



Thermal Decomposition

Introduction

In this tutorial, the heat and mass transport equations are coupled to laminar flow in order to model exothermic reactions in a parallel plate reactor. It exemplifies how you can use COMSOL Multiphysics to systematically set up and solve increasingly sophisticated models using predefined physics interfaces.

Model Definition

In this model you investigate the unimolecular decomposition of a chemical passing through a parallel plate reactor. A heat-sensitive compound is present in a water solution. After entering the reactor, the liquid first experiences expansion – due to a step in the bottom plate. Before exiting, the fluid also passes a heated cylinder.

The full 3D representation of the reactor geometry is given in [Figure 1](#).

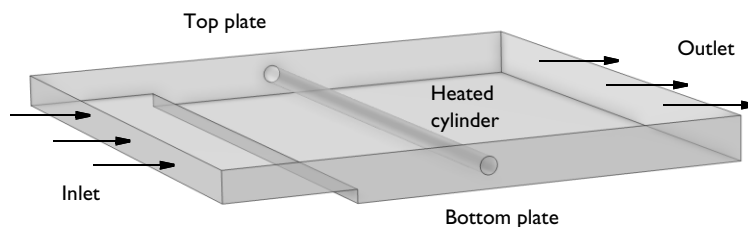


Figure 1: 3D geometry of a parallel plate reactor. The reacting fluid is heated as it passes the cylinder.

The short inlet section of the reactor is considerably wider than it is high. With such a geometry, it is reasonable to assume that the laminar flow develops a parabolic velocity profile between the top and bottom plate. At the same time, the velocity between the side walls is expected to be close to constant ([Ref. 1](#)). As a consequence, you can reduce the

modeling domain to 2D without dramatically reducing the validity of the simulation (see [Figure 2](#)).

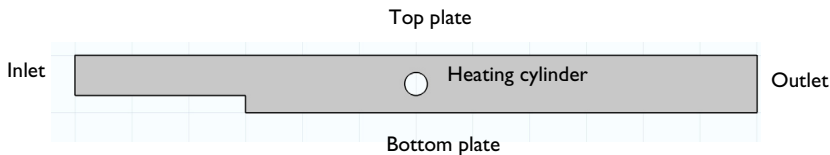
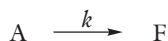


Figure 2: Neglecting edge effects, the modeling geometry can be reduced to 2D.

CHEMISTRY

A heat-sensitive chemical (A) undergoes thermal decomposition into fragments (F) according to the following unimolecular reaction in water:



The reaction rate (SI unit: $\text{mol}/(\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{s})$) is given by:

$$\text{rate} = k c_A$$

where rate constant k (SI unit: s^{-1}) is temperature-dependent according to the Arrhenius equation:

$$k = A \exp\left(-\frac{E}{R_g T}\right) \quad (1)$$

In [Equation 1](#), A is the frequency factor ($1 \times 10^{10} \text{ 1/s}$), E the activation energy ($72 \times 10^3 \text{ J/mol}$), R_g the gas constant ($8.314 \text{ J}/(\text{mol} \cdot \text{K})$), and T the temperature (SI unit: K).

In addition, the decomposition reaction is exothermic, and the rate of energy expelled is given by:

$$Q = -\text{rate} \cdot H$$

where H is the heat of reaction (-100 kJ/mol).

The reaction kinetics are set up with the Chemistry interface. The fragments' concentration is for simplicity set as constant in the model, thus only the decomposing species is modeled.

The conversion of species A in the reactor is a function of the residence time; that is, it depends on the detailed fluid flow. Furthermore, the decomposition is influenced by the temperature distribution.

MOMENTUM TRANSPORT

The Navier–Stokes equations, which are solved by the single-phase flow interface, consist of the continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad (2)$$

and the momentum equations

$$\rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \rho \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot \left(\mu (\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T) - \frac{2}{3} \mu (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{I} \right) + \mathbf{F} \quad (3)$$

Here, μ denotes the dynamic viscosity (SI unit: Ns/m^2), \mathbf{u} the velocity (SI unit: m/s), ρ the density of the fluid (SI unit: kg/m^3), p the pressure (SI unit: Pa), and \mathbf{F} a body force term (SI unit: N/m^3). This particular model contains the solution to a steady-state problem, so the first term in each of the equations above disappears.

Apart from the domain equations you also need to select proper boundary conditions. At the inlet you specify a velocity vector normal to the boundary:

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} = u_0 \quad (4)$$

At the outlet boundary you specify a pressure $p = p_0$. Finally, at the surfaces of the reactor plates and the heating cylinder you set the velocity to zero, that is, a no slip boundary condition:

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0} \quad (5)$$

By selecting the Laminar Flow interface you can easily associate the momentum balance (Equation 2) and boundary conditions (Equation 4, Equation 5, and Equation 5) with your modeling geometry.

