The Temperature Distribution of Bathtub

Yuhe Tian¹, a
¹ North China Electric Power University, Baoding 071000, China
atyhstudy@163.com

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Abstract. We utilize the first law of thermo dynamics Fouriers Law and Calorie formula to derive the heat conduction equation and to discuss the temperature of the bathtub water in space and time. Firstly, we set time as a constant. In space, we projected the temperature distribution equation to the three planes: X-Y Plane, Y-Z plane and X-Z plane. To solve the equations, the PDE (Partial Differential Equations) toolbox of MATLAB was used. Then we kept the temperature constant, the image of temperature distribution at different time was obtained. The variance of the temperature in the bathtub was defined to measure the temperature distribution.

Introduction

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It will be very nice to take a long hot bath when you come home with a tired body. However, the bathtub in our bathroom is a simple water containment vessel, in which the water can not keep the constant temperature. So the method was put forward—using a constant trickle of hot water from the faucet to reach the bathing water. In this case, it is necessary to find a best way to maximize both the utilization rate of water and the constant temperature. From the practical considerations, we need to analyze the effect of many factors. Thus we develop a model to show the temperature distribution of the bathtub water in space and time.

Temperature Changes with Time and Space

In order to discuss the temperature of the bathtub water in space and time, we use the first law of thermo dynamics, Fourier’s Law and Calorie formula to create a new model.

- the first law of thermodynamics
  \[ Q = Q_1 + Q_2 \]
  Where Q, Q1 and Q2 respectively represent the heat absorbed by temperature change, the heat flowing through the boundary and the heat provided of heat reservoir.
- Fourier’s Law
  \[ dQ = -k(x, y, z) \frac{\partial x}{\partial y} ds dt \]
  Where k(x; y; z) represent the thermal transmissivity of material.
- Derivation of the heat conservation equation
  Simply take any S of a smooth closed surface Ω in the object G, discussing the heat change law of Ω. The absorbed (or released) heat of the temperature of each point in the Ω changed from u(x; y; z; t1) to u(x; y; z; t2), shall be equal to the sum of the heat flows into (or out of) Ω through surface S and the heat provided (or absorption) by heart source during t1 to t2.


(1) The heat flows into $\Omega$ through surface $S$ ($Q_1$).
Based on Fourier’s Law, the heat flows into $\Omega$ through surface $S$ during $t_1$ to $t_2$ is as follows:

$$Q = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_{\Omega} k(x, y, z) \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} ds dt$$

Based on Gauss Formula

$$\int_{\Omega} \text{div} A dxdydz = \int_{s} AndS_s$$

$Q_1$ is as follows

$$Q_2 = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(k \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(k \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(k \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}) \right) dV dt$$

(2) the heat provided (or absorption) by heat source ($Q_2$) during $t_1$ to $t_2$

$$Q_i = \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} \int_{\Omega} F(x, y, z, t) dV dt$$

Where $F(x; y; z; t)$ represent the intensity of heat source, that is, the quantity of heat released from the unit volume within the unit time.

Finally we get the formula in accordance with our model

$$\int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(k \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(k \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(k \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}) \right) + F(x, y, z, t)$$

Two-dimensional (2-D) heat conduction equation

To simplified model, we projected the temperature distribution equation to the three plane [1] X-Y plane, Y-Z plane and X-Z plane.

The temperature distribution equation on X-Y plane

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} - k \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) = f(x, y, z)$$

Boundary Conditions

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + hT \big|_{\partial x} = hT_{out} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \big|_{x = \pm \frac{a}{2}} = hT_{out} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + hT \big|_{y = \frac{b}{2}} = hT_{out} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \big|_{y = \pm \frac{b}{2}} = hT_{out} \end{array} \right.$$
The temperature distribution on the three plane

Figure 1: the temperature distribution and gradient on the X-Y plane

Figure 2: the temperature distribution and gradient on the Y-Z plane

Figure 3: the temperature distribution and gradient on the X-Z plane

The temperature distribution on the three plane
Conclusions

We can find that under certain time scope and temperature terms both the variance of the temperature and the variance variation are very small, the temperature distribution of the bathtub basically doesn’t vary with time.

References
