

UNIT III: ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Module 10: Thermodynamics



Introduction

Heat is a vital component of our daily lives, and it is one of the most crucial forms of energy that we encounter. It is responsible for the temperature of the environment, the state of the Earth's core, and even the food that we eat. In this module, you will delve deeper into the fascinating world of heat and its various aspects. Heat is transferred in numerous ways, including conduction, convection, and radiation. Conduction occurs when heat is transferred from one object to another through direct contact. Convection takes place when heat is transferred through the movement of fluids, such as air or water. Radiation occurs when heat is transferred through electromagnetic waves. In addition to understanding the various methods of heat transfer, you will also learn about the laws that govern the conversion of heat into other forms of energy. The first law of thermodynamics states that energy cannot be created or destroyed; it can only be converted from one form to another. The second law of thermodynamics states that the total entropy of an isolated system always increases over time.

Understanding these laws is crucial in developing sustainable energy sources and in creating efficient systems for energy conversion. Through this module, you will gain a deeper understanding of heat, its various forms, and how it interacts with the world around us.

Objectives

After working on this module, you should be able to:

- Define heat,
 - Enumerate different heat transfer methods,
 - Explain the laws of thermodynamics, and
 - Describe the applications of the laws of thermodynamics
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TOPIC 28:

Heat and Heat Transfer

Heat is a form of energy that is transferred between objects due to a temperature difference. Heat transfer is the process by which heat is transferred from one object to another, either through conduction, convection, or radiation. In this module, we will discuss the basic concepts of heat and heat transfer, including the different modes of heat transfer and their applications.

Modes of Heat Transfer:

There are three modes of heat transfer: conduction, convection, and radiation.

- **Conduction:** Conduction is the transfer of heat between objects that are in contact with each other. Heat is transferred from the hotter object to the cooler object until they reach the same temperature. Conduction is important in materials science and engineering, as it determines the rate of heat transfer in materials, such as metals and ceramics.
- **Convection:** Convection is the transfer of heat by the motion of fluids, such as liquids and gases. This occurs because hotter fluids are less dense and rise, while cooler fluids are more dense and sink. Convection is important in meteorology, as it determines the formation and movement of weather systems, as well as in engineering, as it affects the efficiency of heat exchangers.
- **Radiation:** Radiation is the transfer of heat by electromagnetic waves. This occurs through space and does not require a medium to transfer heat. Radiation is important in astrophysics, as it determines the temperature and energy transfer in stars and other celestial bodies, as well as in engineering, as it affects the design of thermal insulation and heat shields.

Applications of Heat Transfer:

Heat transfer has numerous practical applications in various fields, including:

- **HVAC:** Heat transfer is important in the design and optimization of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, which are essential for maintaining comfortable living and working environments.
- **Power Generation:** Heat transfer is used in the design and optimization of power plants, such as nuclear, coal-fired, and geothermal power plants, which generate electricity by converting heat energy into electrical energy.

- *Electronics Cooling:* Heat transfer is used in the design and optimization of cooling systems for electronic devices, such as computers and smartphones, which generate heat during operation and must be cooled to prevent damage.
- *Food Processing:* Heat transfer is used in the processing and preservation of food, such as cooking, pasteurization, and sterilization, which require specific temperature and time conditions to ensure food safety and quality.

Heat and heat transfer are essential concepts in physics and engineering, with numerous practical applications in various fields. By understanding the different modes of heat transfer and their applications, we can design and optimize systems that are efficient and effective. Heat transfer plays a critical role in our daily lives, from keeping us warm in the winter to powering our homes and businesses.