ENERGY TRANSPORT

The energy balance equation applied to the reactor domain considers heat transfer through convection and conduction:

$$\nabla \cdot (-k \nabla T) + \rho C_p (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) T = Q \quad (6)$$

In Equation 6, C_p denotes the specific heat capacity (SI unit: J/(kg·K)), k is the thermal conductivity (SI unit: W/(m·K)), and Q is a sink or source term (SI unit: W/m³).

At the inlet and at the surface of the heating cylinder you set a Temperature boundary condition:

$$T = T_0 \quad (7)$$

$$T = T_{\text{cyl}} \quad (8)$$

At the outlet you set an Outflow boundary condition. This prescribes that all energy passing through this boundary does so by means of convective transport. Equivalently, this means that the heat flux due to conduction across the boundary is zero:

$$\mathbf{q}_{\text{cond}} \cdot \mathbf{n} = -k \nabla T \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad (9)$$

so that the resulting equation for the total heat flux becomes:

$$\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \rho C_p T \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} \quad (10)$$

This is a useful boundary condition, particularly in convection-dominated energy balances where the outlet temperature is unknown.

Finally, assume that no energy is transported across the reactor plates, that is, apply a Thermal Insulation boundary condition:

$$\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad (11)$$

Using the Heat Transfer in Fluids interface, you can associate the energy balance (Equation 6) and boundary conditions (Equation 7 to Equation 11) with the modeling geometry.

MASS TRANSPORT

The mass transfer in the reactor domain is given by the stationary convection and diffusion equation:

$$\nabla \cdot (-D_i \nabla c_i) + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla c_i = R_i \quad (12)$$

where D_i denotes its diffusion coefficient (SI unit: m²/s), and R_i denotes the reaction term (SI unit: mol/(m³·s)).

Equation 12 assumes that the species i is diluted in a solvent. The mass transport of the fragments are neglected, due to the constant concentration setting of these in the Chemistry interface.

For the boundary conditions, specify the concentration of compound A at the inlet:

$$c_i = c_{i,0} \quad (13)$$

At the outlet, specify that the mass flow through the boundary is dominated by convection. This assumes that any mass flux due to diffusion across this boundary is zero:

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (-D_i \nabla c_i) = 0 \quad (14)$$

and that:

$$\mathbf{N}_i \cdot \mathbf{n} = c_i \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} \quad (15)$$

Finally, at the surfaces of the reactor plates and the heating cylinder, assume that no mass is transported across the boundaries — that is, an insulation boundary condition:

$$\mathbf{N}_i \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad (16)$$

By selecting the Transport in Diluted Species interface you can easily associate the mass balance (Equation 12) and boundary conditions (Equation 13 to Equation 16) with the modeling geometry.

PREPARING FOR MODELING

Before you can start modeling you need to gather the physical data that characterize your reacting flow. For instance, flow modeling requires you to supply the fluid density and viscosity. Mass transport requires knowledge of diffusivities and the reaction kinetics.

Another part of the preparations involves selecting the appropriate physics interfaces and investigating the couplings between different transport equations.

Transport Properties

The term *transport properties* refers to the physical properties occurring in the transport equations (see the previous section). The momentum and heat transfer equations (Equation 3 and Equation 6) require the following *fluid-specific* transport properties:

- Viscosity (μ)
- Density (ρ)
- Thermal conductivity (k)
- Heat capacity (C_p)

The mass transport equation ([Equation 12](#)) requires the following *species-specific* property:

- Diffusivities (D_i)

You need to supply appropriate values of the transport properties to the physics interfaces in order to ensure accurate simulation results. In the present example, water with the dissolved compound A enters the reactor at 300 K. Because water is the solvent, you can assume that its physical properties are representative for the entire fluid. The warmest part of the reactor is held at 325 K. [Table 1](#) lists the transport properties of water as well as the diffusivity of A in water at 300 K and 325 K.

TABLE 1: PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF LIQUID WATER.

PROPERTY	AT 300 K	AT 325 K
Density (kg/m ³)	997	987
Viscosity (Ns/m ²)	$8.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$5.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$
Thermal conductivity (W/(m·K))	0.62	0.66
Heat capacity (J/(kg·K))	4180	4182
Diffusivity (m ² /s)	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-9}$

When you build this model you make use of the built-in material databases of COMSOL Multiphysics, which automatically provides temperature-dependent properties.

The Flow Regime

The Reynolds number indicates whether a flow is in the laminar or turbulent regime:

$$\text{Re} = \frac{\rho u d}{\eta}$$

As a rule of thumb, a Reynolds number between of 2000 and 2500 marks the transition from stable streamlines to stable turbulent flow. It is always good practice to evaluate the Reynolds number related to the specific flow conditions of the model, because its magnitude guides you to choose the appropriate flow model and corresponding physics interface.

