

ICSolar Model

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1 Steady Model

Consider the model of air and water interaction consisting of an initial inlet region (denoted by 0) and a pair of regions, an open region with pipe followed by a module, denoted by (1,2) satisfying

$$W_1 : \quad \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}(T_{w,1} - T_{w,0}) - h_{wa}(T_{a,1} - T_{w,1}) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$A_1 : \quad \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}(T_{a,1} - T_{a,0}) - h_{wa}(T_{w,1} - T_{a,1}) - h_e(T_e - T_{a,1}) - h_i(T_i - T_{a,1}) = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$W_2 : \quad \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}(T_{w,2} - T_{w,1}) - Q_w = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$A_2 : \quad \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}(T_{a,2} - T_{a,1}) - Q_a = 0 \quad (4)$$

Where i and e are interior and exterior contributions. Each pair of these forms a ‘module’. In this work, we use

$$C_{p,w} = 4.218 kJ/(kgK) \quad (5)$$

$$\dot{m}_w = 0.0008483 kg/s \quad (6)$$

$$C_{p,a} = 1.005 kJ/(kgK) \quad (7)$$

$$\dot{m}_a = 0.384 kg/s \quad (8)$$

$$h_{wa} = 4.823 \times 10^{-5} kW/(Km) \quad (9)$$

$$h_i = 1.572 \times 10^{-4} kW/(Km) \quad (10)$$

$$h_e = 4.837 \times 10^{-4} kW/(Km) \quad (11)$$

$$(12)$$

With Initial and Boundary Conditions of $T_{a,0} = 20C, T_i = 25.0C, T_e = 22.5C$. At this point, we set $Q_a = 0$ as the surrounding air acts like a reservoir and its effect is currently minimal. Our inputs are $T_{w,0}$ and $Q_{w,i}$ from experimental data. We also occasionally have access to $T_{a,0}$, the ambient air temperature.

2 Unsteady Model

Consider the steady model in 4 and introduce the time derivative, $mC_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$ and rearrange to get

$$W_1 : \quad m_{w,1}C_{p,w} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}(T_{w,1} - T_{w,0}) - h_{wa}(T_{a,1} - T_{w,1}) = 0 \quad (13)$$

$$W_2 : \quad m_{w,2}C_{p,w} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}(T_{w,2} - T_{w,1}) - Q_w(t) = 0 \quad (14)$$

$$A_1 : \quad m_{a,1}C_{p,a} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}(T_{a,1} - T_{a,0}) - h_{wa}(T_{w,1} - T_{a,1}) - h_e(T_e - T_{a,1}) - h_i(T_i - T_{a,1}) = 0 \quad (15)$$

$$A_2 : \quad m_{a,2}C_{p,a} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}(T_{a,2} - T_{a,1}) - Q_a = 0 \quad (16)$$

To handle the mass term, we need the volume. We have a length of the first tube as $L_1 = 0.15m$ and $L_{3,5,\dots} = 0.3m$. The cross sectional area of the tube is based on inner diameter, $d = 0.003m$ and outer diameter of $d = 0.0142m$. The volume of the surrounding air we are interested in has a cross section of $0.4m \times 0.4m$. Using the density and the specific heat, we get that $m_a = 0.0576kg$, $m_w = 2.12 \times 10^{-3}kg$.

For regions with modules, we can create a small volume, $m_{a,2,4,6,\dots} \approx Cm_a$ and $m_{w,2,4,6,\dots} \approx Cm_w$.

