

1)Heat loss through a composite wall

A 3 m high and 5 m wide wall consists of long 32 cm 22 cm cross section horizontal bricks ($k = 0.72 \text{ W/m} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}$) separated by 3 cm thick plaster layers ($k = 0.22 \text{ W/m} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}$). There are also 2 cm thick plaster layers on each side of the brick and a 3-cm-thick rigid foam ($k = 0.026 \text{ W/m} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}$) on the inner side of the wall. The indoor and the outdoor temperatures are 20°C and 10°C , and the convection heat transfer coefficients on the inner and the outer sides are $h_1 = 10 \text{ W/m}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{C}$ and $h_2 = 25 \text{ W/m}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{C}$, respectively. Assuming one-dimensional heat transfer and disregarding radiation, determine the rate of heat transfer through the wall.

The answer:

$$A = (0.015 + 0.22 + 0.015) * 1 = 0.25 \text{ m}^2$$

$$R_{1, conv.} = \frac{1}{h_1 * A_1 - \text{dimen}} = \frac{1}{10 * 0.25} = 0.4 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{foam} = \frac{L_{foam}}{K_{foam} * A_1 - \text{dimen}} = \frac{0.03}{0.026 * 0.25} = 4.615 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{plaster. up} = R_{plaster. down} = \frac{L_{fp. up or down}}{K_p * A_p. up or down} = \frac{0.32}{0.22 * 0.15 * 1} = 96.97 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{brick} = \frac{L_{brick}}{K_{brick} * A_{brick}} = \frac{0.32}{0.72 * 0.22 * 1} = 2.02 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{total. parallel}} = \frac{1}{96.97} + \frac{1}{2.02} + \frac{1}{96.97} = 0.516 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{total. parallel} = \frac{1}{0.516} = 1.94 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{plaster. left} = R_{plaster. right} = \frac{L_{p. lft or right}}{K_p * A_p. lt or rt} = \frac{0.02}{0.22 * 0.25 * 1} = 0.363 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{2, conv.} = \frac{1}{h_2 * A_1 - \text{dimen}} = \frac{1}{40 * 0.25} = 0.1 \frac{C}{W}$$

$$R_{wall. total} = 0.4 + 4.615 + 0.363 + 1.94 + 0.363 + 0.1 = 7.781 \frac{C}{W}$$

The rate of heat transfer loss:

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{T_1 - T_\infty}{R_{wall. total}} = \frac{20 - (-10)}{7.781} = 3.86 \text{ W}$$

AND

$$R_{wall. total} \quad \text{Thickness of brick} = 16 \text{ mm}$$

$$= 6.81 \frac{C}{W}$$

SO, the heat transfer rate is:

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{T_1 - T_\infty}{R_{wall. total}} = \frac{20 - (-10)}{6.81} = 4.41 \text{ W}$$

By comparing the two results, we found that: double the thickness of a brick inside a composite wall doesn't significantly increase the thermal resistance of a whole wall, so the rate of heat transfer doesn't significantly decrease.