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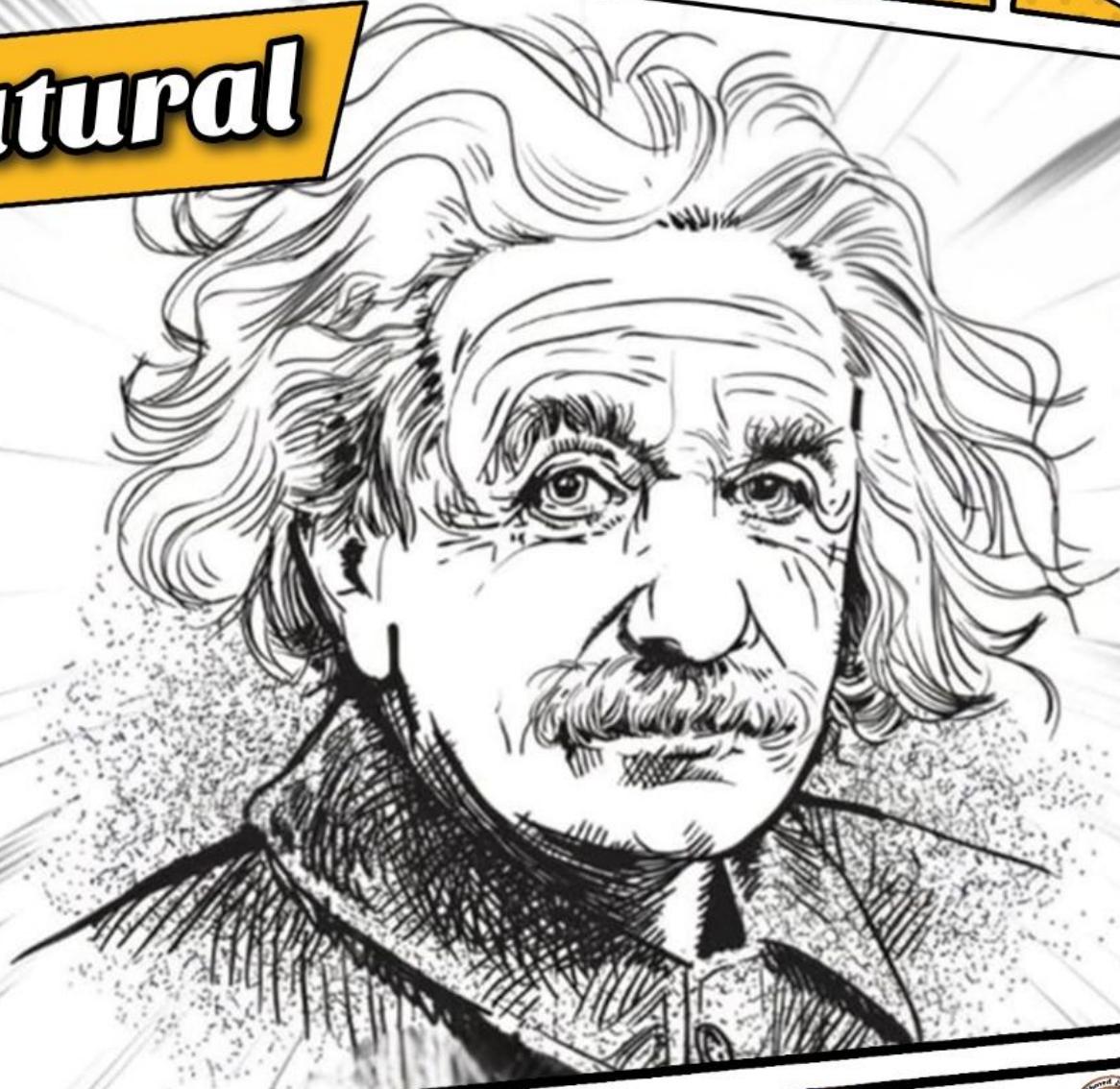
physics

2025

NO

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Natural



Heat
(Thermal
Expansion)



Physics 1 Dr.Elsahbasy
WhatsApp group



Thermal expansion

☞ **In general:** materials expand with rise in temperature and contract on cooling.

Three types for thermal expansion

① Linear thermal expansion coefficient (α)

Depends on:

- a) Initial length
- b) Change in temperature.
- c) Actual material

Definition

☞ It is defined as the fractional change in length per change in temperature.

$$\alpha = \frac{\frac{\Delta L}{L_o}}{\Delta T} = \frac{\Delta L}{\Delta T L_o} = K^{-1}$$

$$\therefore \Delta L = \alpha \Delta T L_o$$

Example

The railway from Alexandria to Cairo is 100 km long in two days. Calculate the difference in the length between (-5°C) and 25°C , linear expansion coefficient of iron = $12 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Answer

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta T &= 25 - (-5) = 30 \text{ K} \\ \Delta L &= \alpha \Delta T L_o \\ &= 12 \times 10^{-6} \times 30 \times 100 \times 10^3 = 36 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

