**Final Project CHE 348**

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Note: Please view code through the GitHub Repository [here](https://github.com/utexaslando/Final-Project)!

<https://github.com/utexaslando/Final-Project>

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# Mini-Report

## Problem Statement

My final project was to create a function that could calculate the steady state heat profiles of cartesian, cylindrical, and spherical geometries. The motivation behind this project was not only its relevance in chemical engineering, but I also wanted to develop a project with multiple parts where the user has multiple functionalities in one program.

## Summary of Numerical Methods

I used an iterative method to calculate the heat profiles. Analytical methods are possible to calculate heat profiles but can be incredibly cumbersome when large amounts of resistances are applied. This is also in the spirit of numerical methods – using iterative solving methods when analytical methods are too complicated or tedious to do. The formulas to iterate by are listed as follows:

Where:

Q = Heat Flux

T = Temperature at each resistance

R = Resistance value through each resistance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cartesian | Cylindrical | Spherical |
| Where: x = x coordinate or radius  k = thermal conductivity | Where:  ALM = Log mean area  r = Radius | Where:  AGM = Geometric mean area  r = Radius |

These equations are derived from Fourier’s law of heat conduction:

The full derivation is outside of the scope of this project, but it is important to note that the area term changing is responsible for the difference in the respective heat flow equations.

To calculate the heat profiles with increasing accuracy, the terms are brought close to zero and the points are put on a plot. One can also compare the final temperature calculated with the values derived from the iterative calculations to determine the accuracy of calculations.

## Some important notes

The cartesian heat flux values are in power/length^2, the cylindrical heat flux values are in power/length, and the spherical heat flux values are in power. This greatly changes the q values calculated in the script but was done for the simplicity of calculations later in the scripts.

The cylindrical and spherical calculations assume a hollow inside with constant temperature. This is because a non-hollow sphere/tube with a constant temperature different than the ambient temperature would make no physical sense. As a result, the heat flux values may differ widely.

**Example behavior is given in test\_heatprofile.mlx. Please view this, as the formatting is way better than what word can provide. Test script results are attached at the bottom of this document.**

For a much easier way to view all my code, I have compiled my code onto a Github repository. You can see it [here](https://github.com/utexaslando/Final-Project) (<https://github.com/utexaslando/Final-Project>).

**All code used was created using built-in functions.**

## Results

Three test cases were used – one with cartesian, one with cylindrical, and one with spherical geometry. The test code is listed as such, but please view the aforementioned GitHub repository for better formatting.

% Declaring resistance info in the form [length, thermal conductivity]

resistanceInfo = [0,0;...

5, 5;...

5, 10;...

5, 3

];

geometry = 'cartesian';

h2 = .01;

xStep = .01;

T1 = 700;

BulkT2 = 121.45;

heatprofile(h2, BulkT2, resistanceInfo, T1, xStep, geometry)

Total Resistance:  
 3.1667

Temp2 = 682.2416

q = -5.6079

A graph of a heat profile

Description automatically generated

geometry = 'spherical';

h2 = 300;

xStep = .01;

T1 = 700;

BulkT2 = 121.45;

heatprofile(h2, BulkT2, resistanceInfo, T1, xStep, geometry)

Total Resistance:  
 0.0017

Temp2 = 121.8557

q = -3.4414e+05

A graph of a heat profile

Description automatically generated

geometry = 'cylindrical';

h2 = 300;

xStep = .01;

T1 = 700;

BulkT2 = 121.45;

heatprofile(h2, BulkT2, resistanceInfo, T1, xStep, geometry)

Total Resistance:  
 0.0325

q = -1.7759e+04

A graph of a heat profile

Description automatically generated

These profiles reflect the behavior of heat over the resistances. In cartesian, heat decays linearly, in spherical, heat decays by 1/x, and in cylindrical, heat decays by ln(x). Notably, however, the resistances are handled differently in the cylindrical and spherical cases as having a non-empty interior makes no physical sense, and therefore the first resistance is treated as empty space with a static temperature gradient.

As before, the heat profile is iterated using the following equations as 🡪0.

