## SOLUTION OF INVERSE PROBLEMS IN HEAT TRANSFER BY THE METHOD OF TRANSITION FUNCTIONS

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A method has been developed for determining the transition function  $\Phi$  for transverse flow around a cylinder.

Experimental data [1] on the local heat-transfer coefficients in convective heat transfer with Re = =  $21 \cdot 10^3$  have been used to develop the method using the functions  $\Phi$ . The solution obtained in this way is compared with the analytic solution of [1]. The problem is handled as follows.



Fig. 1. Electrical model of a cylinder used to find  $\Phi$ .

- 1. The cylindrical region G is specified.
- 2. The temperature t(x, y) within the region satisfies

$$\frac{\partial^2 t}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 t}{\partial y^2} = 0. \tag{1}$$

3. A constant temperature  $t_0$  is maintained on the internal surface  $S_0$ .

4. The experimentally determined temperature distribution is used for the external surface  $S_1$ .

5. The temperature of the incident air flow is given. The problem is to determine the local heat-transfer coefficients  $\alpha_{loc}$ .

The problem is solved in three stages. First, an electrical analog is used to determine the transition functions  $\Phi$  by a method analogous to that for determining the Z functions considered in [2, 3].

A two-layer model on the scale  $m^* = 8$  (Fig. 1) is constructed from conducting paper; the error in the solutions given by such models does not exceed 1.5% [4]. The potential equal to 0% is applied to the internal surface, while the external surface is divided into 32 equal parts; the numbers 1, 2, ..., 32 in Fig. 1 denote these parts. A current-carrying lead is applied to one of these parts; the current I<sub>1</sub> is determined from the potential difference across a resistor R<sub>1</sub> connected to the lead. The potential difference on R<sub>1</sub> is adjusted to 100%. The potentials  $U_i$  at the points 1, 2, ..., 32 are measured, the transition functions being defined as

$$\Phi_{i1} = U_i / I_1. \tag{2}$$

The  $\Phi_{i1}$  are sufficient to solve the inverse heat-transfer problem for an axially symmetric body, but all the  $\Phi_{ij}$ must be known for a body of arbitrary shape, in which i are the points at which the  $U_i$  are measured and j are the points at which the currents  $I_i$  are supplied in turn.

In the second stage, a system of linear algebraic equations is compiled, whose solution gives the local currents at the surface of the model.

If currents are supplied simultaneously to the 32 points on the outer surface, the potentials at those points are found from the principle of superposition, which applies to linear systems:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \Phi_{ij} \cdot I_j = U_i, \tag{3}$$

in which i = 1, 2, ..., m and j = 1, 2, ..., n.

We must have m = n if the solution to this system is to be unique (m = n = 32 in our case); here the  $I_j$ act as unknowns, while the  $U_i$  are readily determined from the temperature distribution via a scale coefficient  $C_t$ , which is taken as 1. The choice of scale coefficients is described below.



Fig. 2. Distribution of the heat-transfer coefficient  $\alpha_{tot}$  (W/m<sup>2</sup> · deg) as a function of  $\theta$  (deg) for the outer surface of a sphere: 1) data of [1], 2) results from use of  $\Phi$ .

The result is a system of 32 linear algebraic equations in 32 unknowns, which is represented symbolically [5] in Table 1. Computer solution gives  $I_{loc}$ , the currents at the surface of the model (Table 2), which

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System of 32 Linear Algebraic Equations in 32 Unknowns

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Point no. in Fig. 1	θ(deg) in Fig. 1	Point no. in Fig. 1	0(deg) in Fig. 1	I <sub>10C</sub> ,10°, A	k·10*, V/m <sup>2</sup>	$q_{10c} = kl,$ W/m <sup>2</sup>	$\frac{\Delta t \log c}{t_{\rm s}} t_{\rm s} - t_{\rm int}$	$a \log$ , tot= $q/M$ , W/m <sup>2</sup> , deg	$u \text{ tot } = a_c + a_{r'}$ $W/m^2 \cdot de_g$ from [1]
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 Table 2

 Distribution of the Principal Parameters on the External Surfaces of Model and Cylinder

correspond to the distribution of  $Q_{loc}$ , the heat flux at the surface of the cylinder. We employ scale coefficients to convert from the electrical quantities to the thermal ones, which coefficients must obey

$$C_R - \frac{C_Q}{C_t} = 1, \qquad (4)$$

in which  $C_R = R_e/R_t$  is the ratio of the electrical resistance of a sector cut from the model to the thermal resistance of the corresponding sector of the cylinder and  $C_t = (U - U_0)/(t - t_0)$  is taken as 1, with the origins taken as the potential and temperature of the internal surface, respectively, while  $C_Q = I/Q$  is determined from (4).

As  $R_e = 23\,000$  om,  $R_t = 1.27$  deg/W, and  $C_R = = 18\,110$  ohms  $\cdot$  W/deg,

$$C_Q = C_t / C_R = 1/18110 \text{ V}^{-1}.$$
 (5)

$$Q_{\rm loc} = I_{\rm loc} / C_Q = 18110 I_{\rm loc} \quad W.$$
 (6)

In the third stage we deduce the  $\alpha_{\rm loc}$  as

$$\alpha_{\rm loc} = q_{\rm loc} / \Delta t_{\rm loc}. \tag{7}$$

Then

in which

Then

$$q_{\rm loc} = Q_{\rm loc} / F_t, \tag{8}$$

in which  $F_t = B_t$  is the area of a part of the cylinder of arc length  $B_t$  and unit height. Here

$$B_t = B_e/m^*, \tag{9}$$

in which  $B_e$  is the length of the outer circle of the model used in supplying current in the determination of  $\Phi$ .

From (6)-(9) we have

$$q_{\rm loc} = I_{\rm loc} k = 4.2 I_{\rm loc} \quad W/m^2,$$
 (10)

$$k = C_R m^* / C_I B_e V/m^2$$
 (11)

Table 2 gives the numerical values of  $q_{loc}$ ; Table 2 and Fig. 2 compare the total local transfer coefficients  $\alpha_{loc.tot}$  as found analytically [1] and via the  $\Phi$ . The discrepancies do not exceed 3%.

A major advantage of this method is that  $\Phi$  once found on the model can subsequently be used to solve problems in the absence of the electrical model. This is of considerable importance, since any given object can give rise to many inverse problems, whose solution is much facilitated by the  $\Phi$ .

A further advantage is that the  $\Phi$  may be used to solve inverse problems in steady-state heat transfer for all similar bodies, the only change being recalculation of the scale coefficient k via (11).

An analogous method is readily developed for inverse problems in transient-state heat transfer, values of the  $\Phi$  being obtained for each point in time. The method is also applicable to bodies of any shape.

## NOTATION

I is current, U is voltage,  $R_e$  is electrical resistance,  $B_e$  is 1/32 of the length of the external circumference of the model,  $m^*$  is the scale of model, k is the coefficient for converting from current to heat flux density, t is the temperature,  $t_0$  is the temperature of internal surface of cylinder, x and y are coordinates, Q is heat flux, q is the density of heat flux,  $\alpha$  is the heat-transfer coefficient,  $\alpha_{tot} = \alpha_c + \alpha_r$ ,  $\alpha_c$  is the convective heat-transfer coefficient,  $\alpha_r$  is the radiative heat transfer coefficient,  $R_t$  is thermal resistance,  $\Delta t$  is temperature difference,  $B_t$  is 1/32 of length of external circumference of cylinder.

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