

Heat transfer through the wall could be modeled as steady and one-dimensional. The temperature of the wall in this case depends on one direction only (the X-direction) and can be expressed as  $T(x)$

$$\left( \text{Rate of heat transfer into the wall} \right) - \left( \text{Rate of heat transfer out of the wall} \right) = \left( \text{Rate of change of the energy of the wall} \right)$$

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{in}} - \dot{Q}_{\text{out}} = \frac{dE_{\text{WALL}}}{dt}$$

In steady operation, the rate of heat transfer through the wall is constant.

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{cond,wall}} = -KA \left[ \frac{dT}{dX} \right] \quad \text{Fourier's law of heat}$$

Temperature unit:

$$K = C + 273.15$$

From the Fourier's law, we can get a transfer function to:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{Q}_{\text{cond,wall}} &= KA \frac{T_1 - T_2}{L} \\ R_{\text{wall}} &= \frac{L}{KA} \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \dot{Q}_{\text{cond,wall}} = \frac{T_1 - T_2}{R_{\text{wall}}}$$

Conduction resistance of the wall: Thermal resistance of the wall against heat conduction

Thermal resistance of a medium depends on the geometry and the thermal properties of the wall

**Question:**

$L=0.4\text{m}$ ,  $A=20\text{m}^2$ ,  $\Delta T=25\text{K}$ ,  $k=0.78 \frac{\text{W}}{\text{mk}}$ , find the rate of heat transfer through the wall

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{cond,wall}} = KA \frac{T_1 - T_2}{L} = 0.78 \times 20 \times \frac{25}{0.4} = 975 \text{ W}$$

By using the resistance concept,

$$R_{\text{Wall}} = \frac{\Delta T}{L} = \frac{0.4\text{m}}{0.78\text{Wm}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1} \times 20\text{m}^2} \approx 0.0256\text{KW}^{-1}$$

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{\Delta T}{R_{\text{Wall}}} = \frac{25\text{K}}{0.0256\text{KW}^{-1}} \approx 976.6\text{W};$$