

Dimensional analysis: another example.

Heat conductivity

If the temperature in a medium is not uniform (somewhere is hotter, somewhere is colder), then heat flows from hotter places to colder places.

Conduction: matter itself doesn't move

Another way of heat transfer is convection.

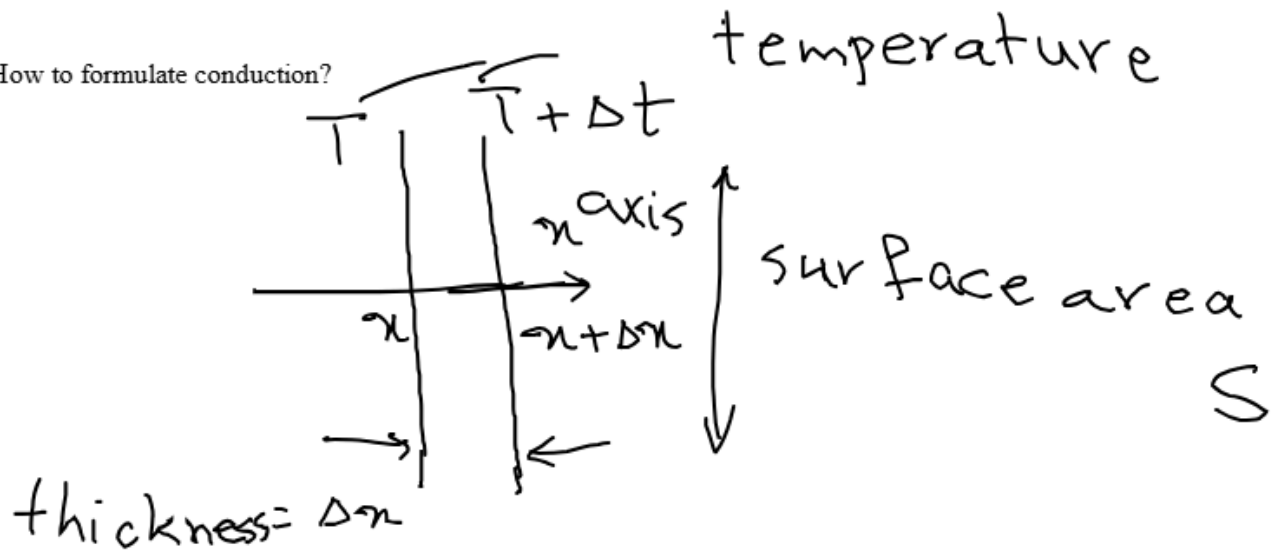
Convection: matter itself moves (hotter material moves to colder places, and vice versa).

Example: a heater on the floor. Hot air goes up, cold air goes down

Example for conduction: a metal rod is heated from one end. Heat moves from the heated end to the other end. The matter itself doesn't move.

Another way of heat transfer is radiation.

How to formulate conduction?



The temperature difference is  $\Delta T$

$$\frac{\text{heat transfer}}{\text{time}} = \frac{\text{energy transfer}}{\text{time}}$$

$$\frac{\text{energy transfer}}{\text{time}} = f(\Delta T)$$

$$\Delta T = 0 \Rightarrow f(\Delta T) = 0$$

A Taylor expansion of  $f$  for small  $\Delta T$

$$f(\Delta T) = f(0) + [f'(0)]\Delta T + \dots$$

$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f(\Delta T) \propto (\Delta T)$$

$$\frac{\text{energy transfer}}{\text{time}} \propto (\Delta T)$$

$(\Delta T)$  depends on  $(\Delta x)$

something proportional to  $(\Delta T)$ ,  
which remains meaningful  
at  $(\Delta x) \rightarrow 0$