Where:

Q = Heat Flux

T = Temperature at each resistance

R = Resistance value through each resistance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cartesian | Cylindrical | Spherical |
| Where: x = x coordinate or radius  k = thermal conductivity | Where:  ALM = Log mean area  r = Radius | Where:  AGM = Geometric mean area  r = Radius |

# Code

% Calculates geometric mean radius for use in spherical heat transfer

% script

function [area] = A\_GM(outerRadius, innerRadius)

area = sqrt(((4\*pi)^2)\*((outerRadius^2)\*(innerRadius^2)));

end

% Calculates logarithmic mean radius for use in cylindrical heat transfer

% script

function [area] = A\_LM(outerRadius, innerRadius)

area = (2\*pi\*(outerRadius-innerRadius))/log(outerRadius/innerRadius);

end

function [length] = calculatelength(m, resistance)

length = 0;

for i = 1:resistance

length = length + m(i, 1);

end

end

% defines a 2D cartesian heat profile for a given number of resistances and

% boundary conditions

%

% Input values:

% h\_2: heat transfer coefficient at the rightmost side (float)

% bulkTemp2: Temperature of the air on the outside of the plate

% resistances: a matrix of all resistances which contains individual 1x2

% vectors with the thermal conductivity of the material and length of the

% material. Expected in form: [length, thermal conductivity (k)]

% Temp1: Starting temperature of leftmost side

% xStep: specified x step size

%

% Output values:

% x: x values

% T: temp at x values

%

% The strategy to solve this will to be to:

% 1. Calculate total resistance.

% R = (x length)/k

% Resistance total = Sum of resistances

% 2. Find temperature at the rightmost side.

% (T1-T2)/(R\_T) = q

% (T2-bulkTemp2)\*h\_2 = q

% T2 = (bulkTemp2\*h\_2\*R\_T+T\_1)/(h\_2\*R\_T+1) - albegra is faster than

% solver

% 3. Find q by plugging back into above equation

% 4. Loop through each resistance to find temperature gradient by:

% T2 = T1-q\*R\_T

% Where R\_T is determined by the x given by the user and the appropriate k (thermal conductivity) and T1 is numerically derived.

% This will be done in a nested for loop where each resistance will have a different resistance value

function [x, T] = cartesian(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep)

if xStep>sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))

error('x Step is larger than length of resistances')

end

if sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))/xStep ~= floor(sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))./xStep)

error('xStep does not divide into resistances')

end

if h2<0

error('h2 is negative')

elseif bulkTemp2<0

error('Bulk temp 2 is negative')

elseif Temp1<0

error('Temp 2 is negative')

elseif xStep<=0

error('X Step is negative')

end

x = linspace(0, sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1)), 1+sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))/xStep);

T = zeros(size(x));

T(1) = Temp1;

% step 1

totalResistance = 0;

for resistance = 2:size(resistanceInfo, 1) % loops thru rows

totalResistance = totalResistance + resistanceInfo(resistance, 1)/resistanceInfo(resistance, 2);

end

disp("Total Resistance:")

disp(totalResistance)

% step 2

% using algebra instead of solver for speed

Temp2 = (bulkTemp2\*h2\*totalResistance+Temp1)./(h2\*totalResistance+1)

% step 3

q = (Temp2-Temp1)./totalResistance

% step 4

for resistance = 2:(size(resistanceInfo, 1)) % start on the second element

conductivity = resistanceInfo(resistance, 2);

resistanceValue = xStep/conductivity;

% this for loop breaks if xstep doesn't evenly divide

for xval = 2+calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance-1)/xStep : 1+calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance)/xStep % increment by xStep

T(xval) = T(xval-1)+q\*resistanceValue;

end

end

end

% defines a 2D cylindrical heat profile for a given number of resistances and

% boundary conditions

%

% Input values:

% h\_2: heat transfer coefficient at the rightmost side (float)

% bulkTemp2: Temperature of the air on the outside of the plate

% resistances: a matrix of all resistances which contains individual 1x2

% vectors with the thermal conductivity of the material and length of the

% material. Expected in form: [length, thermal conductivity (k)]

% Temp1: Starting temperature of leftmost side

% xStep: specified x step size

%

% Output values:

% x: x values

% T: temp at x values

%

% Note that this geometry makes input variables different than cartesian, as a solid

% center does not hold physical reality. As a result, arrays will be

% indexed starting at the third value such that there is empty space inside

% the middle of the sphere, and the boundary condition for temperature

% starts at the first wall.

% The strategy to solve this will to be to:

% 1. Calculate total resistance.

