

# Transport Homework 3

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## 1 Problem Statement

Consider a spherical reactor with internal radius  $R_1=1$  m and external radius  $R_2=1.2$  m (as depicted below). An endothermic reaction takes place inside the reactor and consumes  $10$   $\text{W}/\text{m}^3$  of heat uniformly through the reactor. The thermal conductivity,  $k$ , of the reaction media (reactants and products) is  $\frac{100\text{W}}{\text{K}\times\text{m}}$  while the thermal conductivity of the reactor wall is  $\frac{500\text{W}}{\text{K}\times\text{m}}$ . The external wall of the reactor is kept at a fixed temperature of  $300$  K.

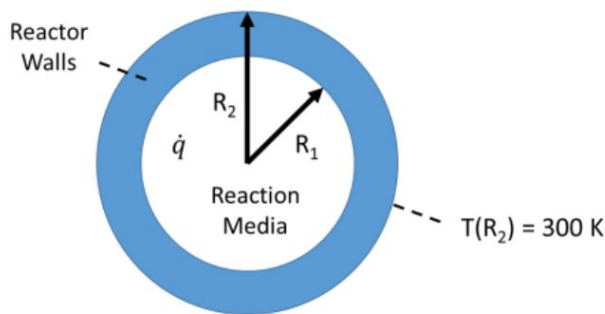


Figure 1: Spherical Reactor

The radial temperature profile across the reactor can be calculated using the heat diffusion equation:

$$k \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) \right) - \dot{q} = 0 \quad (\dot{q} \text{ is volumetric heat consumption}) \quad (1)$$

### 1.1 Part I

Derive the analytical solution for the temperature profile,  $T(r)$ , for the reactor described above. Your analytical solution should have two components: one for the internal region of the reactor, and one for the wall of the reactor.

Analytical Step-by-Step solution to the described reactor (inner portion):

$$k \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) \right) - \dot{q} = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) \right) = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \times r^2 \quad (4)$$

$$\left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) = \frac{\dot{q}}{3k} \times r^3 + C_1 \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{dT}{dr} = \frac{\dot{q}}{3k} \times r + \frac{C_1}{r^2} \quad (6)$$

$$T(r) = \frac{\dot{q}}{6k} \times r^2 - \frac{C_1}{r} + C_2 \quad (7)$$

Solving for  $C_1$ :

$$\left[ \frac{dT}{dr} \right]_{r=0} = 0. \quad (8)$$

$$-\frac{\dot{q}}{3k} \times r = \frac{C_1}{r^2} \quad (9)$$

$$-\frac{\dot{q}}{3k} \times r^3 = C_1 \quad (10)$$

$$-\frac{\dot{q}}{3k} \times 0^3 = C_1 = 0 \quad (11)$$

Solving for  $C_2$ :

$$\left[ \frac{dT}{dr} \right]_{r=r_i} = \frac{\dot{q}}{3k} \times r_i. \quad (12)$$

$$T_{r_i} = \frac{\dot{q}}{6k} \times r_i^2 - 0 + C_2 \quad (13)$$

$$T_{r_i} - \frac{\dot{q}}{6k} \times r_i^2 = C_2 \quad (14)$$

Inner  $T(r)$  equation:

$$T(r_i) = \frac{\dot{q}}{6k_M} \times r^2 + T_{r_i} - \frac{\dot{q}}{6k_M} \times r_i^2 \quad (15)$$

$$T(r_i) = \frac{\dot{q}}{6k_M} \times (r^2 - r_i^2) + T_{r_i} \quad (16)$$

Outer  $T(r)$  equation:

$$T(r_o) = T_{r_i} - \Delta T \left[ \frac{1 - (r_1/r)}{1 - (r_1/r_2)} \right] \quad (17)$$

Combined  $T(r)$ :

$$T(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{\dot{q}}{6k_M} \times (r^2 - r_i^2) + T_{r_i} & \text{if } r < r_i \\ T_{r_i} - (T_{r_i} - T_{r_o}) \left[ \frac{1-(r_1/r)}{1-(r_1/r_2)} \right] & \text{if } r_i < r < r_o \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

Numerical Setup:

$$k \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) \right) - \dot{q} = 0 \quad (19)$$

$$\left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dT}{dr} \right) \right) = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \times \left( 2r \frac{dT}{dr} + r^2 \frac{d^2T}{dr^2} \right) = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (21)$$

$$\frac{2}{r} \frac{dT}{dr} + \frac{d^2T}{dr^2} = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (22)$$

$$(23)$$

Numerical Approximation (derivative evaluation):

$$\Delta r_j = \frac{r}{N+1} \quad (24)$$

$$\left[ \frac{dT}{dr} \right]_{r_j} \approx \frac{T_{j+1} - T_{j-1}}{2\Delta r} \quad (25)$$

$$\left[ \frac{d^2T}{dr^2} \right]_{r_j} \approx \frac{T_{j+1} - 2T_j + T_{j-1}}{\Delta r^2} \quad (26)$$

$$(27)$$

Numerical Approximation (formula and grouping)

$$\frac{T_{j+1} - 2T_j + T_{j-1}}{\Delta r^2} + \frac{2}{j\Delta r} \frac{T_{j+1} - T_{j-1}}{2\Delta r} = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (28)$$

$$\left( \frac{1}{\Delta r^2} + \frac{2}{j\Delta r^2} \right) T_{j+1} + \left( \frac{-2}{\Delta r^2} \right) T_j + \left( \frac{1}{\Delta r^2} - \frac{1}{j\Delta r^2} \right) T_{j-1} = \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (29)$$

$$\left( 1 + \frac{2}{j} \right) T_{j+1} + (-2)T_j + \left( 1 - \frac{1}{j} \right) T_{j-1} = \frac{\dot{q}\Delta r^2}{k} \quad (30)$$

$$(31)$$

$$A = 1 + \frac{1}{j} \quad (32)$$

$$B = -2 \quad (33)$$

$$C = 1 - \frac{1}{j} \quad (34)$$

I want to set up  $AT_{j+1} + BT_j + CT_{j-1} = \frac{\dot{q}\Delta r^2}{k_M}$  for the points in the reactor, and  $AT_{j+1} + BT_j + CT_{j-1} = 0$  for the points in the reactor walls. Applying the boundary conditions to determine what happens at  $j = 1$ ,  $j = \text{border}$ ,  $j = N$ . At  $j = 1$ ,  $AT_2 + BT_1 + CT_0 = \frac{\dot{q}\Delta r^2}{k_M}$  where  $CT_0$  is not part of the grid. Expressing  $T_0$  as  $T(r_0) = T_b$  leads to  $AT_2 + BT_1 + CT_b = \frac{\dot{q}\Delta r^2}{k_M} = AT_2 + BT_1 = \frac{\dot{q}\Delta r^2}{k_M} - CT_b$ . At  $j = N$ ,  $300A + BT_N + CT_{N-1} = 0$ . Let P be a point at the boundary between reactor and reactor wall. At  $j = P$ ,  $AT_{j+1} + BT_j + CT_{j-1} = \frac{\dot{q}\Delta r^2}{k_M}$ .