

3.1 - Plane Wall

3.1.1 - Temp Distribution

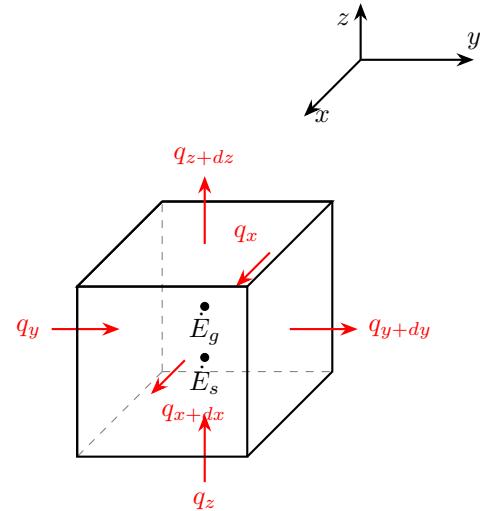


Figure 1: Differential Control Volume.

Taylor Series Expansions:

$$\begin{aligned} q_{x+dx} &= q_x + \frac{\partial q_x}{\partial x} dx \\ q_{y+dy} &= q_y + \frac{\partial q_y}{\partial y} dy \\ q_{z+dz} &= q_z + \frac{\partial q_z}{\partial z} dz \end{aligned}$$

Energy Generation:

$$\dot{E}_g = \dot{q} dxdydz$$

Energy Storage:

$$\dot{E}_{st} = \rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} dxdydz$$

Conservation of Energy:

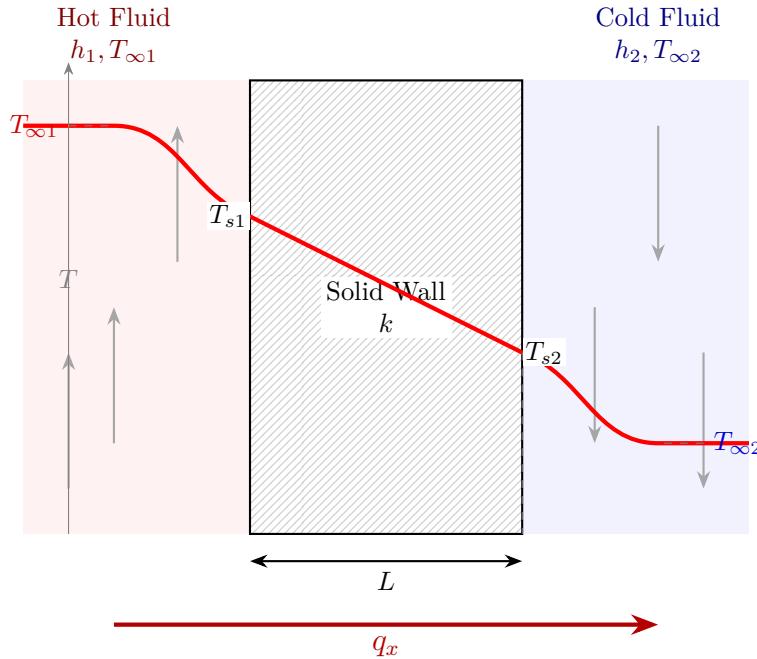
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{E}_{in} + \dot{E}_g - \dot{E}_{out} &= \dot{E}_{st} \\ (q_x + q_y + q_z) + \dot{E}_g - (q_{x+dx} + q_{y+dy} + q_{z+dz}) &= \dot{E}_{st} \end{aligned}$$

Applying this and doing some algebra will get you the general heat equation.

General Heat Eq

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(k \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(k \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(k \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) + \dot{q} = \rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$$

1D Conduction



Finding the heat xfer rate:

1. Start with the conditions in the wall.
2. Solve the general heat equation with the appropriate boundary conditions to find temp distribution.
3. Find the conduction Q xfer rate

Lets start with the general heat equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(k \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(k \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(k \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) + \dot{q} = \rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$$

For our 1D wall with no heat source and steady state, this reduces to:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left(k \frac{dT}{dx} \right) = 0$$

We will solve this to find $T(x)$ or "Temp Distribution"
Assume k is constant through the wall.