This thing is the derivative  
(I'm using an argument similar  
to the one used for viscosity)

the rate of heat transfer =

$$\frac{\text{heat transfer}}{\text{time}} \propto \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta x} \rightarrow \frac{dT}{dx}$$

$$S \rightarrow \alpha S$$

the rate of heat transfer  $\rightarrow$

$\alpha$  times the initial rate

the rate of heat transfer =

the heat current =  $\underbrace{\quad}_{I_Q}$  = (energy transfer per time)

$\propto$  the surface area  $S$

$$I_Q \propto S$$

$$\Rightarrow I_Q \propto S \frac{dT}{dx}$$

$$I_Q \propto \frac{dT}{dx}$$

To change this proportionality relation into an equality relation, a constant is needed:

$$I_Q = -kS \frac{dT}{dx}$$

heat conductivity  
the reason for the minus sign:

If  $T$  is increasing  $x$  (the right side of the layer is hotter than the left side of the layer), then heat transfer is from the right to the left, and using a conventional positive sign for the heat transfer to the right, the heat current  $I_Q$  should be negative. The same is true for the case that  $T$  is decreasing in  $x$ , so that the derivative of  $x$  is negative. This time  $I_Q$  should be positive, and again the negative sign at the right-hand side of the equation is needed.

The dimension of  $k$  can be deduced, using that equation:

$$[LQ] = \left[ \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{time}} \right] = \frac{ML^2T^{-2}}{T} = ML^2T^{-3}$$

↓  
power

T → dimension of time

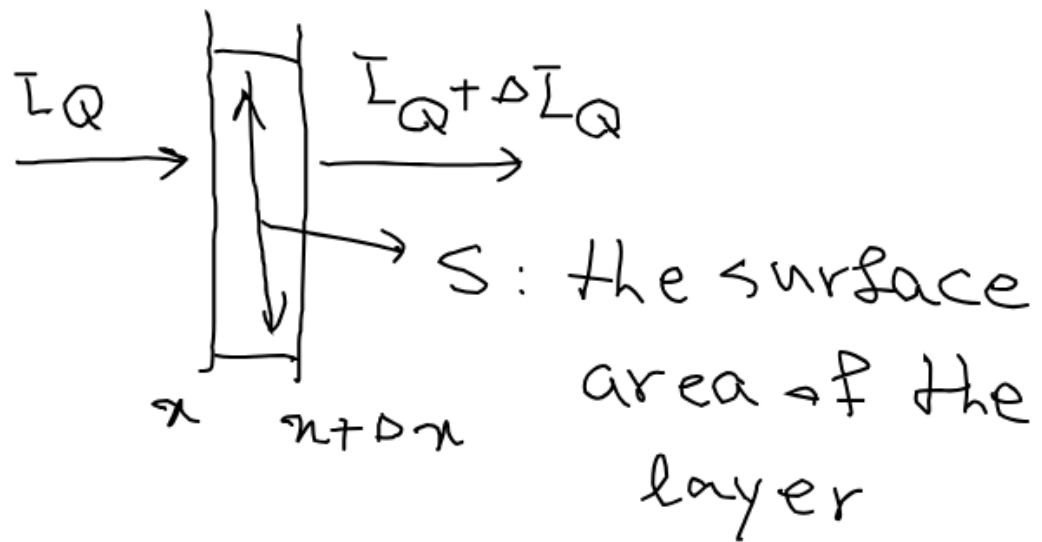
$$[S] = L^2 \quad \left[ \frac{\text{The derivative of temperature}}{\text{temperature}} \right] = \Theta^{-1} L^{-1}$$

→ dimension of temperature

$$ML^2 T^{-3} = [K] L^2 \Theta L^{-1}$$

$$[K] = \frac{ML T^{-3}}{\Theta}$$

The SI unit of  $K = \frac{W}{K m}$



The net amount of energy gained by the layer during the time  $\Delta t = [L_Q - (L_Q + \Delta L_Q)] \Delta t$