If you prefer to have a more detailed discussion on this topic, you can read the following chapters on textbooks from OpenStax:

- Chapter 14 of College Physics by Paul Peter Urone & Roger Hinrichs (pp. 515-545)
- Chapter 13-14 of Physics for Dummies by Steven Holzner (pp. 205-234)

Here are some recommended YouTube videos about heat and heat transfer:



- **"Thermal Energy Transfer: Crash Course Physics #16" by CrashCourse** - This video provides a comprehensive introduction to thermal energy transfer and covers topics such as conduction, convection, and radiation.
- **"Heat Transfer: Crash Course Engineering #14" by CrashCourse** - In this video, you'll learn about the principles of heat transfer and how it applies to engineering. It covers topics such as thermal conductivity, convection heat transfer, and radiation heat transfer.
- **"How does heat move? | Science for Kids" by Dr. Binocs** - This fun and educational video is perfect for kids and provides an easy-to-understand explanation of how heat moves through different materials.
- **"Heat Transfer, Conduction, Convection, Radiation" by LearnChemE** - This video provides an in-depth explanation of the different types of heat transfer and includes examples and demonstrations to help solidify your understanding.
- **"Heat and Temperature: Crash Course Chemistry #18" by CrashCourse** - While not specifically about heat transfer, this video covers the fundamental concepts of heat and temperature and how they relate to each other.

Here are some tips for solving problems related to heat and heat transfer:

1. Identify what is being transferred: Determine whether the problem is asking about heat or temperature, and what is being transferred (conduction, convection, or radiation).

2. Use the appropriate formulas: Depending on the type of heat transfer, there are specific formulas you can use to solve the problem. Make sure to use the appropriate formula and plug in the given values correctly.
3. Pay attention to units: Make sure to keep track of units and convert them if necessary. For example, if the temperature is given in Celsius but the formula requires Kelvin, you will need to convert the temperature to Kelvin.
4. Understand the system: Be clear on what is happening in the system, whether it's a solid, liquid, or gas, and what the boundaries of the system are. This will help you determine what variables are relevant to the problem.
5. Draw diagrams: Drawing diagrams can be very helpful in visualizing the problem and understanding the system. This can be especially helpful for problems involving convection or radiation.
6. Check your answer: Always double-check your answer and make sure it makes sense. If the answer seems off, retrace your steps and make sure you haven't made any mistakes in your calculations.

By following these tips, you can approach problems related to heat and heat transfer with greater confidence and accuracy.

Example 1: A 2 kg iron bar is heated to a temperature of 100°C. How much heat energy is required to raise the temperature of the bar to 150°C?

Solution:

First, calculate the amount of heat energy required to raise the temperature of the iron bar from 100°C to 150°C using the specific heat capacity of iron (0.45 J/g°C):

$$q = m \times c \times \Delta T$$

$$q = 2000 \text{ g} \times 0.45 \text{ J/g°C} \times (150^\circ\text{C} - 100^\circ\text{C})$$

$$q = 40500 \text{ J}$$

Therefore, 40500 J of heat energy is required to raise the temperature of the iron bar from 100°C to 150°C.

From this example, we can learn that the amount of heat energy required to raise the temperature of an object depends on its mass, the specific heat capacity of the material, and the change in temperature. This formula can be used to calculate the amount of heat energy required to heat or cool a substance, which is important in many industrial and domestic applications such as cooking, air conditioning, and heating systems. It is also important to note that different materials have different specific heat capacities, so the amount of heat energy required to heat or cool them will vary.

Example 2: A 1 m x 1 m x 1 m room is heated by a radiator that produces 500 W of heat energy. If the room temperature is initially 20°C and the radiator is turned on for 30 minutes, what is the final temperature of the room?

Solution:

The volume of the room is 1 m^3 , and the specific heat capacity of air is 1.005 J/g°C . The density of air is approximately 1.2 kg/m^3 .

First, calculate the mass of the air in the room:

$$\text{mass} = \text{density} \times \text{volume}$$

$$\text{mass} = 1.2 \text{ kg/m}^3 \times 1 \text{ m}^3$$

$$\text{mass} = 1.2 \text{ kg}$$

Next, calculate the heat energy added to the room by the radiator:

$$q = P \times t$$

$$q = 500 \text{ W} \times 1800 \text{ s}$$

$$q = 900000 \text{ J}$$

Finally, use the equation for heat energy to calculate the final temperature of the room:

$$q = m \times c \times \Delta T$$

$$\Delta T = q / (m \times c)$$

$$\Delta T = 900000 \text{ J} / (1.2 \text{ kg} \times 1.005 \text{ J/g°C})$$

$$\Delta T = 748 \text{ C}^\circ$$

Therefore, the final temperature of the room is $20^\circ\text{C} + 74.8^\circ\text{C} = 94.8^\circ\text{C}$.