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} \left(k \frac{dT}{dx} \right) dx = \int 0 dx$$

$$k \frac{dT}{dx} = A$$

$$\frac{dT}{dx} = \frac{A}{k}$$

$$\frac{dT}{dx} = C_1 \quad \text{where } C_1 = \frac{A}{k}$$

$$dT = C_1 dx$$

$$\int dT dx = \int C_1 dx$$

$$T(x) = C_1 x + C_2$$

What about non-constant k terms?

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left(k(t) \frac{dT}{dx} \right) = 0$$

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} k(t) \frac{dT}{dx} dx = \int 0 dx$$

$$k(T) \frac{dT}{dx} = C_0 \xleftarrow{\text{Still Constant flux}}$$

$$k(T) dT = C_0 dx$$

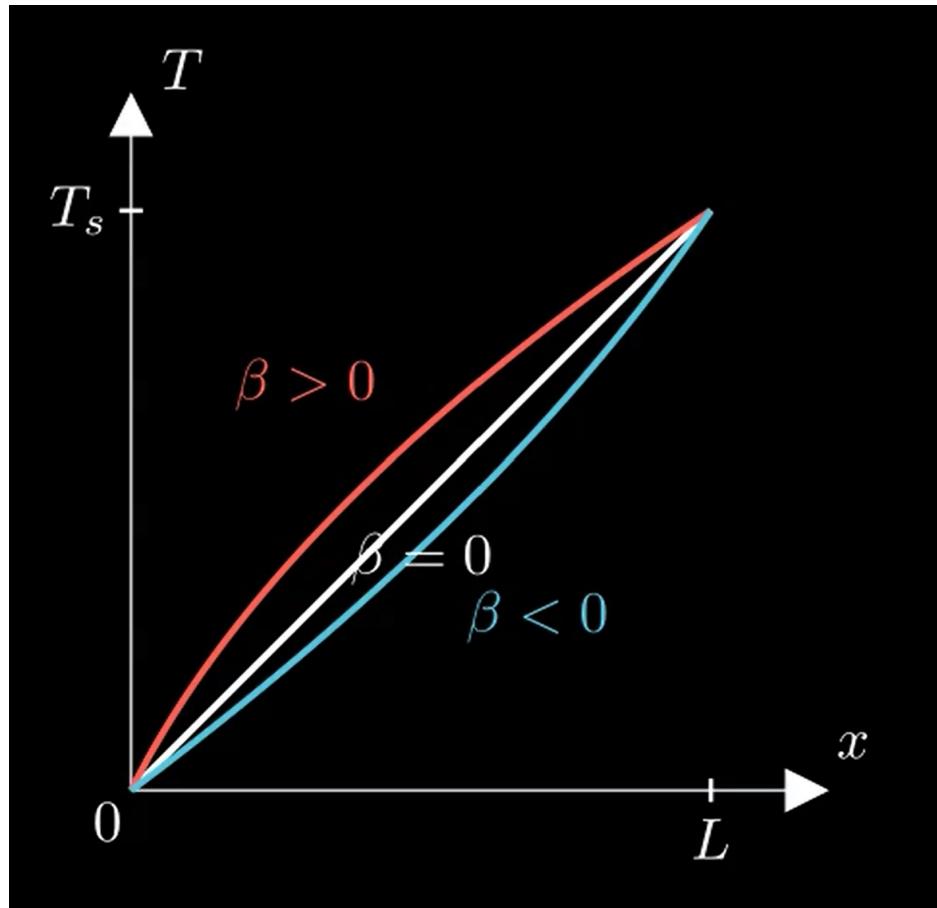
$$\int k(T) dT = \int C_0 dx$$

$$\int k_0(1 + \beta T) dT = \int C_0 dx$$

$$k_0 \int (1 + \beta T) dT = C_0 x + C_1$$

$$k_0 \left[T + \frac{\beta T^2}{2} \right] = C_0 x + C_1$$

$$x(t) = \frac{T + \frac{\beta}{2} T^2}{1 + \frac{\beta}{2}} \quad (\text{plotted below})$$

Figure 2: with BC $T(x = 0) = 0$ and $T(x = L) = T_s$

0.1 numerical view of the work

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{dx} \left(k \frac{dT}{dx} \right) = 0}$$

