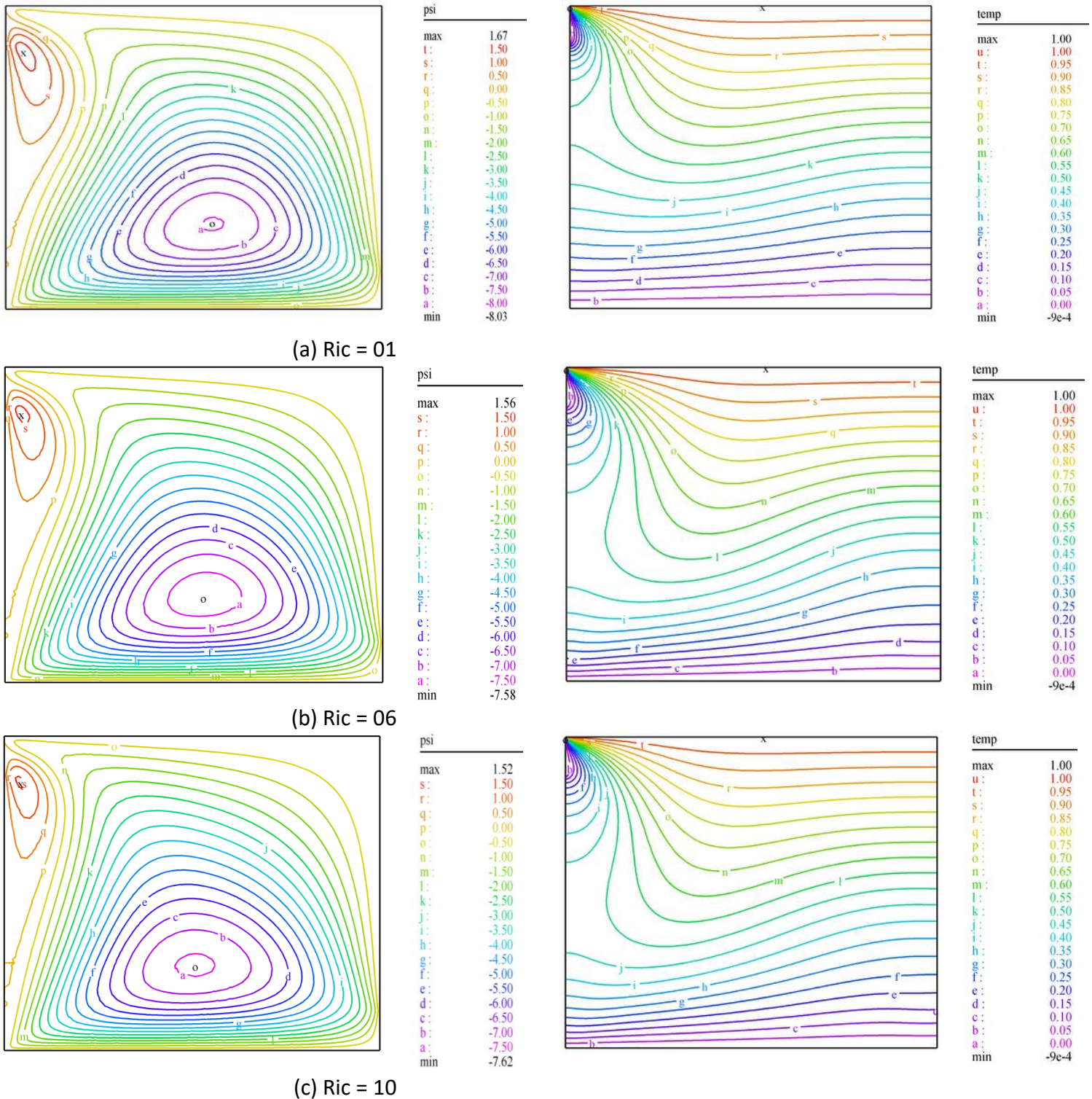


Figure 9. Streamlines (left) and isotherms (right) at  $Re = 20$  and  $Pra = 0.7$ , (a) Ric=1, (b) Ric=6 and (c) Ric=10.

### 3. Nusselt number and average temperature

Figure 10 illustrates how the average Nusselt value is affected by the Re number. It is evident that when  $Re$  and Prandtl numbers rise,  $Nu_{av}$ 's value also rises. The impact of  $Ri$  number on the  $Nu_{av}$ , which falls with increasing  $Ri$  number, is depicted in Fig. 11. Table 2 shows how  $\theta_{av}$  varies with  $Re$  at  $Ri=1$  and for water, oil, and air. It has been seen that as  $Re$  increases, the average temperature falls. Table 3 shows how  $\theta_{av}$  varies with  $Ri$  for air, water, and oil at  $Re=20$ . Because forced convection predominates, it has been noticed that the average temperature lowers as  $Re$  increases.