From this example, we can learn how to calculate the final temperature of a room when it is heated by a radiator. It shows us how to use the equations for heat energy, mass, and specific heat capacity to solve for the change in temperature of the air in the room. It also highlights the importance of knowing the properties of the material being heated, in this case, air, and the amount of energy being added to the system. Additionally, it demonstrates the importance of units in calculations, as the final temperature is in degrees Celsius and not Kelvin.

Example 3: A copper rod is 2 meters long and has a cross-sectional area of 5 cm^2 . If the rod is heated on one end and the other end is kept at 0°C , how long will it take for heat to reach the other end of the rod? The thermal conductivity of copper is 385 W/mK .

Solution:

First, calculate the thermal resistance of the rod using the thermal conductivity of copper:

$$R = L / (k \times A)$$

$$R = 2 \text{ m} / (385 \text{ W/mK} \times 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2)$$

$$R = 10.4 \text{ K/W}$$

Next, use the formula for thermal resistance to calculate the time it will take for heat to reach the other end of the rod:

$$t = R \times C$$

Where C is the heat capacity of the copper rod per unit length. The heat capacity of copper is 0.39 J/g°C, and the density of copper is 8.96 g/cm³, so the heat capacity per unit length is:

$$C = (0.39 \text{ J/g°C}) \times (8.96 \text{ g/cm}^3) \times (5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2) \times (2000 \text{ m})$$

$$C = 350 \text{ J/K}$$

$$t = 10.4 \text{ K/W} \times 350 \text{ J/K}$$

$$t = 3640 \text{ s}$$

Therefore, it will take 3640 seconds or 1.01 hours for heat to reach the other end of the copper rod.

From this example, we can learn about the concept of thermal resistance and how it is used to calculate the time it takes for heat to transfer through a material. We also learn about the relationship between thermal conductivity and thermal resistance, as well as how to calculate the heat capacity per unit length of a material. Additionally, we can see how these concepts are applied in a real-world problem involving the transfer of heat through a copper rod.

TOPIC 29: *Laws of Thermodynamics*

Thermodynamics is the study of energy and its transformations, and the laws of thermodynamics describe the fundamental principles governing the behavior of energy in physical systems. In this module, we will discuss the four laws of thermodynamics and their implications.

First Law of Thermodynamics:

The first law of thermodynamics, also known as the law of conservation of energy, states that energy cannot be created or destroyed, only transferred or converted from one form to another. This means that the total energy of a system and its surroundings remains constant, and any energy input must be balanced by an equal amount of energy output. The first law of thermodynamics is fundamental to understanding the behavior of energy in physical systems and is the basis for the conservation of energy principle. Mathematically, it can be expressed as:

$$\Delta U = Q - W$$

where ΔU is the change in internal energy of a system, Q is the heat added to the system, and W is the work done by the system.

Second Law of Thermodynamics:

The second law of thermodynamics states that the entropy of an isolated system always increases over time. Entropy is a measure of the degree of disorder or randomness in a system, and the second law of thermodynamics implies that natural processes tend to increase the degree of disorder in a system over

time. This law has important implications for the efficiency of energy conversion processes, as well as the direction of heat flow and the irreversibility of certain processes. It can be expressed mathematically as:

$$\Delta S \geq Q/T$$

where ΔS is the change in entropy, Q is the heat added to the system, and T is the temperature of the system.

Third Law of Thermodynamics:

The third law of thermodynamics states that the entropy of a perfectly crystalline substance at absolute zero is zero. This law has important implications for the behavior of materials at extremely low temperatures and is the basis for the concept of zero-point energy. It can be expressed mathematically as:

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} S = 0$$

where S is the entropy of a substance, and the limit is taken as the temperature approaches absolute zero.

