# **Chapter 14 Effect of Time-Periodic Boundary Temperature Modulations on the Onset of Convection in a Maxwell Fluid–Nanofluid Saturated Porous Layer**

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**Abstract** The linear stability of Maxwell fluid–nanofluid flow in a saturated porous layer is examined theoretically when the walls of the porous layers are subjected to time-periodic temperature modulations. A modified Darcy–Maxwell model is used to describe the fluid motion, and the nanofluid model used includes the effects of the Brownian motion. The thermal conductivity and viscosity are considered to be dependent on the nanoparticle volume fraction. A perturbation method based on a small amplitude of an applied temperature field is used to compute the critical value of the Rayleigh number and the wave number. The stability of the system characterized by a critical Rayleigh number is calculated as a function of the relaxation parameter, the concentration Rayleigh number, the porosity parameter, the Lewis number, the heat capacity ratio, the Vadász number, the viscosity parameter, the conductivity variation parameter, and the frequency of modulation. Three types of temperature modulations are considered, and the effects of all three types of modulations are found to destabilize the system as compared to the unmodulated system.

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© Springer International Publishing Switzerland 2016 S. Silvestrov and M. Rančić (eds.), *Engineering Mathematics I*, Springer Proceedings in Mathematics & Statistics 178, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-42082-0\_14

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**Keywords** Thermal modulation · Nanofluid · Galerkin method · Stability analysis

#### **14.1 Introduction**

Heat transfer enhancement in the base flow of fluid dispersion of nanoscale particles was reported by Masuda et al. [\[16\]](#page-23-0). The presence of nanoparticles in the fluid significantly increases the effective thermal conductivity of the mixture. The term nanofluid was coined by Choi [\[5\]](#page-23-1) to refer to a fluid containing a dispersion of nanoparticles. These enhanced properties and behavior imply an enormous potential of nanofluids for device miniaturization and process intensification which could have impacts on many industrial sectors including chemical processing, transportation, electronics, medicine, energy, and the environment (see for details Chen et al. [\[4\]](#page-22-0)). Several attempts were made to explain abnormal increases in the thermal conductivity and viscosity of nanofluids (Buongiorno [\[3\]](#page-22-1), Vadász [\[34,](#page-24-0) [35](#page-24-1)]). However, a satisfactory explanation has yet to be found as emphasized by Eastman et al. [\[7](#page-23-2)] in their recent comprehensive review of the nanofluid literature. On the other hand, Buongiorno [\[3\]](#page-22-1) focused on heat transfer enhancement of nanofluids in convective situations. He focused on the further heat transfer enhancement observed in convective situations: Buongiorno noted that the observation of convective heat transfer enhancement by several researchers could be due to the dispersion of the suspended nanoparticles, but he argued that this effect is too small to explain the observed enhancement. Also, Buongiorno noted that the absolute velocity of a nanoparticle could be viewed as the sum of the base fluid velocity and a relative velocity (that he called the slip velocity). He considered, in turn, seven slip mechanisms: inertia, Brownian diffusion, thermophoresis, diffusiophoresis, Magnus effect, fluid drainage, and gravity settling. After examining each of these effects, he concluded that in the absence of turbulence, the effects of the Brownian diffusion and the thermophoresis are important. Based on these two effects, Buongiorno formulated the conservation equations.

The Bénard problem (the onset of convection in a horizontal layer uniformly heated from below) for a nanofluid was studied by Tzou [\[32](#page-24-2)] on the basis of the transport equations of Buongiorno [\[3](#page-22-1)]. The corresponding problem for flow in a porous medium (the Horton–Rogers–Lapwood problem) was studied by Nield and Kuznetsov [\[21\]](#page-23-3) using the Darcy model.

An alternative approach is to ignore special phenomena such as Brownian motion and thermophoresis but instead examine the effect of the variation of thermal conductivity and viscosity with the nanofluid particle fraction, using expressions used in the theory of mixtures. This approach was employed by Tiwari and Das [\[31](#page-24-3)] to study the cross-diffusion effects. It is assumed that the nanofluid is diluted so that the nanofluid volume fraction is small compared with unity. Then they assumed that the volume fraction is a linear function of the vertical coordinate. The vertical heterogeneity (especially the case of horizontal layers) was studied by McKibbin and O'Sullivan [\[18\]](#page-23-4) and Leong and Lai [\[13](#page-23-5)]; and horizontal heterogeneity was studied by Nield [\[19\]](#page-23-6), and Gounat and Caltagirone [\[10\]](#page-23-7). More general aspects of conductivity

heterogeneity were discussed by Braester and Vadász [\[2\]](#page-22-2), and Rees and Riley [\[23](#page-23-8)]. Simmons et al. [\[28\]](#page-24-4) have pointed out that in many heterogeneous geological systems, hydraulic properties such as the hydraulic conductivity of the system under consideration can vary by many orders of magnitude and sometimes rapidly over small spatial scales. They also pointed out that the onset of instability is controlled by very local conditions in the vicinity of the evolving boundary layer and not by the global layer properties or indeed some average property of that macroscopic layer. They also pointed out that any averaging process would remove the very structural controls and physics that are expected to be important in controlling the onset, growth, and/or decay of instabilities in a highly heterogeneous system for the general case involving both vertical heterogeneity and horizontal heterogeneity. For this complicated situation no exact analytical solution can be expected to exist, but it is reasonable to seek an approximate analytical solution, based on the expectation that for weak heterogeneity, the solution would not differ dramatically from the solution for the homogeneous case. Following this approach, an extension of the Galerkin approximate method has been widely employed (see, for example, Finlayson [\[9](#page-23-9)]). In the context of the onset of convection, the commonly used Galerkin method involves trial functions of the vertical coordinate only. Thus, to a first approximation, the thermal conductivity and the viscosity can be taken as weak functions of the vertical coordinate. This means that we can treat the problem as one involving a weakly heterogeneous porous medium (Nield [\[20\]](#page-23-10)).