3 Steady Model - Matrix Form

Lets write the equations in the form $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$

$$W_1 : \quad (\dot{m}_w C_{p,w} + h_{wa})T_{w,1} - h_{wa}T_{a,1} = \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}T_{w,0} \quad (17)$$

$$A_1 : \quad (\dot{m}_a C_{p,a} + h_{wa} + h_e + h_i)T_{a,1} - h_{wa}T_{w,1} = \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}T_{a,0} + h_eT_e + h_iT_i \quad (18)$$

$$W_2 : \quad \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}T_{w,2} - \dot{m}_w C_{p,w}T_{w,1} = Q_w \quad (19)$$

$$A_2 : \quad \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}T_{a,2} - \dot{m}_a C_{p,a}T_{a,1} = Q_a \quad (20)$$

$$C_w = \dot{m}_w C_{p,w} \quad (21)$$

$$C_a = \dot{m}_a C_{p,a} \quad (22)$$

$$h_{win} = h_e + h_i \quad (23)$$

$$Q_{win} = h_eT_e + h_iT_i \quad (24)$$

We can write this by defining 2×2 and 4×4 matrices along with a state vector

$$\mathbf{x}_i = [T_{w,i}, T_{a,i}, T_{w,i+1}, T_{a,i+1}]^T \quad (25)$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$, which corresponds to a tube/module pair, as

$$\mathbf{A}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} C_w & 0 \\ 0 & C_a \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} h_{wa} & -h_{wa} \\ -h_{wa} & h_{wa} + h_{win} \end{bmatrix} \quad (27)$$

$$\mathbf{B}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ -\mathbf{A}_0 & \mathbf{A}_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (28)$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{A}_0 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad (29)$$

and writing the boundary condition as $\mathbf{b}_0 = [\mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{A}_0, 0, 0]^T$, $\mathbf{x}_0 = [T_{w,0}, T_{a,0}]^T$ and $\mathbf{b}_i = [0, Q_{win}, Q_{w,i+1}, Q_{a,i+1}]^T$ to get $\mathbf{A}_n \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_0 & & & \\ \mathbf{B}_{-1} & \mathbf{B}_0 & & \\ & \mathbf{B}_{-1} & \mathbf{B}_0 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_3 \\ \mathbf{x}_5 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \mathbf{b}_3 \\ \mathbf{b}_5 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_0 \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad (30)$$

The eigenvalues of the system can be obtained from \mathbf{B}_0 , itself, with algebraic multiplicity of n for \mathbf{A}_n as

$$\lambda = C_w, C_a, \frac{1}{2}(C_a + C_w + h_{win} + 2h_{wa}) \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(C_a - C_w)^2 + 2h_{win}(C_a - C_w + h_{win}) + 4h_{win}} \quad (31)$$

and an obvious defectiveness of the eigenvalues leading to 4 linearly independent eigenvectors. To calculate the inverse of the system, introduce the matrix product

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{B}_{-1}\mathbf{B}_0^{-1} \quad (32)$$

We have that

$$\mathbf{B}_0^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ (\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} & \mathbf{A}_0^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (33)$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} & -\mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad (34)$$

$$\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} & -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \\ -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} & -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (35)$$

$$\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C}^n = \begin{bmatrix} -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}[\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}]^n & -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}[\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}]^{n-1} \\ -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}[\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}]^n & -(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}[\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}]^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (36)$$

Choosing row (or column) $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, the general formula for \mathbf{A}_n^{-1} is

$$\mathbf{A}_n^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_0^{-1} & & & & \\ -\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{B}_0^{-1} & & & \\ \mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C}^2 & -\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{B}_0^{-1} & & \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ (-1)^{i-1}\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C}^{i-1} & \dots & -\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{B}_0^{-1} & \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ (-1)^{n-1}\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C}^{n-1} & \dots & & -\mathbf{B}_0^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{B}_0^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (37)$$

The solution to the system is then

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}_n^{-1}\mathbf{b} \quad (38)$$

which can be separated to give

$$\mathbf{A}_n^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_0 \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \\ (\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \\ (\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \\ (\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \\ \vdots \\ (-1)^n(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}[\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}]^{n-1} \\ (-1)^n(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}[\mathbf{A}_0(\mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1}]^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_0\mathbf{x}_0 \quad (39)$$