Fourth Law of Thermodynamics:

The fourth law of thermodynamics is a theoretical law that is still the subject of research and debate in the field of thermodynamics. It proposes that it is possible to construct a device that can violate the second law of thermodynamics by converting heat directly into work without any accompanying increase in entropy. While no such device has been constructed, the fourth law of thermodynamics remains an active area of research and exploration.

Applications of Thermodynamics:

The laws of thermodynamics have numerous practical applications in various fields, including:

- **Energy Conversion:** The laws of thermodynamics are critical to the design and optimization of energy conversion systems, such as engines, turbines, and generators, which convert one form of energy into another.
- **Materials Science:** The laws of thermodynamics are important in materials science and engineering, as they determine the behavior of materials at different temperatures and pressures, and affect the properties of materials such as strength, conductivity, and magnetism.
- **Environmental Science:** The laws of thermodynamics are relevant to environmental science and sustainability, as they help us understand the limits and efficiencies of energy conversion and resource use and guide the development of renewable energy technologies.

The laws of thermodynamics are fundamental principles that describe the behavior of energy in physical systems. These laws have important implications for the efficiency and effectiveness of energy conversion processes, the behavior of materials, and the development of sustainable technologies. By understanding the laws of thermodynamics, we can design and optimize systems that are efficient, effective, and sustainable.



If you prefer to have a more detailed discussion on this topic, you can read the following chapters on textbooks from OpenStax:
Chapter 15 of College Physics by Paul Peter Urone & Roger Hinrichs (pp. 555-589)
Chapter 15 of Physics for Dummies by Steven Holzner (pp. 235-250)

Here are some of the best YouTube videos that explain the laws of thermodynamics:

"The Laws of Thermodynamics, by MinutePhysics" - This video provides a concise explanation of the three laws of thermodynamics in under three minutes. The visuals are simple, and the narration is clear and easy to follow.

"The Laws of Thermodynamics, by Veritasium" - This video provides a more in-depth explanation of the laws of thermodynamics and how they relate to everyday life. It uses real-world examples, experiments, and animations to illustrate the concepts.

"The Laws of Thermodynamics, by Crash Course Physics" - This video is part of the Crash Course Physics series and provides an overview of the laws of thermodynamics. The presenter explains the laws in a conversational and engaging manner, with plenty of examples and illustrations.

"Entropy and the Laws of Thermodynamics, by Sixty Symbols" - This video explores the concept of entropy and its relationship to the laws of thermodynamics. The presenter uses visual aids and analogies to explain the complex topic of entropy in an accessible way.

"The Laws of Thermodynamics, by Professor Dave Explains" - This video is part of a series on thermodynamics by Professor Dave. It provides a comprehensive overview of the laws of thermodynamics, including their historical context and mathematical formulations.



Here are some tips for solving problems related to the laws of thermodynamics:

1. Understand the problem: Before you start solving the problem, make sure you understand what is being asked. Read the problem carefully and identify the information that is given and what is required.
2. Draw a diagram: Draw a diagram to help you visualize the problem. This will also help you identify the variables involved and how they are related to each other.
3. Choose the appropriate law: Determine which law of thermodynamics applies to the problem you are solving. There are three laws of thermodynamics, so make sure you understand which one is relevant to the problem.
4. Use the appropriate equations: Once you have identified the relevant law, use the appropriate equations to solve the problem. Make sure you understand the units involved and use the correct values for the constants.
5. Check your answer: Once you have solved the problem, check your answer to make sure it makes sense. Does it have the correct units? Is it reasonable given the information provided in the problem?
6. Practice: Like any skill, solving problems related to the laws of thermodynamics requires practice. Try solving different types of problems to gain more experience and familiarity with the subject.

Remember, solving problems related to the laws of thermodynamics can be challenging, but with practice and persistence, you can master it!

Example 1: A gas is compressed in a piston-cylinder system. As the piston is pushed down, the volume of the gas decreases, and its temperature increases. The first law of thermodynamics states that the energy of the system (in this case, the gas) is conserved. Therefore, the work done on the gas (the energy input) must be equal to the change in the internal energy of the gas and the heat transferred to or from the gas. So, if the heat transferred to the gas is zero, the change in the internal energy of the gas must be equal to the work done on the gas.