In the present example, you can evaluate the Reynolds number using values from [Table 1](#) and setting the velocity to 5×10^{-4} m/s and the characteristic length to 0.007 m:

$$\text{Re} = \frac{997 \cdot 5 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot 0.007}{8.5 \cdot 10^{-4}} = 4$$

Calculating the Reynolds number at 325 K produces a nearly identical result.

The Reynolds numbers are well within the limits of the laminar flow regime.

Dilute or Concentrated Mixtures

When modeling mass transport, it is advisable to discriminate between dilute and concentrated mixtures. For dilute mixtures, Fick's Law is adequate to describe the diffusional transport. Furthermore, you can assume that the transport properties of the fluid are those of the solvent. For concentrated mixtures, on the other hand, other diffusion models, such as the Maxwell-Stefan model, may be required. The transport properties of the fluid then depend on the mixture composition.

In COMSOL Multiphysics, the Transport of Diluted Species interface is appropriate for dilute mixtures, while the Transport of Concentrated Species interface is recommended for concentrated mixtures.

As a rule of thumb, you can consider concentrations of up to 10 mol% of a solute in a solvent as a dilute mixture.

In the example at hand, the compound A is dissolved in water at a concentration of 1000 mol/m³. As the concentration of pure water is 55,500 mol/m³, the molar fraction of A is approximately 2%. Because the mixture is dilute, it is appropriate to select the Transport of Diluted Species interface for mass transport and to select the transport properties of water as representative values for the mixture.

Solving Coupled Models

As noted previously, the chemistry occurring in the reactor depends both on the fluid flow and the temperature distribution in the reactor. More explicitly, the mass transport equation

$$\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (-D_i \nabla c_i + c_i \mathbf{u}) = R_i \quad (17)$$

depends on the velocity vector, \mathbf{u} , which is solved for in the momentum transfer equation (Equation 3).

Furthermore, the source term R_i in Equation 17 is a function of the temperature, which in turn is the dependent variable of the energy transport equation

$$\rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (-k \nabla T) + \rho C_p \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T = Q$$

When attempting to solve a coupled system of equations such as the one illustrated above, it is often a good idea to analyze the couplings involved and then approach the solution in a stepwise fashion.

In the current model, you first neglect the heat of reaction, Q . This leads to a loose bidirectional coupling between the transport equations:

- The momentum transport is weakly dependent on the energy and mass transport through the material properties.
- The energy transport depends only on the momentum transport.
- The mass transport depends on both the momentum transport and the energy transport.

This structure suggests that it is possible to solve the problem sequentially in the following order: First solve the momentum transport and energy transport problem. Then add the mass transport and investigate the difference.

The last step leads to a fully coupled problem:

- The momentum transport depends on the energy transport.
- The energy transport depends on both momentum and mass transport (added heat of reaction).
- The mass transport depends on both the momentum transport and the energy transport.

In this case you must solve the equations describing all transport phenomena simultaneously.

Results and Discussion

Figure 3 shows the velocity field in the reactor domain along with arrows indicating the velocity magnitude.

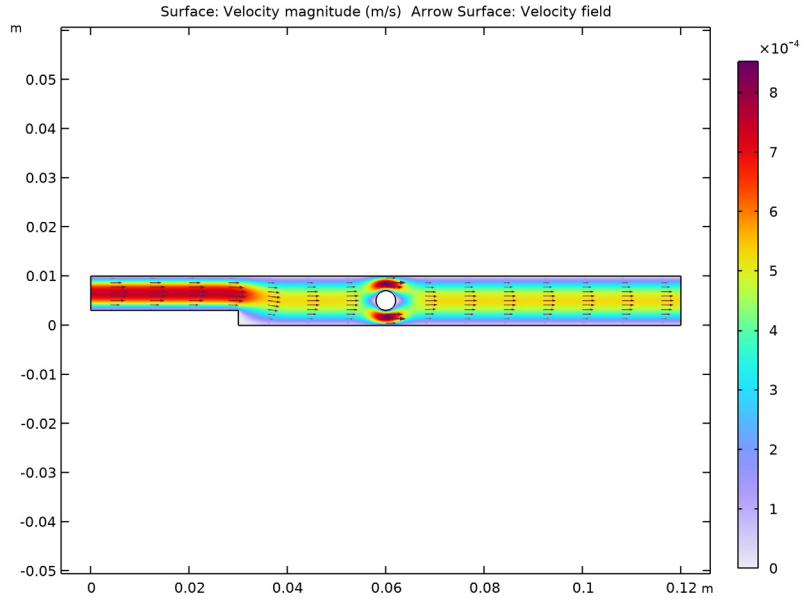


Figure 3: Velocity field (m/s) in the reactor.

The cross-sectional area of the fluid increases at the step and decreases at the cylinder, leading to a corresponding local reduction and then increase in the fluid velocity. Recirculation zones appear after the step and the cylinder.

The water solution enters the reactor at a temperature of 300 K and is heated as it passes the cylinder (325 K). [Figure 4](#) shows the temperature distribution in the reactor domain at steady state.