The net amount of energy;

gained by the layer =  $-(\Delta \Sigma Q) \Delta t$

This causes a change in the temperature of the layer

$\rightarrow = C (\Delta T)$  temperature change

the  $\swarrow$   
heat capacity of the layer

One arrives at

$$C \Delta T = - (\Delta I_Q) \Delta t$$

$$C = c \Delta V \quad \text{the volume of the layer}$$

$\Delta V = S \Delta x$

$\frac{\text{heat capacity}}{\text{volume}}$

$$\Rightarrow cS \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} = - \frac{\Delta I_Q}{\Delta x}$$

$$\text{So: } cS (\Delta x) \Delta T = - (\Delta I_Q) \Delta t$$

The temperature and the heat current, both are function of  $t$  (time) and  $x$  (position).

So the notation of partial derivative is used:

$$f(t, x) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t + \Delta t, x) - f(t, x)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t, x + \Delta x) - f(t, x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$cS \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial \bar{I}_Q}{\partial x} \quad \text{the continuity equation}$$

$$\bar{I}_Q = -kS \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \quad \text{the heat conductivity equation}$$

Combining the two equations  
(eliminating  $\bar{I}_Q$ ),

$$c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( K \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right)$$

Consider the case that  $c$  and  $K$   
are constants.

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \quad D = \frac{K}{c} \text{ a constant}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$

This is a partial differential equation for T

Newton's second law

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F(t, x, \frac{dx}{dt})$$

An ordinary differential equation.

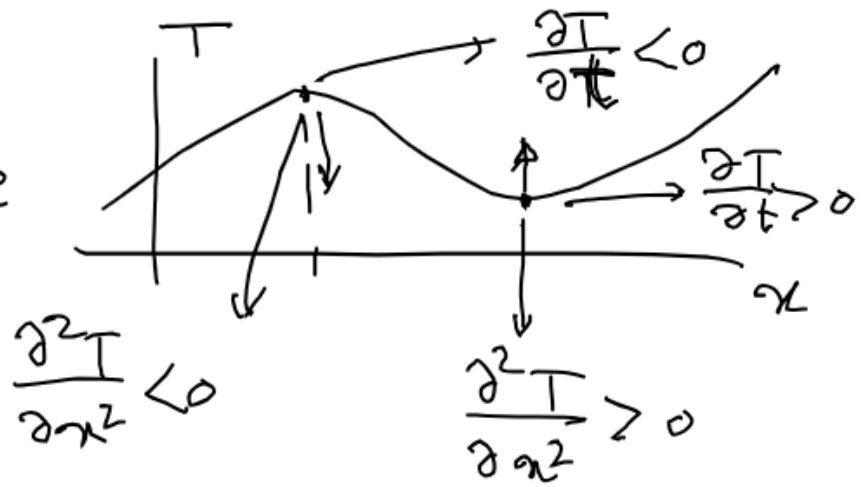
(It doesn't contain partial derivative)

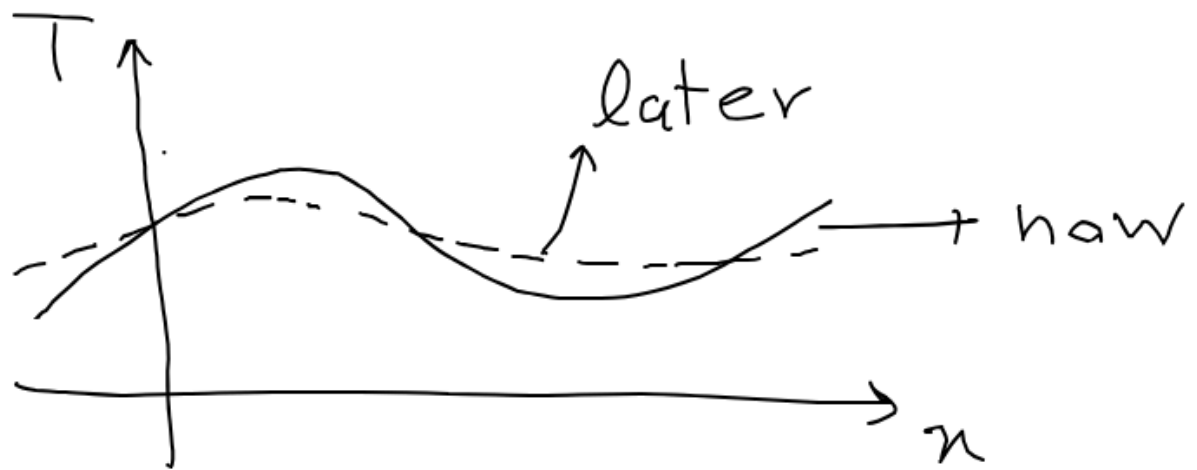
$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \quad D = \frac{K}{c}$$