Example 2: A gas in a cylinder is heated from an initial temperature of 300 K to a final temperature of 500 K. During the heating process, 200 J of heat is added to the gas. The volume of the gas remains constant at 0.05 m³. Calculate the change in internal energy of the gas.

Solution:

According to the first law of thermodynamics, the change in internal energy of the gas is equal to the heat added to the gas minus the work done by the gas. Since the volume of the gas remains constant, the work done by the gas is zero. Therefore:

$$\Delta U = Q$$

$$\Delta U = 200 \text{ J}$$

So, the change in internal energy of the gas is 200 J.

Example 3: A cup of hot coffee is placed on a table. As the coffee cools, its temperature decreases, and it loses heat to the surroundings. According to the first law of thermodynamics, the energy of the system (the coffee) is conserved. Therefore, the energy lost by the coffee (in the form of heat) must be equal to the energy gained by the surroundings. So, if the surroundings are at a lower temperature than the coffee, heat will flow from the coffee to the surroundings until they reach thermal equilibrium. The total energy of the system and surroundings remains constant.

Example 4: A piston-cylinder device contains 1 kg of water at an initial pressure of 1 MPa and a temperature of 300 K. The water is heated until the piston moves and the volume of the water doubles. During the process, the water absorbs 500 kJ of heat. Calculate the final temperature of the water.

Solution:

According to the first law of thermodynamics, the change in internal energy of the water is equal to the heat added to the water minus the work done by the water. Since the piston moves and the volume of the water doubles, the work done by the water is:

$$W = P\Delta V = (1 \text{ MPa})(1 \text{ m}^3) = 1,000 \text{ kJ}$$

Therefore:

$$\Delta U = Q - W$$

$$\Delta U = 500 \text{ kJ} - 1,000 \text{ kJ}$$

$$\Delta U = -500 \text{ kJ}$$

Since the internal energy of the water decreases, the final temperature of the water is lower than the initial temperature. To calculate the final temperature, we can use the specific heat capacity of water, which is 4.18 kJ/kgK:

$$\Delta U = mC\Delta T$$

$$-500 \text{ kJ} = (1 \text{ kg})(4.18 \text{ kJ/kgK})(T_f - 300 \text{ K})$$

$$T_f = 70.81 \text{ K}$$

Therefore, the final temperature of the water is 70.81 K.

Example 5: Heat engine efficiency: The second law of thermodynamics states that the total entropy of a closed system always increases over time. One consequence of this law is that heat engines, which convert thermal energy into mechanical work, cannot be 100% efficient. The maximum efficiency of a heat engine is given by the Carnot efficiency, which is equal to $(T_{\text{hot}} - T_{\text{cold}})/T_{\text{hot}}$, where T_{hot} is the temperature of the heat source and T_{cold} is the temperature of the heat sink. For example, if a heat engine operates between a hot reservoir at 800 K and a cold reservoir at 300 K, the maximum efficiency would be $(800 - 300)/800 = 62.5\%$.

Example 6: Refrigeration cycle: Another example of the second law of thermodynamics in action is the refrigeration cycle. The refrigeration cycle is a process that uses work to move heat from a cold reservoir to a hot reservoir. According to the second law of thermodynamics, the coefficient of performance (COP) of a refrigeration cycle cannot be greater than the Carnot COP, which is given by $T_{\text{cold}}/(T_{\text{hot}} - T_{\text{cold}})$, where T_{cold} is the temperature of the cold reservoir and T_{hot} is the temperature of the hot reservoir. For example, if a refrigeration cycle operates between a cold reservoir at 250 K and a hot reservoir at 350 K, the maximum COP would be $250/(350 - 250) = 5$. This means that for a given amount of work input, the refrigeration cycle can move five times more heat from the cold reservoir to the hot reservoir than a Carnot cycle operating between the same temperatures.

References



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