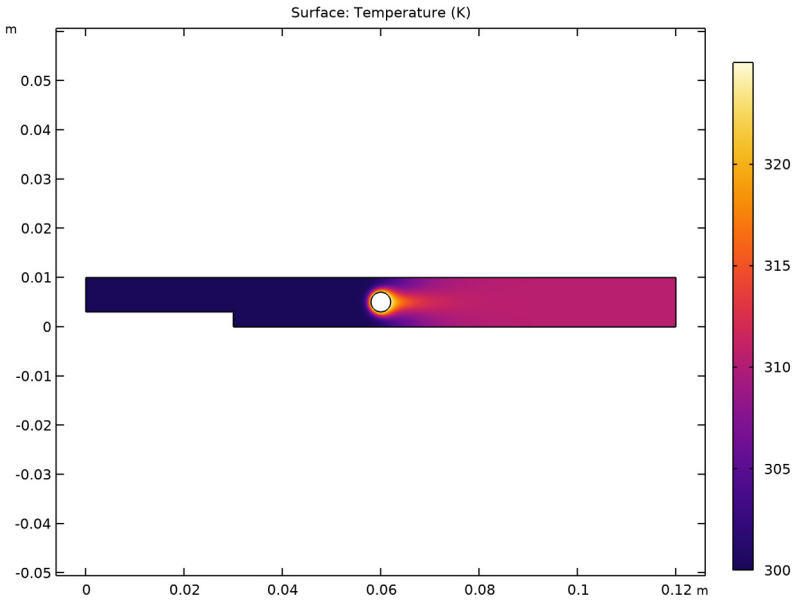


Figure 4: A water solution enters the reactor at 300 K and is heated by a cylinder kept at 325 K.

At the reactor inlet, the concentration of A is 1000 mol/m^3 . Figure 5 shows the concentration of A as the compound undergoes decomposition.

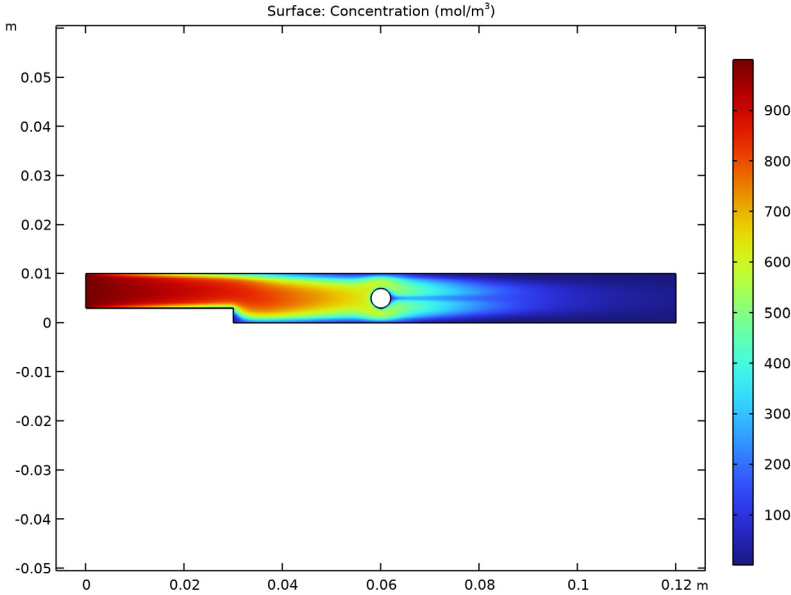


Figure 5: Concentration of the heat sensitive chemical (A) (mol/m^3) as function of position in the reactor.

These plots make it possible to identify some general trends. It is clear that decomposition occurs mainly after the liquid has been heated by the cylinder. In the first half of the reactor, where the temperature is relatively low, decomposition is still fairly advanced near the wall and after the step. This is due to the longer residence times in these areas. In the second part of the reactor, where heating takes place, regions with relatively high concentrations of compound A are visible. This also makes physical sense because the water velocity is relatively high.

The temperature distribution in the entire reactor is affected by the heat of reaction. As shown in Figure 6, the maximum fluid temperature now exceeds the temperature of the

heating cylinder. Furthermore, the water temperature is higher than 300 K in the region between the inlet and the cylinder.