Many working fluids of practical interest are viscoelastic rather than Newtonian. For this reason, current interest in this area is concerned with studies of the various viscoelastic models such as Maxwell fluids (Sokolov and Tanner [\[29\]](#page-24-5)), Oldroyd type models (Khayat [\[12](#page-23-11)], Siddheshwar et al. [\[27](#page-23-12)]), Rivlin–Ericksen fluids (Siddheshwar and Srikrishna [\[26](#page-23-13)]), and Walters-B liquids (El-Sayed [\[8](#page-23-14)]). Analogous studies on viscoelastic fluid convection in porous media are those by Shekar and Jayalatha [\[24](#page-23-15)], Tan and Masuoka [\[30\]](#page-24-6), and Shivakumara et al. [\[25\]](#page-23-16).

Recently, Wang and Tan [\[36\]](#page-24-7) have made a stability analysis of double diffusive convection of Maxwell fluid in a porous medium. It is worthwhile to point out that the first viscoelastic rate type model, which is still used widely, is due to Maxwell [\[17](#page-23-17)]. While Maxwell did not develop this model for polymeric liquids, he recognized that such fluid has a means for storing energy characterizing its viscous nature. Recently, Malashetty et al. [\[15](#page-23-18)] have studied double diffusive convection in a viscoelastic fluid saturated porous layer using the Oldroyd model. Very recently, Awad et al. [\[1](#page-22-3)] used the Darcy–Brinkman–Maxwell model to study linear stability analysis of a Maxwell fluid with cross-diffusion and double-diffusive convection.

Nonetheless, the studies related to the effects of thermal modulation on the onset of convection in a viscoelastic fluid-saturated porous medium have not received much attention. Chung Liu [\[6\]](#page-23-19) has examined the stability of a horizontally extended second-grade fluid layer heated from below subject to temperature modulation at walls.

Motivated by the above studies, in the present paper, we study the effect of thermal modulation on the onset of convection in a Maxwell fluid and nanofluid saturated porous medium. The boundary temperature modulation alters the basic temperature

distribution from linear to nonlinear which helps in effective control of convective instability. The difficulty in dealing with such instability problems is that one has to solve time-dependent stability equations with variable coefficients, and to our knowledge no work has been initiated for such fluids in this direction. The resulting eigenvalue problem is solved by a perturbation technique with amplitude of the temperature modulation as a perturbation parameter. In particular, it is shown that the onset of convection can be advanced by a proper tuning of the frequency of the boundary temperature modulation.

### **14.2 Mathematical Formulation**

We consider an infinite horizontal porous layer saturated with a nanofluid, confined between the planes  $z^* = 0$  and  $z^* = H$ , with the vertically downward gravity force acting on it. A Cartesian frame of reference is chosen with the origin in the lower boundary and the *z*-axis vertically upwards. The Boussinesq approximation, which states that the variation in density is negligible everywhere in the conservation except in the buoyancy term, is assumed to hold. The conservation equations take the form

$$
\nabla^* \cdot v_D^* = 0. \tag{14.1}
$$

<span id="page-3-0"></span>Here  $v_D^*$  is the nanofluid Darcy velocity and  $v_D^* = (u^*, v^*, w^*).$ 

The conservation equation for the nanoparticles, in the absence of thermophoresis and chemical reactions, takes the form

$$
\frac{\partial \phi^*}{\partial t^*} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} v_D^* \cdot \nabla \phi^* = \nabla^* \cdot [D_B \nabla^* \phi^*],\tag{14.2}
$$

where  $\phi^*$  is the nanoparticle volume fraction,  $\varepsilon$  is the porosity, and  $D_B$  is the Brownian diffusion coefficient. We use the Darcy model for a porous medium. Hence, the momentum equation can be written as

$$
\left(1+\tilde{\lambda}\frac{\partial}{\partial t^*}\right)\frac{\rho}{\varepsilon}\frac{\partial v_D^*}{\partial t^*} = \left(1+\tilde{\lambda}\frac{\partial}{\partial t^*}\right)(-\nabla^* p^* + \rho g) - \frac{\mu_{\text{eff}}}{K}v_D^*.
$$
 (14.3)

Here  $\rho$  is the overall density of the nanofluid, which we assume to be given by

$$
\rho = \phi^* \rho_p + (1 - \phi^*) \rho_0 [1 - \beta_T (T^* - T_0^*)], \tag{14.4}
$$

where  $\rho_p$  is the particle density,  $\rho_0$  is a reference density for the fluid, and  $\beta_T$  is the thermal volumetric expansion. The thermal energy equation for a nanofluid can be written as

$$
(\rho c)_m \frac{\partial T^*}{\partial t^*} + (\rho c)_f v_D^* \cdot \nabla^* T^* = k_m \nabla^{*2} T^* + \varepsilon (\rho c)_p [D_B \nabla^* \phi^* \cdot \nabla T^*]. \tag{14.5}
$$

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The conservation of nanoparticle mass requires that

$$
\frac{\partial \phi^*}{\partial t^*} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} v_D^* \cdot \nabla^* \phi^* = D_p \nabla^{*2} \phi^*.
$$
 (14.6)

<span id="page-4-1"></span>Here *c* is the fluid specific heat (at constant pressure),  $k_m$  is the overall thermal conductivity of the porous medium saturated by the nanofluid, and  $c_p$  is the nanoparticle specific heat of the material constituting the nanoparticles (following Nield and Kuznetsov [\[22\]](#page-23-20)). Thus,

$$
k_m = \varepsilon k_{\text{eff}} + (1 - \varepsilon) k_s, \tag{14.7}
$$

where  $k_{\text{eff}}$  is the effective conductivity of the nanofluid (fluid plus nanoparticles) and  $k_s$  is the conductivity of the solid material forming the matrix of the porous medium.