A diffusion equation

D: the diffusion constant

At same time





The maximum goes down  
The minimum goes up  
The temperature becomes  
more uniform.

The diffusion equation  
makes things more uniform.

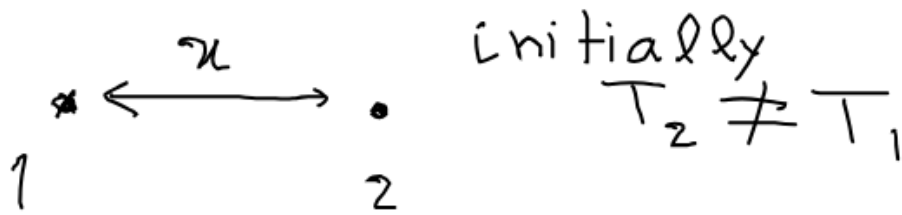
The dimensional analysis:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{temperature}$$

$$[T]^{-1} = [D] [T] L^{-2} \quad \text{of time}$$

$$[D] = L^2 T^{-1} \rightarrow \text{the dimension}$$

What is the time  $t$  needed for two points separated by a distance  $x$  to have almost the same temperatures?



after a time  $t$ ,  $T_2 \approx T_1$

What is the relation between  
 $t$  and  $x$  .

# Dimensional analysis

$t, \nu, D$  ← the relevant parameters

One has to find a dimensionless combination of these:

$$[t^\alpha \nu^\beta D^\gamma] = 1 \quad \begin{array}{l} T: \alpha - \gamma = 0 \\ L: \beta + 2\gamma = 0 \end{array}$$
$$T^\alpha L^\beta (L^2 T^{-1})^\gamma = 1 \quad \nearrow$$

$$\gamma = \alpha \quad \left(\frac{Dt}{\kappa^2}\right)^\alpha$$
$$\beta = -2\alpha$$

Only one independent  
dimensionless combination

$$\frac{Dt}{\kappa^2} = \text{constant}$$

That is

$$t = \frac{(\text{constant}) r^2}{D}$$

$$t \propto r^2$$

Multiplying the size by  $\alpha$  (say 2),  
the time is multiplied by  $\alpha^2$  (say 4).

An example in cooking:

It takes about 10 minutes  
(maybe a little less) to  
cook an egg (so that it is  
hard boiled) → egg of chicken

How much time is needed  
to cook an ostrich egg?

Ostrich ?

A huge bird, which doesn't fly.

The persian name for it:  
Camel-chicken

The mass of an ostrich egg  
is about 1.5 kg

$1 \rightarrow 2$  kg

The mass of ordinary egg  
is about 50 g.

So the mass ratio is about  
30

The volume ratio  $\approx 30$


The densities are the same.

$$= (\text{The size ratio})^3$$

The size ratio  $\approx 3$        $3^3 = 27$

The time ratio = (the size ratio)<sup>2</sup>

The time ratio  $\approx 3^2 \approx 10$   $3^2 = 9$

time<sub>ostrich</sub>  $\approx 10$  time<sub>chicken</sub>  
  
10 minutes

time<sub>ostrich</sub> = 100 minutes  
 $\approx 1.5$  hours