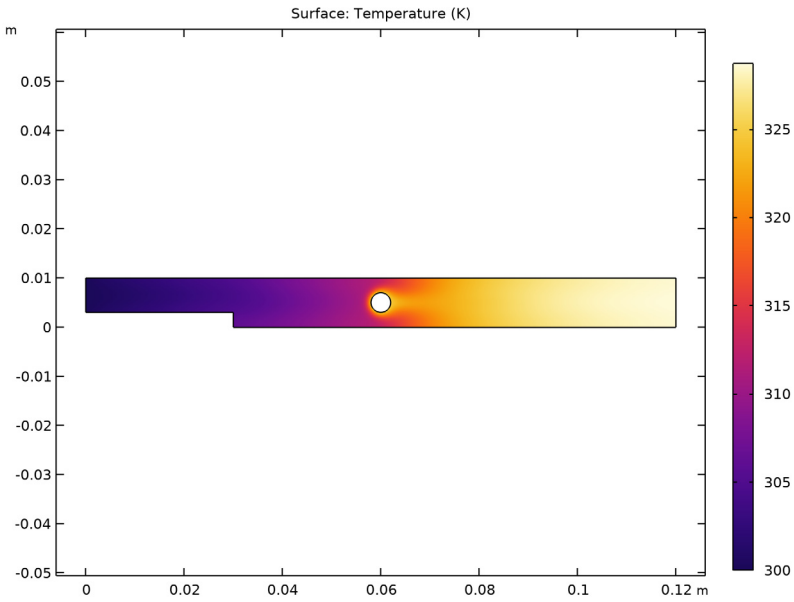


Figure 6: Reactor temperature (K) when the heat of reaction is taken into account.

Figure 7 plots the rate of reaction as a function of the position in the reactor. Clearly, significant reaction now occurs in the first part of the reactor, before the heating cylinder.

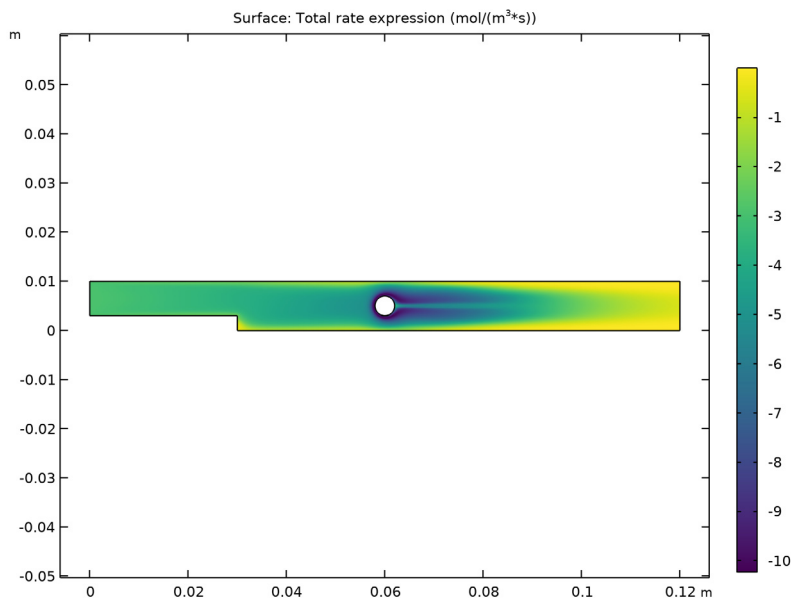


Figure 7: Significant decomposition of compound A occurs in the first half of the reactor.

Reference


1. H. Schlichting, *Boundary Layer Theory*, 4th ed., McGraw Hill, p. 168, 1960.

Application Library path: Chemical_Reaction_Engineering_Module/
Reactors_with_Mass_and_Heat_Transfer/thermal_decomposition




Modeling Instructions

From the **File** menu, choose **New**.

NEW

In the **New** window, click  **Model Wizard**.


MODEL WIZARD

- 1 In the **Model Wizard** window, click  **2D**.
- 2 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Fluid Flow>Single-Phase Flow>Laminar Flow (spf)**.
- 3 Click **Add**.
- 4 Click  **Study**.
- 5 In the **Select Study** tree, select **General Studies>Stationary**.
- 6 Click  **Done**.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS


Import some model parameters from a text file.

Parameters 1


- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Global Definitions** click **Parameters 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Parameters**, locate the **Parameters** section.
- 3 Click  **Load from File**.
- 4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file `thermal_decomposition_parameters.txt`.

GEOMETRY 1


Rectangle 1 (r1)

- 1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Rectangle**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.
- 3 In the **Width** text field, type W1.
- 4 In the **Height** text field, type H1.

Rectangle 2 (r2)

- 1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Rectangle**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.
- 3 In the **Width** text field, type W2.
- 4 In the **Height** text field, type H2.



Circle 1 (c1)

- 1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Circle**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Circle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.
- 3 In the **Radius** text field, type R1.




- 4 Locate the **Position** section. In the **x** text field, type xpos.
- 5 In the **y** text field, type ypos.

Add a line segment extending from the back of the cylinder. This will be used to refine the mesh in the wake region.



Line Segment 1 (ls1)

- 1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **More Primitives** and choose **Line Segment**.
- 2 On the object **c1**, select Point 3 only.
- 3 In the **Settings** window for **Line Segment**, locate the **Endpoint** section.
- 4 From the **Specify** list, choose **Coordinates**.
- 5 In the **x** text field, type $xpos+10*R1$.
- 6 In the **y** text field, type ypos.
- 7 Click  **Build Selected**.



