

Models with Ordinary Differential Equations (Energy Balance)

The conservation statement for total energy under steady conditions takes the form

$$\text{Rate of energy in} - \text{Rate of energy out} + \text{Interphase heat transfer rate, } Q, + \text{Rate of work on the system} = 0$$

The conservation statement for total energy under unsteady conditions takes the form

$$\text{Rate of energy in} - \text{Rate of energy out} + \text{Interphase heat transfer rate, } Q, + \text{Rate of work on the system} = \text{Rate of energy accumulation}$$

EXAMPLE

Suppose that in the winter day time temperature in a certain office building is maintained at 70 °F and the outside temperature was 45 °F. The temperature of the building after 2h was found to be 65 °F. What was the temperature inside the building after 8h?

The conservation statement for total energy under unsteady conditions takes the form

$$\dot{m}_{in}H_{in} - \dot{m}_{out}H_{out} + \dot{Q} + \dot{W}_S = m * C_p \frac{dT}{dt}$$

$$m * C_p \frac{dT}{dt} = h * A * (T - T_{outside})$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = k * (T - T_o)$$

$$\frac{dT}{T - T_o} = k dt$$

$$\ln(T - T_o) - \ln C = kt$$

$$\ln \frac{(T - T_o)}{C} = kt$$

$$e^{\ln \frac{(T - T_o)}{C}} = e^{kt}$$

$$\frac{(T - T_o)}{C} = e^{kt}$$

$$T = T_o + C e^{kt}$$

Initial condition: $t = 0, T = 70 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}$

$$70 \text{ }^\circ\text{F} = 45 \text{ }^\circ\text{F} + Ce^0 = 45 \text{ }^\circ\text{F} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 25 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}$$

$$T = 45 + 25e^{kt}$$

Boundary condition: $t = 120 \text{ min}, T = 65 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}$

$$65 \text{ }^\circ\text{F} = 45 \text{ }^\circ\text{F} + 25e^{120k}$$

$$e^{120k} = \frac{20 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}}{25 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}} \Rightarrow \ln e^{120k} = \ln\left(\frac{20}{25}\right) = -0.223$$

$$120k = -0.223$$

$$k = -0.00186$$

$$T = 45 + 25e^{-0.00186t}$$

If $t = 8 \text{ h} = 480 \text{ min}$,

$$T = 45 + 25e^{-0.00186 \cdot 480}$$

$$\mathbf{T = 55.24 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}}$$