We now introduce the viscosity and the conductivity dependence on nanoparticle fraction. Following Tiwari and Das [\[31\]](#page-24-3), we adopt the formulas, based on a theory of mixtures,

$$
\frac{\mu_{\text{eff}}}{\mu_f} = \frac{1}{(1 - \phi^*)^{2.5}},\tag{14.8}
$$

$$
\frac{k_{\text{eff}}}{k_f} = \frac{(k_p + 2k_f) - 2\phi^*(k_f - k_p)}{(k_p + 2k_f) + \phi^*(k_f - k_p)}.
$$
\n(14.9)

Here  $k_f$  and  $k_p$  are the thermal conductivities of the fluid and the nanoparticles, respectively. In the case where  $\phi^*$  is small compared with unity, we can approximate these formulas by

$$
\frac{\mu_{\text{eff}}}{\mu_f} = 1 + 2.5\phi^*,\tag{14.10}
$$

$$
\frac{k_{\text{eff}}}{k_f} = \frac{(k_p + 2k_f) - 2\phi^*(k_f - k_p)}{(k_p + 2k_f) + \phi^*(k_f - k_p)} = 1 + 3\phi^*\frac{(k_p - k_f)}{(k_p + 2k_f)}.
$$
\n(14.11)

We assume that the volumetric fractions of the nanoparticles are constant on the boundaries. Thus, the boundary conditions are

$$
w^* = 0, \quad \phi^* = \phi_0^* \quad \text{at} \quad z^* = 0,
$$
 (14.12)

$$
w^* = 0, \quad \phi^* = \phi_1^* \quad \text{at} \quad z^* = H. \tag{14.13}
$$

<span id="page-4-0"></span>For thermal modulation, the external driving force is modulated harmonically in time by varying the temperature of the lower and upper horizontal boundary. Accordingly, we take

$$
T(z, t) = T_0 + \frac{\Delta T}{2} [1 + \varepsilon_1 \cos(\Omega t)] \text{ at } z^* = 0,
$$
 (14.14)

$$
T(z, t) = T_0 - \frac{\Delta T}{2} [1 - \varepsilon_1 \cos(\Omega t + \phi)] \text{ at } z^* = H,
$$
 (14.15)

<span id="page-5-1"></span>where  $\varepsilon_1$  represents a small amplitude of modulation (which is used as a perturbation parameter to solve the problem),  $\Omega$  the frequency of modulation, and  $\phi$  the phase angle. We consider three types of modulation, viz.,

Case (a): Symmetric (in phase,  $\phi = 0$ ),

Case (b): Asymmetric (out of phase,  $\phi = \pi$ ), and

Case (c): Only lower wall temperature is modulated while the upper one is held at constant temperature ( $\phi = -i\infty$ ).

# **14.3 Basic State Problem**

<span id="page-5-0"></span>The basic state of the fluid is quiescent and is given by

$$
\rho_b \vec{g} + \nabla p_b = 0,\tag{14.16}
$$

$$
(\rho c)_m \frac{\partial T_b^*}{\partial t^*} = k_m \nabla^2 T^*,\tag{14.17}
$$

$$
\frac{d^2\phi_b^*}{dz^2} = 0.
$$
 (14.18)

<span id="page-5-2"></span>The solution of  $(14.17)$  satisfying the thermal conditions as given in  $(14.14)$  and  $(14.15)$  is  $T_b = T_1(z) + \varepsilon_t T_2(z, t)$  where

$$
T_1(z) = T_R + \frac{\Delta T}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{2z}{H} \right),
$$
 (14.19)

$$
T_2(z,t) = Re[{b(\lambda)e^{\frac{\lambda z}{H}} + b(-\lambda)e^{\frac{-\lambda z}{H}}}]e^{-i\omega t}],
$$
\n(14.20)

with

$$
\lambda = (1 - i) \left( \frac{(\rho c)_m \omega H^2}{2k_m} \right), \quad b(\lambda) = \frac{\Delta T}{2} \left( \frac{e^{-i\phi} - e^{-\lambda}}{e^{\lambda} - e^{-\lambda}} \right), \tag{14.21}
$$

and *Re* stands for real part. We do not record the expressions of  $p_b$  and  $\rho_b$  as these are not explicitly required in the remaining part of the paper.

#### **14.4 Linear Stability Analysis**

Let the basic state be distributed by an infinitesimal perturbation. We now have,

$$
v = v'
$$
,  $p = p_b + p'$ ,  $T = T_b + T'$ ,  $\phi = \phi_b + \phi'$ , (14.22)

<span id="page-6-1"></span><span id="page-6-0"></span>where a prime indicates that the quantities are infinitesimal perturbations. Substituting  $(14.22)$  into  $(14.1)$ – $(14.7)$  and linearizing by neglecting products of primed quantities, we have,

$$
(1 + \lambda_1 s)(\nabla p - RT\hat{e}_z + Rn\phi\hat{e}_z + \gamma_a s\nu) + \tilde{\mu}\nu = 0,
$$
 (14.23)

<span id="page-6-2"></span>
$$
\frac{\partial T'}{\partial t} + w' \frac{\partial T_b}{\partial z} = \tilde{k} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} + \frac{N_B}{Le} \left( \frac{\partial T_b}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial T'}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \phi'}{\partial z} \frac{\partial T_b}{\partial z} \right),\tag{14.24}
$$

$$
\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial \phi'}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} w' = \frac{1}{L \varepsilon} \nabla^2 \phi', \qquad (14.25)
$$

$$
w^{'} = 0, T^{'} = 0, \phi^{'} = 0 \text{ at } z = 0, 1.
$$
 (14.26)

<span id="page-6-3"></span>We introduce the following transformations:

$$
(x, y, z) = \frac{(x^*, y^*, z^*)}{H}, \ t = \frac{t^* \alpha_m}{\sigma H^2}, \ (u, v, w) = \frac{(u^*, v^*, w^*)H}{\alpha_m}, \ p = \frac{p^* K}{\mu_f \alpha_m},
$$

$$
\phi = \frac{\phi^* - \phi_0^*}{\phi_1^* - \phi_0^*}, \ T = \frac{T^* - T_c^*}{T_h^* - T_c^*}, \ \omega = \frac{\sigma \Omega H^2}{\alpha_m}, \ s = \frac{\partial}{\partial t},
$$

with

$$
\alpha_m = \frac{k_m}{(\rho c_p)_f}, \ \sigma = \frac{(\sigma c_p)_m}{(\rho c_p)_f}, \ \tilde{\mu} = \frac{\mu_{eff}}{\mu_f}, \ \tilde{k_p} = \frac{k_p}{k_f}, \ \tilde{k_s} = \frac{k_s}{k_f}, \ \tilde{k} = \frac{k_m}{k_s}.
$$

The dimensionless parameters that appear are these:

- $Pr = \frac{\mu_f}{\rho \alpha_m}$  the Prandtl number,
- $Da = \frac{K}{H^2}$  the Darcy number,
- $Va = \frac{\varepsilon^2 Pr}{Da}$  the Vadász number,
- $\lambda_1 = \frac{\lambda \alpha_m}{\sigma H^2}$  the relaxation parameter (also known as the Deborah number),
- $\gamma_a = \frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma V a}$  the acceleration coefficient,
- $Le = \frac{\alpha_m}{D_m}$  the nanofluid Lewis number,
- $R = \frac{R_{0}gK(1-\phi_0^*)\beta_T\Delta T^*H}{\mu_f\alpha_m}$  the nanoparticle Rayleigh number, and
- $N_B = \frac{(\rho c_p)_p}{(\rho c)_f} (\phi_1^* \phi_0^*)$  modified particle-density increment.