Difference 1 (dif1)

- 1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Booleans and Partitions** and choose **Difference**.
- 2 Select the object **r1** only.
- 3 In the **Settings** window for **Difference**, locate the **Difference** section.
- 4 Click to select the  **Activate Selection** toggle button for **Objects to subtract**.
- 5 Select the objects **c1** and **r2** only.
- 6 Click  **Build Selected**.

Mesh Control Edges 1 (mce1)

- 1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Virtual Operations** and choose **Mesh Control Edges**.
- 2 On the object **fin**, select Boundary 6 only.
- 3 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Build All**.

ADD MATERIAL

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Material** to open the **Add Material** window.
- 2 Go to the **Add Material** window.
- 3 In the tree, select **Liquids and Gases>Liquids>Water**.
- 4 Click **Add to Component** in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Material** to close the **Add Material** window.

MATERIALS


Water (matl)

By default, the first material you add applies on all domains.


DEFINITIONS

In preparation for defining boundary conditions, it is practical to define some named selections.


Inlet

- 1 In the **Definitions** toolbar, click  **Explicit**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Explicit**, type Inlet in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Locate the **Input Entities** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Select Boundary 1 only.

Outlet

- 1 In the **Definitions** toolbar, click  **Explicit**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Explicit**, type Outlet in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Locate the **Input Entities** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Select Boundary 6 only.

Heater


- 1 In the **Definitions** toolbar, click  **Explicit**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Explicit**, type Heater in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Locate the **Input Entities** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Select Boundaries 7–9 only.

LAMINAR FLOW (SPF)

Follow the instructions below to set up the **Laminar Flow** interface. The fluid properties are automatically taken from the material assigned to the reactor domain, so all you need to do is to define inlet and outlet boundary conditions.


- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Laminar Flow (spf)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Laminar Flow**, locate the **Physical Model** section.
- 3 From the **Compressibility** list, choose **Weakly compressible flow**.

Inlet 1

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Inlet**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Inlet**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.

- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Inlet**.
- 4 Locate the **Boundary Condition** section. From the list, choose **Fully developed flow**.
- 5 Locate the **Fully Developed Flow** section. In the U_{av} text field, type `v_inlet`.

Outlet I

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Outlet**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Outlet**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Outlet**.
- 4 Locate the **Pressure Conditions** section. Select the **Normal flow** check box.

For a more accurate simulation, edit the default mesh by refining it in the region around and behind the heater.

MESH I

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Mesh 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Mesh**, locate the **Sequence Type** section.
- 3 From the list, choose **User-controlled mesh**.

Size

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)>Mesh 1** click **Size**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Size**, locate the **Element Size** section.
- 3 Click the **Custom** button.
- 4 Locate the **Element Size Parameters** section. In the **Maximum element growth rate** text field, type `1.1`.

Size I

The **Size 1** node provides mesh refinement on wall boundaries. Include the internal boundary behind the cylinder as well. When done all boundaries except the inlet and outlet should be selected.

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Size 1**.
- 2 Select Boundaries 2–5 and 7–11 only.


Boundary Layers I

Due to the heating, the reaction will be promoted in vicinity of the cylinder. Improve the resolution by increasing the number of boundary layer elements on the cylinder surface.

Boundary Layer Properties 1


- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Component 1 (comp1)>Mesh 1>Boundary Layers 1** node.
- 2 Right-click **Boundary Layer Properties 1** and choose **Duplicate**.

Boundary Layer Properties 2

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Boundary Layer Properties 2**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Boundary Layer Properties**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Heater**.
- 4 Locate the **Layers** section. In the **Number of layers** text field, type 4.
- 5 In the **Thickness adjustment factor** text field, type 3.
- 6 Click  **Build All**.

This concludes the setup of the **Laminar Flow** interface. In the next step you will compute the solution.

STUDY 1 - ISOTHERMAL FLOW



- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Study 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Study**, type Study 1 - Isothermal Flow in the **Label** text field.
- 3 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Compute**.

RESULTS

Flow Field


In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, type Flow Field in the **Label** text field.


Arrow Surface 1

- 1 Right-click **Flow Field** and choose **Arrow Surface**.
- 2 In the **Flow Field** toolbar, click  **Plot**.
- 3 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

At this point, move on to include a **Heat Transfer in Fluids** interface and extend the model to account for a nonisothermal flow situation.

ADD PHYSICS

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Physics** to open the **Add Physics** window.
- 2 Go to the **Add Physics** window.

- 3 In the tree, select **Heat Transfer>Heat Transfer in Fluids (ht)**.
- 4 Find the **Physics interfaces in study** subsection. In the table, clear the **Solve** check box for **Study 1 - Isothermal Flow**.
- 5 Click **Add to Component 1** in the window toolbar.
- 6 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Physics** to close the **Add Physics** window.