So with the $T(x)$ that we found, we can see that we still need the constants. Lets get those:

$$T(x) = C_1x + C_2$$

Apply the boundary conditions

$$T(x = 0) = T_{s1} \text{ and } T(x = L) = T_{s2}$$

$$T(x = 0) \quad \text{First}$$

$$T(x = 0) = C_1(x = 0) + C_2$$

$$T_{s1} = C_10 + C_2$$

$$T_{s1} = C_2$$

$$T(x = L) \quad \text{Second}$$

$$T(x = L) = C_1(x = L) + C_2$$

$$T_{s2} = C_1L + T_{s1}$$

$$C_1 = \frac{T_{s2} - T_{s1}}{L}$$

with C_1 and C_2 we can finish $T(x)$:

1. 1D

2. Steady State

3. No Source/Sink

4. k is constant

$$T(x) = \frac{T_{s2} - T_{s1}}{L}x + T_{s1}$$

Find Conduction Heat transfer

Now that we have $T(x)$ "the temp distr WRT x"
we can now move to conduction heat xfer rate.

$$T(x) = \frac{T_{s2} - T_{s1}}{L}x + T_{s1}$$

Apply Fourier's Law

$$\begin{aligned} q_x &= -kA_{\perp} \frac{dT}{dn} \\ q_x &= -kA_{\perp} \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{T_{s2} - T_{s1}}{L}x + T_{s1} \right] \\ q_x &= -kA_{\perp} \frac{T_{s2} - T_{s1}}{L} \frac{d}{dx}x + \frac{d}{dx} T_{s1} \\ q_x &= \frac{-kA_{\perp}}{L} (T_{s2} - T_{s1}) \Big|_0^L \end{aligned}$$

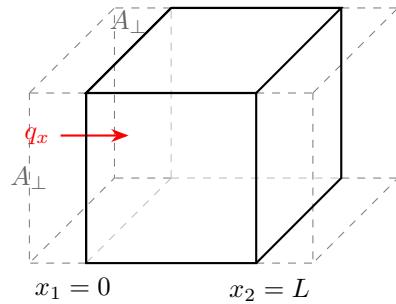


Figure 3: This shows the normal area A_{\perp} is normal to the heat.

Find Heat Flux Rate

$$\begin{aligned} q''_x &= \frac{Q_x}{A} \\ &= \frac{\frac{-kA}{L}(T_{s2} - T_{s1})}{A} \\ q''_x &= \frac{-k}{L}(T_{s2} - T_{s1}) \end{aligned}$$

3.1.2 - Thermal Resistance

First, some circuit stuff

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First, some circuit stuff. There is a direct analogy between the flow of electricity and the flow of heat.

Electrical System	Thermal System
Current flow, I [Amps]	Heat transfer rate, q_x [Watts]
Voltage potential, ΔV [Volts]	Temperature difference, ΔT [K]
Electrical Resistance, R_e [Ω]	Thermal Resistance, R_{th} [K/W]
Ohm's Law: $I = \frac{\Delta V}{R_e}$	Fourier's Law: $q_x = \frac{\Delta T}{R_{th}}$

Based on this analogy, we can define the **Conduction Resistance** for a plane wall. From our previous equation for heat rate:

$$\begin{aligned} q_x &= \frac{kA}{L}(T_{s1} - T_{s2}) \\ q_x &= \frac{T_{s1} - T_{s2}}{\left(\frac{L}{kA}\right)} \end{aligned}$$

Note on Sign Convention:

You might expect to see $\Delta T = T_{final} - T_{initial}$ ($T_{s2} - T_{s1}$). However, heat transfer always flows from **High Temp to Low Temp**.

Fourier's Law includes a negative sign ($q = -k \dots$) to correct for this natural gradient. In the resistance analogy, we simplify this by defining the driving potential as:

$$\text{Potential} = T_{high} - T_{low} = T_{s1} - T_{s2}$$

This ensures our heat rate q_x is a positive value flowing in the direction of the arrow, exactly like Voltage Drop ($V_{high} - V_{low}$) in a circuit.