In deriving [\(14.23\)](#page-6-1), the term proportional to the product of  $\phi$  and *T* (Oberbeck– Boussinesq approximation) is neglected. This assumption is likely to be valid in

the case of small temperature gradients in a dilute suspension of nanoparticles: For regular fluid the parameters  $Rn$  and  $N<sub>B</sub>$  are zeros.

<span id="page-7-0"></span>We eliminate pressure by operating on  $(14.23)$  with  $\hat{e}_z$  curl curl and using the *identity curl curl*  $\equiv$  *grad div* –  $\nabla^2$  results in

$$
[(1 + \lambda_1 s)s\gamma_a + \tilde{\mu}] \nabla^2 w' = (1 + \lambda_1 s)[R \nabla_H^2 - Rn \nabla_H^2 \phi'].
$$
 (14.27)

<span id="page-7-1"></span>Here  $\bigtriangledown^2_H$  is the two-dimensional Laplacian operator on the horizontal plane. By combining the  $(14.24)$ – $(14.26)$ , we obtain the equations for the vertical component of velocity *w* in the form (dropping prime)

$$
\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \nabla^2 \gamma\right] \left[\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\nabla^2}{L_e}\right] \left[\nu + s\gamma_a (1 + \lambda_1 s)\right] \nabla^2 w - \frac{(1 + \lambda_1 s)Rn}{\varepsilon} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \nabla^2 \gamma\right] \nabla_1^2 w + \frac{(1 + \lambda_1 s)Rn}{\varepsilon} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\nabla^2}{L_e}\right] \nabla_1^2 w = 0,
$$
\n(14.28)

where,  $v = 1 + 1.25(\phi_1^* + \phi_0^*)$ , and  $\eta = \varepsilon + (1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{k}_s + \frac{3(\phi_1^* + \phi_0^*)\varepsilon}{2} \left(\frac{k_p - 1}{k_p + 2}\right)$  $k_p+2$ .

It is worth noting that the factor  $\nu$  comes from the mean value of  $\tilde{\mu}(z)$  over the range [0, 1], and the factor  $\eta$  is the mean value of  $k(z)$  over the same range. That means that when evaluating the critical Rayleigh number, it is a good approximation to base that number on the mean values of the viscosity and conductivity based in turn on the basic solution for the nanofluid fraction (following Nield and Kuznetsov [\[22](#page-23-20)]).

<span id="page-7-3"></span>The boundary condition  $(14.26)$  is applied to  $(14.27)$  resulting in the following boundary condition for *w*:

$$
w = \frac{d^2w}{dz^2} = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad z = 0, 1. \tag{14.29}
$$

<span id="page-7-2"></span>Using [\(14.19\)](#page-5-2), the dimensionless temperature gradient appearing in [\(14.24\)](#page-6-2) may be written as

$$
\frac{\partial T_b}{\partial z} = -1 + \varepsilon f,\tag{14.30}
$$

where

$$
f = Re [A(\lambda)e^{\lambda z} + A(-\lambda)e^{-\lambda z}e^{-i\omega}t], \text{ for} \qquad (14.31)
$$

$$
A(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \left( \frac{e^{-i\varphi} - e^{-\lambda}}{e^{\lambda} - e^{-\lambda}} \right), \text{ and } \lambda = (1 - i) \left( \frac{\sigma \omega}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.
$$

# **14.5 Method of Solution**

<span id="page-8-0"></span>We seek the eigenfunctions *w* and eigenvalues *Ra* of [\(14.28\)](#page-7-1) for the basic temperature gradient given by [\(14.30\)](#page-7-2) that departs from the linear profile  $\frac{\partial T_b}{\partial \zeta} = -1$  by quantities of order  $\varepsilon_1$ . We therefore assume the solution of [\(14.28\)](#page-7-1) is in the form

<span id="page-8-1"></span>
$$
(w, R) = (w_0, R_0) + \varepsilon_1(w_1, R_1) + \varepsilon_1^2(w_2, R_2) + \dots
$$
 (14.32)

<span id="page-8-2"></span>Substituting [\(14.32\)](#page-8-0) into [\(14.28\)](#page-7-1) and equating the coefficients of various powers of  $\varepsilon_t$  on either side of the resulting equation, we obtain the following system of equations up to the order of  $\varepsilon_t^2$ :

$$
Lw_0 = 0,\t(14.33)
$$

$$
Lw_1 = (1 + \lambda_1 s) \left[ \left( \frac{R_0 \omega G}{\sigma} \nabla_1^2 + \frac{R_0 f}{Le} \right) \nabla_1^2 - \frac{R_1}{Le} \nabla^2 \nabla_1^2 \right] w_0, \tag{14.34}
$$

$$
Lw_2 = (1 + \lambda_1 s) \left[ R_0 \left( \frac{\omega G}{\sigma} + \frac{f}{Le} \nabla^2 \right) - \frac{R_1}{Le} \nabla^2 \right] \nabla_1^2 w_1 +
$$
\n
$$
+ (1 + \lambda_1 s) R_1 \left( \frac{\omega G}{\sigma} + \frac{f}{Le} \nabla^2 + \frac{R_2}{Le} \nabla^2 \right) \nabla_1^2 w_0,
$$
\n(14.35)

where

$$
L = \left(1 + \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \nabla^2 \gamma\right) \left(\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\nabla^2}{Le}\right) \left(\nu + \gamma_a \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) \nabla^2 - \frac{Rn}{\varepsilon} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \nabla^2 \gamma\right) \nabla_1^2 + \frac{R_0}{Le} \nabla^2 \nabla_1^2,
$$

and  $w_0$ ,  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$  are required to satisfy the boundary condition in [\(14.29\)](#page-7-3).