HEAT TRANSFER IN FLUIDS (STUDY 2)

In the **Settings** window for **Heat Transfer in Fluids**, type **Heat Transfer in Fluids (Study 2)** in the **Label** text field.


Temperature 1

- 1 Right-click **Component 1 (comp1)>Heat Transfer in Fluids (Study 2)** and choose **Temperature**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Temperature**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Inlet**.
- 4 Locate the **Temperature** section. In the T_0 text field, type **T_inlet**.

Temperature 2

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Temperature**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Temperature**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Heater**.
- 4 Locate the **Temperature** section. In the T_0 text field, type **T_cyl**.


Outflow 1

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Outflow**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Outflow**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Outlet**.



Add a **Nonisothermal flow** multiphysics node to set up the velocity in heat transfer and to account for the multiphysics stabilization.

MULTIPHYSICS

Nonisothermal Flow (Study 2)

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Multiphysics Couplings** and choose **Domain>Nonisothermal Flow**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Nonisothermal Flow**, type **Nonisothermal Flow (Study 2)** in the **Label** text field.

ADD STUDY

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Study** to open the **Add Study** window.
- 2 Go to the **Add Study** window.
- 3 Find the **Studies** subsection. In the **Select Study** tree, select **General Studies>Stationary**.
- 4 Click **Add Study** in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Study** to close the **Add Study** window.

STUDY 2

Step 1: Stationary


To take the solution of the isothermal flow case as starting guess for the flow field and pressure variables, apply the following study selection, then set an additional **Initial Values** feature in the **Laminar Flow** interface.

- 1 In the **Settings** window for **Stationary**, click to expand the **Values of Dependent Variables** section.
- 2 Find the **Initial values of variables solved for** subsection. From the **Settings** list, choose **User controlled**.
- 3 From the **Study** list, choose **Study 1 - Isothermal Flow, Stationary**.

LAMINAR FLOW (SPF)

In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Laminar Flow (spf)**.

Initial Values 2

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Initial Values**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Initial Values**, locate the **Domain Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **All domains**.
- 4 Locate the **Initial Values** section. Specify the **u** vector as

u	x
v	y

- 5 In the *p* text field, type *p*.


NONISOTHERMAL FLOW

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Study 2**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Study**, type Nonisothermal Flow in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Locate the **Study Settings** section. Clear the **Generate default plots** check box.


4 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Compute**.

RESULTS


2D Plot Group 3

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Plot Group** and choose **2D Plot Group**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Data** section.
- 3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Nonisothermal Flow/Solution 2 (sol2)**.

Surface 1


- 1 Right-click **2D Plot Group 3** and choose **Surface**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **Expression** section. From the menu, choose **Component 1 (comp1)>Heat Transfer in Fluids (Study 2)>Temperature>T - Temperature - K**.
- 3 In the **2D Plot Group 3** toolbar, click  **Plot**.

Temperature

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **2D Plot Group 3**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, type Temperature in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

Now move on to extend the model to include mass transport and the chemical reaction.

ADD PHYSICS

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Physics** to open the **Add Physics** window.
- 2 Go to the **Add Physics** window.
- 3 In the tree, select **Chemical Species Transport>Chemistry (chem)**.
- 4 Find the **Physics interfaces in study** subsection. In the table, clear the **Solve** check boxes for **Study 1 - Isothermal Flow** and **Nonisothermal Flow**.
- 5 Click **Add to Component 1** in the window toolbar.
- 6 In the tree, select **Chemical Species Transport>Transport of Diluted Species (tds)**.
- 7 Click to expand the **Dependent Variables** section. In the table, clear the **Solve** check boxes for **Study 1 - Isothermal Flow** and **Nonisothermal Flow**.
- 8 Locate the **Dependent Variables** section. In the **Concentrations (mol/m³)** table, enter the following settings:

cA

9 Click **Add to Component I** in the window toolbar.

10 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Physics** to close the **Add Physics** window.

CHEMISTRY (CHEM)

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component I (comp1)** click **Chemistry (chem)**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Chemistry**, locate the **Model Input** section.

3 From the T list, choose **Temperature (ht)**.

4 Locate the **Mixture Properties** section. From the **Phase** list, choose **Liquid**.

Reaction I

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Reaction**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Reaction**, locate the **Reaction Formula** section.

3 In the **Formula** text field, type $A \Rightarrow F$.

4 Click **Apply**.

5 Locate the **Rate Constants** section. Select the **Use Arrhenius expressions** check box.

6 In the A^f text field, type A .

7 In the E^f text field, type E .

8 Locate the **Reaction Thermodynamic Properties** section. From the **Enthalpy of reaction** list, choose **User defined**.

9 In the H text field, type H .

Species: A

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Species: A**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Species**, locate the **Chemical Formula** section.

3 In the M text field, type Mn_A .

Species: F

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Species: F**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Species**, locate the **Chemical Formula** section.

3 In the M text field, type Mn_F .

4 Click to expand the **Constant Concentration/Activity** section. Select the **Keep concentration/activity constant** check box.

