
Contents

Preface	ix
Introduction	xiii
Chapter 1. The Problem of Thermal Conduction: General Comments	1
1.1. The fundamental problem of thermal conduction	1
1.2. Definitions	2
1.2.1. Temperature, isothermal surface and gradient	2
1.2.2. Flow and density of flow	4
1.3. Relation to thermodynamics	5
1.3.1. Calorimetry	5
1.3.2. The first principle	6
1.3.3. The second principle	6
Chapter 2. The Physics of Conduction	9
2.1. Introduction.	9
2.2. Fourier's law	9
2.2.1. Experiment.	9
2.2.2. Temperature profile	12
2.2.3. General expression of the Fourier law.	14
2.3. Heat equation.	16
2.3.1. General problem	16
2.3.2. Mono-dimensional plane problem	18

2.3.3. Case of the axisymmetric system	24
2.3.4. Case of the spherical system	25
2.4. Resolution of a problem	26
2.5. Examples of application	29
2.5.1. Problems involving spherical symmetry	40
Chapter 3. Conduction in a Stationary Regime	53
3.1. Thermal resistance.	53
3.1.1. Thermal resistance: plane geometry	53
3.1.2. Thermal resistance: axisymmetric geometry. The case of a cylindrical wall	62
3.1.3. Thermal resistance to convection	65
3.1.4. Critical radius	67
3.2. Examples of the application of thermal resistance in plane geometry	69
3.3. Examples of the application of the thermal resistance in cylindrical geometry.	85
3.4. Problem of the critical diameter.	92
3.5. Problem with the heat balance.	99
Chapter 4. Quasi-stationary Model	103
4.1. We can perform a simplified calculation, adopting the following hypotheses	103
4.2. Method: instantaneous thermal balance	104
4.3. Resolution.	106
4.4. Applications for plane systems	107
4.5. Applications for axisymmetric systems	152
Chapter 5. Non-stationary Conduction	183
5.1. Single-dimensional problem.	183
5.1.1. Temperature imposed at the interface at instant $t = 0$	184
5.2. Non-stationary conduction with constant flow density	190
5.3. Temperature imposed on the wall: sinusoidal variation	193
5.4. Problem with two walls stuck together.	200
5.5. Application examples	204
5.5.1. Simple applications.	204
5.5.2. Some scenes from daily life.	213

Chapter 6. Fin Theory: Notions and Examples	237
6.1. Notions regarding the theory of fins	237
6.1.1. Principle of fins	237
6.1.2. Elementary fin theory	238
6.1.3. Parallelepiped fin	242
6.2. Examples of application	249
Appendices	263
Appendix 1. Heat Equation of a Three-dimensional System	265
Appendix 2. Heat Equation: Writing in the Main Coordinate Systems	273
Appendix 3. One-dimensional Heat Equation	283
Appendix 4. Conduction of the Heat in a Non-stationary Regime: Solutions to Classic Problems	291
Appendix 5. Table of $erf(x)$, $erfc(x)$ and $ierfc(x)$ Functions	295
Appendix 6. Complementary Information Regarding Fins	297
Appendix 7. The Laplace Transform	301
Appendix 8. Reminders Regarding Hyperbolic Functions	309
References	313
Index	315