We now assume the solutions for [\(14.33\)](#page-8-1) are of the form  $w_0 = w_0(z)exp[i(k +$ *my*)] where  $w_0(z) = w_0^n(z) = \sin(n\pi z)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3...$  and *l*, *m* are the wave numbers in the *xy* plane such that  $l^2 + m^2 = \alpha^2$ . The corresponding eigenvalues are given by

$$
R_0 = \frac{(n^2\pi^2 + \alpha^2)^2 \nu \gamma}{\alpha^2} - \frac{RnLe\gamma}{\varepsilon}.
$$
 (14.36)

For a fixed value of the wave number  $\alpha$ , the least eigenvalue occurs at  $n = 1$  and is given by

$$
R_0 = \frac{(\pi^2 + \alpha^2)^2 \nu \gamma}{\alpha^2} - \frac{R n L e \gamma}{\varepsilon},
$$
\n(14.37)

and  $R_{0c}$  assumes the minimum value

$$
R_{0c} = 4\pi^2 \nu \gamma - \frac{RnLe\gamma}{\varepsilon}.
$$
 (14.38)

These are the values reported by Horton and Rogers [\[11\]](#page-23-21) in the absence of concentration Rayleigh number *Rn*.

<span id="page-9-1"></span>The equation for  $w_1$  then takes the form

$$
Lw_1 = R_0 \alpha^2 (1 - \lambda_1 i\omega) \left(\frac{\omega}{\sigma} G + \frac{(D^2 - \alpha^2)f}{Le}\right) \sin \pi z,
$$
 (14.39)

<span id="page-9-0"></span>where  $D = \frac{d}{dz}$  and  $G = I.P.$  [{ $A(\lambda)e^{\lambda z}$ } + { $A(-\lambda)e^{-\lambda z}$ } $e^{-i\omega t}$ ]. Thus,

<span id="page-9-2"></span>
$$
D^2 f \sin \pi z = (\lambda^2 - \pi^2) f \sin \pi z + 2\lambda \pi f' \cos \pi z \tag{14.40}
$$

 $\text{with } f' = R.P.\text{[}{{A(\lambda)e^{\lambda z}} + {A(-\lambda)e^{-\lambda z}}}e^{-i\omega t}$ Using [\(14.40\)](#page-9-0), [\(14.39\)](#page-9-1) becomes

$$
Lw_1 = R_0 \alpha^2 (-1 + \lambda_1 i\omega) \left( \frac{\omega}{\sigma} G \sin \pi z - L_1 f \sin \pi z + \frac{2\lambda \pi f'}{Le} \cos \pi z \right),\tag{14.41}
$$

where  $L_1 = \frac{i\omega + \pi^2 + \alpha^2}{Le}$ .

We solve  $(14.41)$  for  $w_1$  by expanding the right hand side of it in Fourier series expansion and inverting the operator *L* for this we need the following Fourier series expansions

$$
g_{nm}(\lambda) = 2 \int_0^1 e^{\lambda z} \sin(m\pi z) \sin(n\pi z) dz = \frac{-4nm\pi^2 \lambda [1 + (-1)^{n+m+1} e^z]}{[\lambda^2 + (n+m)^2 \pi^2] [\lambda^2 + (n-m)^2 \pi^2]},
$$
\n(14.42)

$$
f_{nm}(\lambda) = 2 \int_0^1 e^{\lambda z} \cos(m\pi z) \cos(n\pi z) dz = \frac{2\lambda [\lambda^2 + (n+m)^2 \pi^2][1 + (-1)^{n+m+1} e^z]}{[\lambda^2 + (n+m)^2 \pi^2][\lambda^2 + (n-m)^2 \pi^2]},
$$
\n(14.43)

where

$$
e^{\lambda z}\sin(m\pi z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_{nm}(\lambda)\sin(n\pi z), \qquad (14.44)
$$

$$
e^{\lambda z}\cos(m\pi z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{nm}(\lambda)\cos(n\pi z). \qquad (14.45)
$$

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Now,

$$
L(\omega, n) = A + i\omega B, \qquad (14.46)
$$

where

$$
A = \left[\omega^2 \gamma_a (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2)^2 \left(\frac{1}{Le} + \frac{\gamma}{\sigma}\right) (1 + \lambda_1 \nu) + \frac{\omega^2}{\sigma} (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2) (\nu - \lambda_1 \omega^2 \gamma_a) ++ (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2)^3 \frac{\gamma}{Le} (-\nu + \lambda_1 \omega^2 \gamma_a) + \frac{Rn}{\varepsilon} \alpha^2 (\gamma (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2) - \lambda_1 \omega^2) ++ \left(4\pi^2 \nu \gamma - \frac{RnLe\gamma}{\varepsilon}\right) \frac{\alpha^2}{Le} (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2) \right],
$$

$$
B = \left[ (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2)^2 \left( \frac{1}{Le} + \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} \right) (\nu - \lambda_1 \gamma_a \omega^2) + \frac{\omega^2}{\sigma} (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2)(-\gamma_a - \lambda_1 \nu) + + (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2)^3 \frac{\gamma}{Le} (\gamma_a + \lambda_1 \nu) + \frac{Rn}{\varepsilon} \alpha^2 (-1 + \gamma \lambda_1 (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2)) - - \left( 4\pi^2 \nu \gamma - \frac{RnLe\gamma}{\varepsilon} \right) \frac{\alpha^2 \lambda_1}{Le} (n^2 \pi^2 + \alpha^2) \right].
$$

