

THE CONDUCTIVE HEAT TRANSFER

The heat transfer can take place in only 3 ways:

- Conduction \dot{Q}
- Convection
- Radiation

Conduction and *convection* need a transmission medium, while radiation does not.

The **Thermal Conduction** is the transmission of the heat that takes place in a solid, liquid or aeriform medium (inside a only body or two bodies in contact with each other) from the zones with higher temperature towards those with lower temperature.

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{int}} - \dot{Q}_{\text{out}} = \frac{dE_{\text{wall}}}{dt} \quad \left[\frac{\text{J}}{\text{s}} = \text{W} \right]$$

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{cond,wall}} = -kA \frac{dT}{dx} \quad [\text{W}] \quad \text{FOURIER'S LAW OF HEAT CONDUCTION}$$

\dot{Q} is proportional to the Conductivity (K), that is the willingness of a material to transfer heat
 $\left[\frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^\circ\text{C}} \right]$ or $\left[\frac{\text{W}}{\text{mK}} \right]$

\dot{Q} is proportional to the Area of the wall $[\text{m}^2]$

\dot{Q} is proportional to the Difference of Temperature $[\text{}^\circ\text{C}]$ or $[\text{K}]$

\dot{Q} is inversely proportional to the Thickness $[\text{m}]$

The “-” is a convention that allowed to consider positive the power transmitted in the positive direction of x.

Exercise 1

Find the resistance using the thermal and electrical method.

Data:

$$L = 0,4\text{m}$$

$$A = 20 \text{ m}^2$$

$$\Delta T = 25 \text{ K}$$

$$K = 0.78 \left[\frac{\text{W}}{\text{mK}} \right]$$

Thermal method:

$$\dot{Q} = kA \frac{\Delta T}{L} = 0.78 * 20 * \frac{25}{0.4} = 975 \text{ W}$$

Electrical method

$$R_{\text{wall}} = \frac{L}{K * A} = \frac{0.4}{0.78 * 20} = 0.0256 \frac{\text{K}}{\text{W}}$$

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{\Delta T}{R_{\text{wall}}} = \frac{25}{0.0256} = 976,5625 \text{ W}$$

The difference of \dot{Q} is due to rounding.