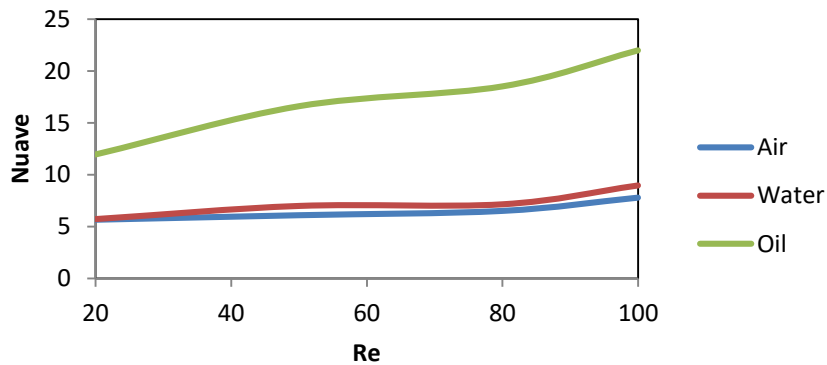


Figure 10. effect of Re number on the average of Nua for different fluids

Table 2. Variation of average fluid temperature with Reynolds number at  $Ri=1$  for different Prandtl number

| Air Pra 0.71  |        |        |        |       |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Re            | 20     | 50     | 80     | 100   |
| $\theta_{av}$ | 0.4217 | 0.4200 | 0.4179 | 0.401 |
| Water Pra 1.7 |        |        |        |       |
| Re            | 20     | 50     | 80     | 100   |
| $\theta_{av}$ | 0.4154 | 0.3948 | 0.371  | 0.358 |
| Oil Pra 50    |        |        |        |       |
| Re            | 20     | 50     | 80     | 100   |
| $\theta_{av}$ | 0.2679 | 0.2283 | 0.2057 | 0.192 |

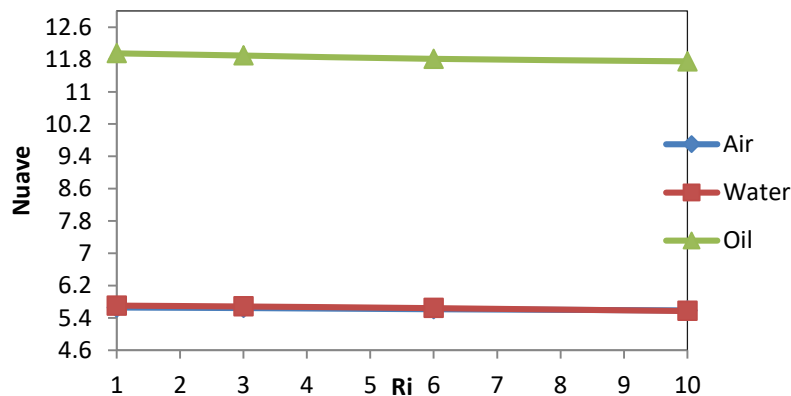


Figure 11. effect of Ric number on the average of Nua for different fluids

**Table 3.** Variation of average fluid temperature with Richardson number at  $Re=20$  for different Prandtl number

| Air Pra 0.71  |        |         |         |       |
|---------------|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| Ri            | 1      | 3       | 6       | 10    |
| $\theta_{av}$ | 0.4217 | 0.40128 | 0.40076 | 0.382 |
| Water Pra 1.7 |        |         |         |       |
| Ri            | 1      | 3       | 6       | 10    |
| $\theta_{av}$ | 0.4154 | 0.4142  | 0.403   | 0.392 |
| Oil Pra 50    |        |         |         |       |
| Ri            | 1      | 3       | 6       | 10    |
| $\theta_{av}$ | 0.2679 | 0.266   | 0.253   | 0.19  |

## Conclusions

Flex PDF software has been used in this study to investigate the effects of variable Prandtl number on mixed convection of a laminar flow and heat transfer in a rectangular enclosure. By varying the Reynolds Number (20  $Re$  100) and the Richardson Number (1  $Ric$  10) fluid flows, the numerical results are examined. The following findings have been summarized:

- A) The average Nusselt number is maximum at the heated surface with the highest Reynolds value. b. Nusselt numbers decline as  $Ric$  rises.
- B) the value of average temperature  $\theta_{av}$  decreasing with increasing  $Re$  and  $Ric$ .
- C) For oil, the average Nusselt number is higher than water, and water is higher than air (due to the difference in density).
- D) The average temperature  $\theta_{av}$  for oil is less than that for water and air for the same value of  $Re$ .

**Nomenclature**

- g Gravitational acceleration, meter/sec<sup>2</sup>
- W The square enclosure's height, meter
- k Conductivity of thermal, Watt/meter<sup>2</sup>.K
- L The heated wall's length, meter
- N Dimensionless normal distance
- Nus Nusselt Number
- Nus<sub>av</sub> Average Nusselt Number
- P\*\* A pressure without dimensions, pascal / $\rho u_{in}^2$
- Pra Prandtl Number,  $\nu/\alpha$
- Ric Richardson Number,  $Gr/Re^2$
- Re Reynolds Number,  $u_{in} L/\nu$
- Te Fluid in the enclosure's temperature, K
- UU,VV Components of non-dimensional velocity,  $uu/u_{in}$ ,  $vv/u_{in}$
- w Inlet opening height, (1/10) L
- W The inlet's non-dimensional height, w/L
- XX, YY coordinates that are not dimensional,  $XX=xx/L$ ,  $YY=yy/L$

**Greek Symbols**

- $\alpha$  Fluid thermal diffusivity, meter<sup>2</sup>/sec
- $\beta$  coefficient of thermal expansion, 1/K
- $\theta$  Temperature dimensionless,  $\theta=(T_e-T_{e_{in}})/(T_h-T_{e_{in}})$
- $\nu$  Kinematics viscosity, meter<sup>2</sup>/s
- $\rho$  Density , kg/meter<sup>3</sup>

**Subscripts**

- h Hot
- in Inlet



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