It is easily seen that:

$$
L\left[\sin(n\pi z)e^{-i\omega t}\right] = L(\omega, n)\sin(n\pi z)e^{i\omega t},
$$

and

$$
L\left[\cos(n\pi z)e^{-i\omega t}\right] = L(\omega, n)\cos(n\pi z)e^{i\omega t},
$$

and [\(14.41\)](#page-9-2) now becomes

$$
Lw_1 = (-1 + \lambda_1 i\omega)\alpha^2 R_0 \left[ \frac{\omega}{\sigma} I.P. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n(\lambda) \sin n\pi z e^{i\omega t} - (14.47) \right]
$$

$$
-L_1 R.P. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n(\lambda) \sin n\pi z e^{i\omega t} + \frac{2\lambda\pi}{Le} R.P. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n(\lambda) \cos n\pi z e^{i\omega t} \right],
$$

$$
Lw_1 = (-1 + \lambda_1 i\omega)\alpha^2 R_0 \left[ \frac{\omega}{\sigma} I.P. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{A_n(\lambda)}{L(\omega, n)} \sin n\pi z e^{i\omega t} - \right] \tag{14.48}
$$

$$
-L_1 R.P. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{A_n(\lambda)}{L(\omega, n)} \sin n\pi z e^{i\omega t} +
$$

$$
+\frac{2\lambda\pi}{Le}R.P.\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\frac{B_n(\lambda)}{L(\omega,n)}\cos n\pi z e^{i\omega t}\Bigg],
$$

where  $A_n = A(\lambda)g_{n1}(\lambda) + A(-\lambda)g_{n1}(-\lambda)$ , and  $B_n = A(\lambda)f_{n1}(\lambda) + A(-\lambda)$  $f_{n1}(-\lambda)$ .

To simplify  $(14.34)$  for  $w_2$  we need

$$
Lw_2 = (1 + \lambda_1 s) \left[ R_0 \left( \frac{\omega G}{\sigma} + \frac{\nabla^2 f}{Le} \right) \nabla_1^2 w_1 - R_2 \frac{\nabla^2}{Le} \cdot \nabla_1^2 w_1 \right].
$$
 (14.49)

The equation for then can be written as

$$
Lw_2 = (1 - \lambda_1 i\omega) \left[ R_0 \left( \frac{\omega G}{\sigma} - L_n f \right) w_1 + \frac{2DfDw_1}{Le} \right] - R_2 \frac{\alpha^2}{Le} (\pi^2 + \alpha^2),\tag{14.50}
$$

<span id="page-11-0"></span>where  $L_n = \frac{i\omega + n^2\pi^2 + \alpha^2}{Le}$ .

We shall not require the solution of this equation but merely use it to determine  $R<sub>2</sub>$ . The solvability condition requires that the time-independent part of the right hand side of [\(14.50\)](#page-11-0) must be orthogonal to  $sin(\pi z)$ . Multiplying equation (14.50) by  $sin(\pi z)$  and integrating between 0 and 1 we obtain

$$
R_2 = \frac{2LeR_0(1 - 2i\lambda\omega)}{\nabla^2} \int_0^1 \left(\frac{\nabla^2 f}{Le} \frac{\omega G}{\sigma}\right) w_1 \sin(\pi z) dz, \tag{14.51}
$$

<span id="page-11-2"></span>where an upper bar denotes the time average.

<span id="page-11-1"></span>We have the Fourier series expansions

$$
f \sin \pi z = R.P. \sum A_n(\lambda) \sin n\pi z e^{i\omega t},
$$
  
Of  $\sin \pi z = R.P. \sum \lambda C_n(\lambda) \sin n\pi z e^{i\omega t},$  (14.52)

where  $C_n(\lambda) = A(\lambda)g_{n1}(\lambda) - A(-\lambda)g_{n1}(-\lambda)$ . Using  $(14.52)$  in  $(14.51)$  we obtain

$$
R_2 = \frac{LeR_0^2\alpha^2}{2(\pi^2 + \alpha^2)} \cdot (14.53)
$$

$$
\left[ \left( -\frac{\omega^2}{\sigma^2} - \overline{L_n} L_1 \right) R.P. \sum \frac{|A_n|^2}{|L(\omega, n)|^2} L^*(\omega, n) (1 - 2i\lambda_1\omega)(-1 + i\lambda_1\omega) + \right]
$$

$$
+ \left[ \frac{4n\pi^2\lambda_1}{Le^2} R.P. \sum \frac{B_n}{\lambda_1 C_n} \frac{B_n}{|L(\omega, n)|^2} L^*(\omega, n) (1 - 2i\lambda_1\omega)(-1 + i\lambda_1\omega) \right],
$$

where  $L^*(\omega, n)$  is the complex conjugate of  $L(\omega, n)$ , and

$$
|A_n(\lambda)|^2 = \frac{16n^2\pi^4\omega^2}{(\omega^2 + (n+1)^4\pi^4)(\omega^2 + (n-1)^4\pi^4)}.
$$

The critical value of  $R_2$ , denoted by  $R_{2c}$ , is obtained at the wave number given by equation  $\alpha_c = \pi$  for the following three different cases:

- 1. When the oscillating temperature field is symmetric so that the wall temperatures are modulated in phase (with  $\phi = 0$ ).
- 2. When the wall temperature field is antisymmetric corresponding to out-of-phase modulation (with  $\phi = \pi$ ).
- 3. When only the temperature of the bottom wall is modulated, the upper wall being held at a constant temperature (with  $\phi = -i\infty$ ).

#### **14.6 Results and Discussion**

The effect of thermal modulation on the onset of convection in a layer of Maxwell fluid and nanofluid saturated porous medium is investigated using linear stability analysis. A perturbation technique with amplitude of the modulating temperature as a perturbation parameter is used to find the critical thermal Rayleigh number as a function of frequency of the modulation, relaxation parameter, concentration Rayleigh number, porosity parameter, Lewis number, heat capacity ratio, Vadász number, conductivity, and viscosity variation parameters. The sign of  $R_{2c}$  characterizes the stabilizing or destabilizing effects of modulation. A positive  $R_{2c}$  indicates that the modulation effect is to stabilize the flow: while a negative  $R_{2c}$  indicates the effect is to destabilize, compared to the system in which modulation is absent. We present below the results for three different wall temperature oscillating mechanisms: They are, symmetric, asymmetric, and lower wall temperature modulation only.