% R = (x length)/(k\*A\_LM)

% A\_LM = pi\*(outerRadius^2-innerRadius^2))/ln((outerRadius^2)/(innerRadius^2));

% Resistance total = Sum of resistances

% 2. Find temperature at the outermost side.

% (T2-T1)/(R\_T) = q

% (bulkTemp2-T2)\*h\_2\*(A\_o) = q

% T2 = (bulkTemp2\*h\_2\*R\_T\*A\_o+T\_1)/(A\_o\*h\_2\*R\_T+1) - albegra is faster than

% solver

% Note that:

% A\_o = 2\*pi\*R\_i

% 3. Find q by plugging back into above equation

% 4. Loop through each resistance to find temperature gradient by:

% T2 = T1-q\*R

% Where R is determined by the x given by the user and the appropriate k (thermal conductivity) and T1 is numerically derived.

% This will be done in a nested for loop where each resistance will have a different resistance value

function [x, T] = cylindrical(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep)

x = linspace(0, sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1)), 1+sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))/xStep);

T = zeros(size(x));

T(1:(2+resistanceInfo(2, 1)/xStep)) = Temp1;

T(1) = Temp1;

% step 1

totalResistance = 0;

for resistance = 3:size(resistanceInfo, 1) % loops thru rows starting at the third element

r\_o = calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance);

r\_i = calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance-1);

totalResistance = totalResistance + resistanceInfo(resistance, 1)/(A\_LM(r\_o, r\_i) \* resistanceInfo(resistance, 2));

end

disp("Total Resistance:")

disp(totalResistance)

% step 2

% using algebra instead of solver for speed

A\_O = 2\*pi\*sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1));

Temp2 = (bulkTemp2\*h2\*totalResistance\*A\_O+Temp1)./(h2\*totalResistance\*A\_O+1);

% step 3

q = (Temp2-Temp1)./totalResistance

% step 4

for resistance = 3:(size(resistanceInfo, 1)) % start on the third element, second element k should be zero

conductivity = resistanceInfo(resistance, 2);

% this for loop breaks if xstep doesn't evenly divide

for xval = 2+calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance-1)/xStep : 1+calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance)/xStep % increment by xStep

r\_o = xval\*xStep;

r\_i = (xval-1)\*xStep;

resistanceValue = xStep/(conductivity\*A\_LM(r\_o, r\_i));

T(xval) = T(xval-1)+q\*resistanceValue;

end

end

end

% defines a 2D spherical heat profile for a given number of resistances and

% boundary conditions. Notably, the q is given in pure power - note that this is

% different than cartesian (power/dist^2) and cylindrical (power/dist)

%

% Input values:

% h\_2: heat transfer coefficient at the rightmost side (float)

% bulkTemp2: Temperature of the air on the outside of the plate

% resistances: a matrix of all resistances which contains individual 1x2

% vectors with the thermal conductivity of the material and length of the

% material. Expected in form: [length, thermal conductivity (k)]

% Temp1: Starting temperature of leftmost side

% xStep: specified x step size

%

% Output values:

% x: x values

% T: temp at x values

%

% Note that this geometry makes input variables different than cartesian, as a solid

% center does not hold physical reality. As a result, arrays will be

% indexed starting at the third value such that there is empty space inside

% the middle of the sphere, and the boundary condition for temperature

% starts at the first wall.

% The strategy to solve this will to be to:

% 1. Calculate total resistance.

% R = (x length)/(k\*A\_GM)

% A\_GM = sqrt(((4\*pi)^2)\*((r\_o^2)(r\_i^2)))

% Resistance total = Sum of resistances

% 2. Find temperature at the outermost side.

% (T2-T1)/(R\_T) = q

% (bulkTemp2-T2)\*h\_2\*(A\_o) = q

% T2 = (bulkTemp2\*h\_2\*R\_T\*A\_o+T\_1)/(A\_o\*h\_2\*R\_T+1) - albegra is faster than

% solver

% Note that:

% A\_o = 4\*pi\*R\_i^2

% 3. Find q by plugging back into above equation

% 4. Loop through each resistance to find temperature gradient by:

% T2 = T1-q\*R

% Where R is determined by the x given by the user and the appropriate k (thermal conductivity) and T1 is numerically derived.