Example

An iron ring of inner diameter 3.453 cm at 20°C is to fit on a piston cylinder of diameter 3.458 cm . To what temperature must the ring be heated so that it just fits over the piston. Linear expansion of iron (α) = $12 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Answer

$$\Delta L = 3.458 - 3.453 = 0.005 \text{ cm} = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm} = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}$$

$$L_o = 3.453 \text{ cm} = 3.453 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

$$\Delta L = L_o \alpha \Delta T$$

$$5 \times 10^{-5} = 3.453 \times 10^{-2} \times 12 \times 10^{-6} \Delta T$$

$$5 \times 10^{-5} = 4.252 \times 10^{-7} \Delta T$$

$$\frac{5 \times 10^{-5}}{4.252 \times 10^{-7}} = \Delta T$$

$$\Delta T = 117.6 \text{ K}$$

$$T_f = 20 + 117.6 = 137.6$$

Example

A copper ring with an inner diameter of 4.500 cm at 25°C needs to fit over a rod with a diameter of 4.505 cm. To what temperature must the copper ring be heated so that it just fits over the rod? The coefficient of linear expansion for copper is $\alpha = 16.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Answer

② Area thermal expansion coefficient (β)

$$A_o = L_o^2$$

$$L = L_o + \Delta L$$

$$A = (L_o + \Delta L)^2$$

$$A = (L_o + \alpha \Delta T L_o)^2$$

$$A = L_o^2 + 2L_o \alpha \Delta T L_o + \alpha^2 \Delta T^2 L_o^2$$

α^2 is neglected

$$A = L_o^2 + 2L_o \alpha \Delta T L_o$$

$$A = A_o + 2A_o \alpha \Delta T$$

$$A - A_o = 2A_o \alpha \Delta T$$

$$\beta = 2\alpha$$

$$\Delta A = A_o \beta \Delta T$$

Example

A sheet of steel measure $10m \times 12m$ at a temperature of 20°C
 Determine increasing area of the sheet when its temperature rises to 100°C given $\alpha = 12 \times 10^{-6}\text{K}^{-1}$

Answer

First solution

$$\beta = 2\alpha = 2 \times 12 \times 10^{-6} = 24 \times 10^{-6}\text{K}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta T = 100 - 20 = 80^\circ\text{C}$$

$$\Delta A = A_o \beta \Delta T = 10 \times 12 \times 24 \times 10^{-6} \times 80 = 0.2304 \text{ m}^2$$

Second solution

$$10 \text{ m: } \Delta L = \alpha \Delta T L_o = 10 \times 12 \times 10^{-6} \times 80 = 9.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$L = L_o + \Delta L = 10 + 9.6 \times 10^{-3} = 10.0096 \text{ m}$$

$$12 \text{ m: } \Delta L = \alpha \Delta T L_o = 12 \times 12 \times 10^{-6} \times 80 = 0.01152 \text{ m}$$

$$L = L_o + \Delta L = 12 + 0.01152 = 12.01152 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{New area (A)} = 10.0096 \times 12.01152 = 120.23051 \text{ m}^2$$

$$\text{change in area} = 120.23051 - 120 = 0.23051 \text{ m}^2$$

Example

A copper sheet measures $5\text{ m} \times 8\text{ m}$ at a temperature of 30°C . Determine the increase in the area of the sheet when its temperature rises to 150°C . The coefficient of linear expansion for copper is

$$\alpha = 16.5 \times 10^{-6}\text{ K}^{-1}$$

Answer**③ Volume thermal expansion coefficient (γ)**

Prove that: Volume thermal expansion coefficient = 3 linear thermal expansion coefficient

$$V = (L_o + \alpha \Delta T L_o)^3$$

$$V = L_o^3 + \alpha^3 \Delta T^3 L_o^3 + 3L_o^3 \Delta T \alpha L_o + 3 \alpha^2 \Delta T^2 L_o^2 L_o$$

$$V = L_o^3 + 3L_o^3 \Delta T \alpha$$

$$V = V_o + 3V_o \Delta T \alpha$$

$$\Delta V = V_o \gamma \Delta T$$

$$V - V_o = 3V_o \Delta T \alpha$$

$$\gamma = 3\alpha$$

Example

A steel tank can hold a volume of 4 m^3 at 20°C . Calculate its likely capacity were its temperature to rise to 80°C . Linear expansion coefficient of steel = $12 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Answer

$$V_0 = 4 \text{ m}^3$$

$$\gamma = 3 \alpha$$

$$3 \times 12 \times 10^{-6} = 36 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta T = 80 - 20 = 60 \text{ K}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta V &= V_0 \gamma \Delta T \\ &= 4 \times 36 \times 10^{-6} \times 60 \\ &= 8.64 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3\end{aligned}$$

$$V = V_0 + \Delta V$$

$$V = 4 + 8.64 \times 10^{-3} = 4.00864 \text{ m}^3$$

Example

You have a water tank made of aluminum with a volume of 3 m^3 at a temperature of 25°C . Calculate its volume when the temperature rises to 75°C . The volumetric expansion coefficient of aluminum is approximately $7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Answer