In Figs. [14.1,](#page-13-0) [14.2,](#page-13-1) [14.3,](#page-14-0) [14.4,](#page-14-1) [14.5,](#page-15-0) [14.6,](#page-15-1) [14.7](#page-16-0) and [14.8,](#page-16-1) the variations of critical Rayleigh number  $R_{2c}$  with frequency  $\omega$  for different governing parameters are presented for the case of symmetric temperature modulation. It can be seen from these figures that for small frequencies the critical Rayleigh number  $R_{2c}$  is negative indicating the destabilized flow. For moderate and high frequencies, the critical Rayleigh number  $R_{2c}$  is positive indicating that the effect of symmetric modulation is to stabilize the system. It can also be seen that as  $R_{2c}$  decreases to its minimum value (thus producing maximum destabilization), and then increases to its maximum stabilizing value, and finally decreases to zero as the frequency increases from zero to infinity. That is, in the presence of thermal modulation, convection occurs at lower values of the Rayleigh number compared to the unmodulated system.

Figure [14.1](#page-13-0) shows the effect of the relaxation parameter  $\lambda_1$  on the critical Rayleigh number  $R_{2c}$  for fixing the other governing parameters in the case of symmetric modulation. It is seen that an increase in the value of the relaxation parameter increases the



<span id="page-13-0"></span>**Fig. 14.1** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $\lambda_1$  and  $R_n$ 



<span id="page-13-1"></span>**Fig. 14.2** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* 

magnitude of  $R_{2c}$ . At small frequencies,  $R_{2c}$  increases negatively, while  $R_{2c}$  increases positively with the relaxation parameter at moderate and high frequencies for both regular and nanofluids. Hence the effect of the relaxation parameter is to destabilize the system for small frequencies while its effect is to stabilize the system for moderate and high frequencies. This agrees well with the results obtained by Malashetty and Begum [\[14](#page-23-22)] for a clear fluid. Figure [14.1](#page-13-0) also indicates that the peak negative value of  $R_{2c}$  increases with an increase in the value of  $\lambda_1$  which is the result obtained by Shivakumara et al. [\[25\]](#page-23-16) for a viscoelastic fluid.



<span id="page-14-0"></span>**Fig. 14.3** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $\varepsilon$  and *Le* 



<span id="page-14-1"></span>**Fig. 14.4** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* and *Le* 

Figure [14.2](#page-13-1) shows the variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of the concentration Rayleigh number  $R_n$ :  $R_n > 0$  indicates top heavy nanoparticles and  $R_n < 0$ indicates bottom heavy nanoparticles. Here also it is observed that for small frequencies,  $R_{2c}$  is negative indicating that the symmetric modulation has destabilizing effect while for moderate and large values of frequencies its effect is stabilizing for both regular and nanofluids. This is similar to the observed results of Umavathi [\[33\]](#page-24-8). The effect of porosity parameter  $\varepsilon$  for symmetric modulation is shown in Fig. [14.3.](#page-14-0) It is



<span id="page-15-0"></span>**Fig. 14.5** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $R_n$  and  $\sigma$ 



<span id="page-15-1"></span>**Fig. 14.6** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $R_n$  and Vadász number  $Va$ 

observed that as  $\varepsilon$  increases, the value of  $|R_{2c}|$  becomes small indicating that the larger values of  $\varepsilon$  decrease the effect of modulation. Here also it is observed that as  $\omega$  increases,  $R_{2c}$  increases to its maximum value initially and then starts decreasing with further increase in  $\omega$ . When  $\omega$  is very large, all the curves for different porosity  $\varepsilon$ coalesce and  $| R_{2c} |$  approaches to zero. Figure [14.4](#page-14-1) depicts the variation of  $R_{2c}$  with frequency ω for different values of Lewis number *Le*. An increase in the value of the



<span id="page-16-0"></span>**Fig. 14.7** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $R_n$  and  $\nu$ 



<span id="page-16-1"></span>**Fig. 14.8** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* and  $\gamma$ 

Lewis number decreases the value of  $|R_{2c}|$  indicating that the effect of increasing *Le* is to reduce the effect of thermal modulation for regular and nanofluids. As  $\omega$ increases,  $|R_{2c}|$  increases to its maximum value initially and then decreases with further increase in  $\omega$ . For large,  $\omega$  all the curves for different Lewis number coincide, and  $| R_{2c} |$  approaches to zero for both regular and nanofluids. The effect of thermal capacity ratio  $\sigma$  and  $\omega$  is shown in Fig. [14.5.](#page-15-0) As  $\sigma$  increases,  $|R_{2c}|$  decreases for



<span id="page-17-0"></span>**Fig. 14.9** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* and  $\lambda_1$ 



<span id="page-17-1"></span>**Fig. 14.10** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* 

both regular and nanofluids. Here also  $|R_{2c}|$  increases to its maximum value initially as  $\omega$  increases and then starts decreasing with further increase in  $\omega$ . The effect of Vadász number *V a* shows a similar nature as that of heat capacity ratio  $\sigma$  as seen in Fig. [14.6.](#page-15-1) The effects of viscosity variation parameter  $\nu$  and conductivity variation parameter  $\gamma$  are shown in Figs. [14.7](#page-16-0) and [14.8,](#page-16-1) respectively. As  $\upsilon$  and  $\gamma$  increase,  $|R_{2c}|$  decreases indicating that the viscosity and conductivity ratio stabilizes the



<span id="page-18-0"></span>**Fig. 14.11** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $R_n$  and  $\varepsilon$ 



<span id="page-18-1"></span>**Fig. 14.12** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* and *Le* 

system. As  $\omega$  increases,  $|R_{2c}|$  increases to its maximum value initially and then starts decreasing with further increase in  $\omega$ .

The results obtained for the case of asymmetric modulation are presented in Figs. [14.9,](#page-17-0) [14.10,](#page-17-1) [14.11,](#page-18-0) [14.12,](#page-18-1) [14.13,](#page-19-0) [14.14,](#page-19-1) [14.15](#page-20-0) and [14.16.](#page-20-1) All these figures show that for all parameters, small frequencies have destabilizing effects while for moderate and large values of the frequency, their effects are to stabilize the system. It is seen from Fig. [14.9](#page-17-0) that an increase in the value of  $\lambda_1$  increases the magnitude of  $R_{2c}$ . The effect of the concentration Rayleigh number *Rn*, porosity parameter  $\varepsilon$ , Lewis



<span id="page-19-0"></span>**Fig. 14.13** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $R_n$  and  $\sigma$ 



<span id="page-19-1"></span>**Fig. 14.14** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* and *Va* 

number *Le*, thermal capacity ratio  $\sigma$ , Vadász number *Va*, viscosity and conductivity variation parameters  $v$  and  $\gamma$  is the same as in the case of symmetric modulation, and hence a detailed explanation is not presented. The variation of all the governing parameters for the case of only lower wall temperature modulation produce similar effects as for asymmetric modulation and hence not shown pictorially.