% This will be done in a nested for loop where each resistance will have a different resistance value

function [x, T] = spherical(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep)

x = linspace(0, sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1)), 1+sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))/xStep);

T = zeros(size(x));

T(1:(2+resistanceInfo(2, 1)/xStep)) = Temp1;

T(1) = Temp1;

% step 1

totalResistance = 0;

for resistance = 3:size(resistanceInfo, 1) % loops thru rows starting at the third element

r\_o = calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance);

r\_i = calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance-1);

totalResistance = totalResistance + resistanceInfo(resistance, 1)/(A\_GM(r\_o, r\_i) \* resistanceInfo(resistance, 2));

end

disp("Total Resistance:")

disp(totalResistance)

% step 2

% using algebra instead of solver for speed

A\_O = 4\*pi\*sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))^2;

Temp2 = (bulkTemp2\*h2\*totalResistance\*A\_O+Temp1)./(h2\*totalResistance\*A\_O+1)

% step 3

q = (Temp2-Temp1)./totalResistance

% step 4

for resistance = 3:(size(resistanceInfo, 1)) % start on the third element, second element k should be zero

conductivity = resistanceInfo(resistance, 2);

% this for loop breaks if xstep doesn't evenly divide

for xval = 2+calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance-1)/xStep : 1+calculatelength(resistanceInfo, resistance)/xStep % increment by xStep

r\_o = xval\*xStep;

r\_i = (xval-1)\*xStep;

resistanceValue = xStep/(conductivity\*A\_GM(r\_o, r\_i));

T(xval) = T(xval-1)+q\*resistanceValue;

end

end

end

% This script defines a function called heatprofile, where one can input a

% number or resistances and boundary conditions along with a desired

% geometry to get a steady state 2D heat profile.

%

% Input values:

% h\_2: heat transfer coefficient at the rightmost side (float)

% bulkTemp2: Temperature of the air on the outside of the plate

% resistances: a matrix of all resistances which contains individual 1x2

% vectors with the thermal conductivity of the material and length of the

% material. Expected in form: [length, thermal conductivity (k)]

% Temp1: Starting temperature of leftmost side

% xStep: specified x step size

% geometry: expects a string with desired geometry. Can handle cartesian, spherical, and

% cylindrical.

function [] = heatprofile(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep, geometry)

if xStep>sum(resistanceInfo(:, 1))

error('x Step is larger than length of resistances')

end

if h2<0

error('h2 is negative')

elseif bulkTemp2<0

error('Bulk temp 2 is negative')

elseif Temp1<0

error('Temp 2 is negative')

elseif xStep<=0

error('X Step is negative')

end

for resistance = 2:size(resistanceInfo, 1)

if mod(resistanceInfo(resistance, 1), xStep) ~= 0

error('xStep must divide into every resistance!')

end

end

figure

if strcmp(geometry, 'cartesian')

[x, T] = cartesian(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep);

plot(x, T)

title('Cartesian Heat Profile')

elseif strcmp(geometry, 'spherical')

[x, T] = spherical(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep);

plot(x, T)

title('Spherical Heat Profile')

elseif strcmp(geometry, 'cylindrical')

[x, T] = cylindrical(h2, bulkTemp2, resistanceInfo, Temp1, xStep);

plot(x, T)

title('Spherical Heat Profile')

else

error('Invalid geometry! Please input "cartesian", "spherical", or "cylindrical"')

end

xlabel('X Coordinate')

ylabel('Temperature')

end

% Declaring resistance info in the form [length, thermal conductivity]

resistanceInfo = [0,0;...

5, 5;...

5, 10;...

5, 3

];

geometry = 'cartesian';

h2 = .01;

xStep = .01;

T1 = 700;

BulkT2 = 121.45;

heatprofile(h2, BulkT2, resistanceInfo, T1, xStep, geometry)

Total Resistance:  
 3.1667

Temp2 = 682.2416

q = -5.6079

A graph of a heat profile

Description automatically generated

geometry = 'spherical';

h2 = 300;

xStep = .01;

T1 = 700;

BulkT2 = 121.45;

heatprofile(h2, BulkT2, resistanceInfo, T1, xStep, geometry)

Total Resistance:  
 0.0017

Temp2 = 121.8557

q = -3.4414e+05

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geometry = 'cylindrical';

h2 = 300;

xStep = .01;

T1 = 700;

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heatprofile(h2, BulkT2, resistanceInfo, T1, xStep, geometry)

Total Resistance:  
 0.0325

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