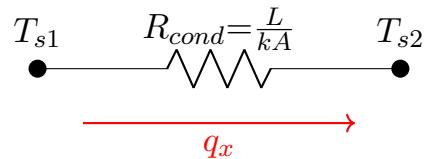
Comparing this to the "Thermal Ohm's Law" ($q = \Delta T/R$), the denominator represents the resistance:

$$R_{t,cond} = \frac{T_{s1} - T_{s2}}{q_x} = \frac{L}{kA}$$

(Thermal Resistance for Plane Wall Conduction)

The Thermal Circuit

We can now draw the wall as a resistor between two temperature nodes:



What about convection?

Using Newton's law of cooling

$$q = hA(T_s - T_\infty)$$

$$\frac{T_s - T_\infty}{q} = \frac{1}{hA}$$

$$R_{conv} = \frac{T_s - T_\infty}{q} = \frac{1}{hA}$$

(convective resistance, High to low)

The equivalent thermal circuit

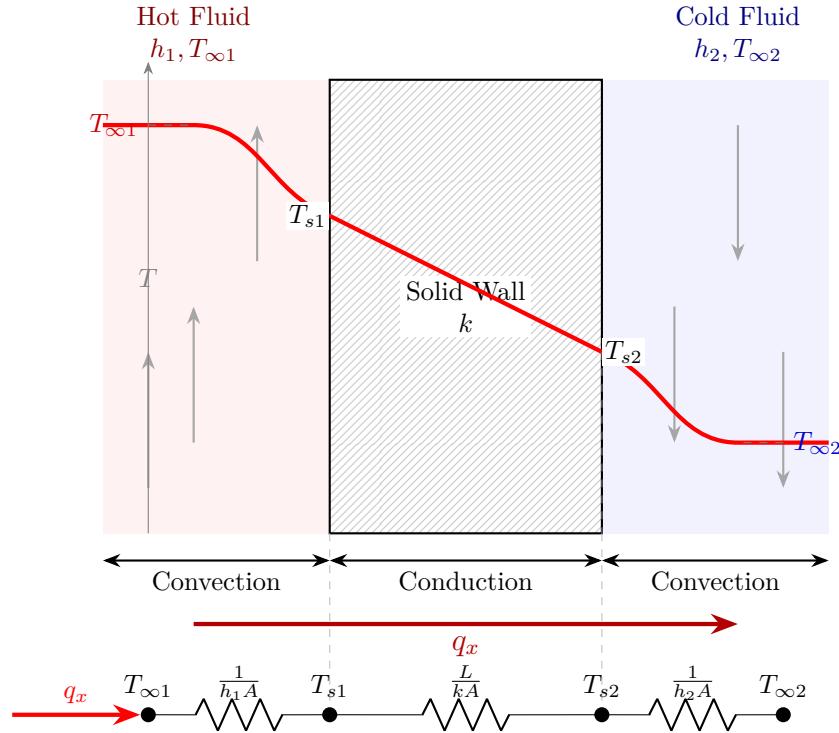


Figure 4: Temperature distribution and equivalent thermal circuit.

$$q_x = \frac{T_{\infty} - T_{s1}}{\frac{1}{hA}} = \frac{T_{s1} - T_{s2}}{\frac{L}{kA}} = \frac{T_{s2} - T_{\infty}}{\frac{1}{hA}}$$

Notice that we have a total ΔT limit from $T_{\infty 1}$ and $T_{\infty 2}$ and R_{tot} is a sum of resistors in series.

$$R_{tot} = \frac{1}{h_1 A} + \frac{L}{kA} + \frac{1}{h_2 A}$$

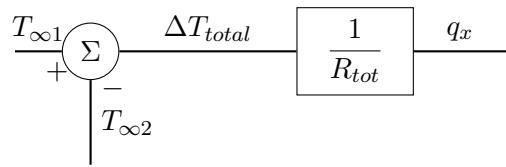
so

$$q_x = \frac{T_{\infty 1} - T_{\infty 2}}{R_{tot}}$$

Block Diagram Representation

a control (block) diagram represents the system response

- **Input:** The driving potential difference (ΔT)
- **System Gain:** The total thermal conductance ($1/R_{tot}$)
- **Output:** The resulting heat flow (q_x)



This helps visualize that heat transfer is a linear system where the flow q_x is directly proportional to the temperature difference, scaled by the system's "Conductance" ($UA = 1/R_{tot}$).