<span id="page-20-0"></span>**Fig. 14.15** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of  $R_n$  and  $\nu$ 



<span id="page-20-1"></span>**Fig. 14.16** Variation of  $R_{2c}$  with  $\omega$  for different values of *Rn* and  $\gamma$ 

From Figs. [14.1,](#page-13-0) [14.2,](#page-13-1) [14.3,](#page-14-0) [14.4,](#page-14-1) [14.5,](#page-15-0) [14.6,](#page-15-1) [14.7,](#page-16-0) [14.8,](#page-16-1) [14.9,](#page-17-0) [14.10,](#page-17-1) [14.11,](#page-18-0) [14.12,](#page-18-1) [14.13,](#page-19-0) [14.14,](#page-19-1) [14.15](#page-20-0) and [14.16,](#page-20-1) one can observe that the peak values of for a regular fluid compared to a nanofluid for all the governing parameters. A nanofluid has a more stabilizing effect compared to a regular fluid.

$\boldsymbol{c}$	Nanofluid specific heat at constant pressure	$c_p$	Specific heat of the nanoparticle material		
$(\rho c)_m$	Effective heat capacity of the porous medium	$d_p$	Nanoparticle diameter		
g	Gravitational acceleration	$D_R$	Brownian diffusion coefficient $\frac{m^2}{s}$		
$h_p$	Specific enthalpy of the nanoparticle Specific enthalpy of the nanoparticle materialmaterial	H	Dimensional layer depth $(m)$		
$j_p$	Diffusion mass flux for the nanoparticles	$j_{p,T}$	Thermophoretic diffusion		
$\boldsymbol{k}$	Thermal conductivity of the nanofluid	$k_B$	Boltzman constant		
$k_m$	Effective thermal conductivity of the porous medium	$k_p$	Thermal conductivity of the particle material		
Le	Lewis parameter	$N_{A}$	Modified diffusivity ratio		
$N_B$	Modified particle-density increment	$p^*$	Pressure		
$\boldsymbol{p}$	Dimensionless pressure, $\frac{p^*K}{\mu\alpha_m}$	q	Energy flux relative to a frame. moving with the nanofluid velocity		
R	Thermal Rayleigh-Darcy number	Rn	Concentration Rayleigh number		
$t^*$	time	$\bar{t}$	Dimensionless time, $t^* \alpha_m / \sigma H^2$		
$T^*$	Nanofluid temperature	$\overline{T}$	Dimensionless temperature, $\frac{T^*-T_c^*}{T_h^*-T_c^*}$		
$T_c^*$	Temperature at the upper wall	$T_h^*$	Temperature at the lower wall		
$T_R$	Reference temperature	(u, v, w)	Dimensionless Darcy velocity components $\frac{(u^*, v^*, w^*)H}{\gamma}$		
ν	Nanofluid velocity	$v_D$	Darcy velocity $\epsilon v$		
$v_D^*$	Dimensionless Darcy velocity $(u^*, v^*, w^*)$	$\gamma_a$	Non dimensional acceleration coefficient		
Va	Vadász number	(x, y, z)	Dimensionless Cartesian coordinate		
$\frac{(x^*, y^*, z^*)}{H}$	Vertically upward coordinate	$(x^*, y^*, z^*)$	Cartesian coordinates		
Greek symbols					
$\alpha_m$	Thermal diffusivity of the porous medium $\frac{k_m}{(\rho c)_f}$	$\tilde{\beta}$	Proportionality factor		
$\gamma$	Conductivity variation parameter	$\lambda_1$	Relaxation parameter		
$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$	Porosity of the medium	$\varepsilon_t$	Amplitude of the modulation		
$\mu$	Viscosity of the fluid	$\upsilon$	Viscosity variation parameter		
$\rho$	Fluid density	$\rho_p$	Nanoparticle mass density		
$\sigma$	Parameter	$\phi^*$	Nanoparticle volume fraction		

<span id="page-21-0"></span>**Table 14.1** Nomenclature

(continued)

Φ	Relative nanoparticle volume fraction, $\frac{\phi^* - \phi_c^*}{\phi_b^* - \phi_c^*}$	Ω	Dimensional frequency
$\omega$	Dimensionless frequency $\left(=\frac{\Omega H^2}{K}\right)$		
$\psi$	Phase angles		
$\psi = 0$	Symmetric modulation	$\psi = \pi$	Antisymmetric modulation
	$\psi = -i\infty$ Only lower wall temperature modulation		

Table 14.1 (continued)

# **14.7 Conclusion**

The effect of thermal modulation on the onset of convection in a Maxwell fluid and nanofluid saturated porous layer was studied using a linear stability analysis and the following conclusions were drawn (Table [14.1\)](#page-21-0):

- 1. The effect of all three types of modulations namely, symmetric, asymmetric, and only with lower wall temperature modulations is found to be destabilizing compared to the unmodulated system.
- 2. Low frequency symmetric modulation is destabilizing while high frequency symmetric modulation is always stabilizing for both regular and nanofluids.
- 3. Large values of the concentration Rayleigh number are found to stabilize the system for all types of modulations.
- 4. The viscosity and conductivity variation parameters produce more stability for the system.
- 5. The nanofluid is found to be more stabilizing compared to regular fluid in all three types of temperature modulations.

**Acknowledgements** One of the authors, J.C. Umavathi, is thankful for the financial support under the UGC-MRP F.43-66/2014 (SR) Project, and also to Prof. Maurizio Sasso, supervisor and Prof. Matteo Savino co-coordinator of the ERUSMUS MUNDUS "Featured eUrope and South/south-east Asia mobility Network FUSION" for their support to do Post-Doctoral Research.

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