Species I

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Species**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Species**, locate the **Name** section.

- 3 In the text field, type H2O.
- 4 Locate the **Type** section. From the list, choose **Solvent**.
- 5 Locate the **Chemical Formula** section. In the M text field, type Mn_solv.
- 6 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Chemistry (chem)**.
- 7 In the **Settings** window for **Chemistry**, locate the **Species Matching** section.
- 8 From the **Species solved for** list, choose **Transport of Diluted Species**.
- 9 Find the **Bulk species** subsection. In the table, enter the following settings:


Species	Type	Molar concentration	Value (mol/m ³)
A	Variable	cA	Solved for
H2O	Solvent	User defined	c_solv

TRANSPORT OF DILUTED SPECIES (TDS)


Transport Properties I

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)>** **Transport of Diluted Species (tds)** click **Transport Properties I**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Transport Properties**, locate the **Diffusion** section.
- 3 In the D_{cA} text field, type DA.


Inflow I

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Inflow**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Inflow**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Inlet**.
- 4 Locate the **Concentration** section. In the $c_{0,cA}$ text field, type cA_inlet.

Outflow I

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Outflow**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Outflow**, locate the **Boundary Selection** section.
- 3 From the **Selection** list, choose **Outlet**.

Reactions I


- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Reactions**.
- 2 Select Domain 1 only.
- 3 In the **Settings** window for **Reactions**, locate the **Reaction Rates** section.
- 4 From the R_{cA} list, choose **Reaction rate for species A (chem)**.

HEAT TRANSFER IN FLUIDS (STUDY 2) (HT)

The chemical reaction generates heat. Take this into account by adding a **Heat Source** node to the **Heat Transfer in Fluids** interface.

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Heat Transfer in Fluids (Study 2) (ht)**.


Heat Source 1

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Heat Source**.
- 2 Select Domain 1 only.
- 3 In the **Settings** window for **Heat Source**, locate the **Heat Source** section.
- 4 From the Q_0 list, choose **Heat source of reactions (chem)**.



MULTIPHYSICS

Add a **Reacting Flow, Diluted Species** coupling feature. This applies the velocity from the **Laminar Flow** interface in the **Transport of Diluted Species** interface.

Reacting Flow, Diluted Species 1 (rfd1)

In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Multiphysics Couplings** and choose **Domain>Reacting Flow, Diluted Species**.


ADD STUDY

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Study** to open the **Add Study** window.
- 2 Go to the **Add Study** window.
- 3 Find the **Studies** subsection. In the **Select Study** tree, select **General Studies>Stationary**.
- 4 Click **Add Study** in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Study** to close the **Add Study** window.

STUDY 3



Step 1: Stationary

- 1 In the **Settings** window for **Stationary**, locate the **Values of Dependent Variables** section.
- 2 Find the **Initial values of variables solved for** subsection. From the **Settings** list, choose **User controlled**.
- 3 From the **Method** list, choose **Solution**.
- 4 From the **Study** list, choose **Nonisothermal Flow, Stationary**.
- 5 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Study 3**.
- 6 In the **Settings** window for **Study**, type Fully Coupled in the **Label** text field.

- 7 Locate the **Study Settings** section. Clear the **Generate default plots** check box.
- 8 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Compute**.


RESULTS

Temperature



- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **Temperature**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Data** section.
- 3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Fully Coupled/Solution 3 (sol3)**.
- 4 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.
- 5 In the **Temperature** toolbar, click  **Plot**.

Create new plot groups and generate surface plots for the concentration and the reaction rate.

2D Plot Group 4

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Plot Group** and choose **2D Plot Group**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Data** section.
- 3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Fully Coupled/Solution 3 (sol3)**.


Surface 1

- 1 Right-click **2D Plot Group 4** and choose **Surface**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **Expression** section. From the menu, choose **Component 1 (comp1)>Transport of Diluted Species>Species cA>cA - Concentration - mol/m³**.
- 3 In the **2D Plot Group 4** toolbar, click  **Plot**.
- 4 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

Concentration



- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **2D Plot Group 4**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, type Concentration in the **Label** text field.

2D Plot Group 5

- 1 In the **Home** toolbar, click  **Add Plot Group** and choose **2D Plot Group**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Data** section.
- 3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Fully Coupled/Solution 3 (sol3)**.

Surface 1

- 1 Right-click **2D Plot Group 5** and choose **Surface**.

- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **Expression** section. From the menu, choose **Component I (compI)>Transport of Diluted Species>Species cA>tds.R_cA - Total rate expression - mol/(m³·s)**.
- 3 In the **2D Plot Group 5** toolbar, click  **Plot**.
- 4 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

Reaction Rate

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **2D Plot Group 5** and choose **Rename**.
- 2 In the **Rename 2D Plot Group** dialog box, type **Reaction Rate** in the **New label** text field.
- 3 Click **OK**.

