

# Chapter 9 Free Convection

## Expansion coefficient

$$\beta \approx -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\rho_{\infty} - \rho}{T_{\infty} - T} \quad \text{obtained from Table A.5, A.6}$$

• For an ideal gas

$$\beta = \frac{1}{T_f} \quad T_f = \frac{T_s + T_{\infty}}{2}$$

## Grashof number

$$Gr_L = \frac{g \beta (T_s - T_{\infty}) L^3}{\nu^2}$$

## Rayleigh number

$$Ra_{x,c} = Gr_{x,c} Pr = \frac{g \beta (T_s - T_{\infty}) X^3}{\nu \alpha}$$

if no x is specified:

use  $X=L$

الارتفاع  
length

$Ra_{x,c} \begin{cases} \rightarrow \leq 10^9 \text{ laminar} \\ \rightarrow > 10^9 \text{ Turbulent} \end{cases}$

→ For vertical Plate

## Empirical correlations

• if laminar or Turbulent

$$Nu_L = \frac{hL}{k} = C Ra_L^n \quad : n \begin{cases} \rightarrow 1/4 \text{ laminar} \\ \rightarrow 1/3 \text{ Turbulent} \end{cases}, C \begin{cases} \rightarrow 0.59 \text{ laminar} \\ \rightarrow 0.1 \text{ turbulent} \end{cases}$$

$$Ra_L = Gr_L Pr = \frac{g \beta (T_s - T_{\infty}) L^3}{\nu \alpha}$$

Note:

All properties evaluated at  $T_f$ : film temp

$$T_f = \frac{T_s + T_{\infty}}{2}$$

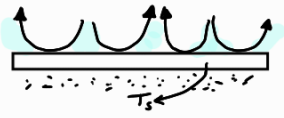
To find  $q$ , we calculate radiation: → only for air  
→ plate surface area

$$q = q_{conv} + q_{rad} \quad : \quad q_{rad} = \epsilon A_s \sigma (T_s^4 - T_{sur}^4)$$

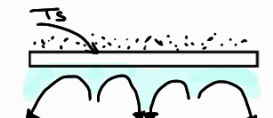
→ For Horizontal plate rectangles, circles and squares

### Horizontal plate

Upper Surface of Hot plate  
or lower surface of cold plate



Hot plate,  $T_s > T_\infty$



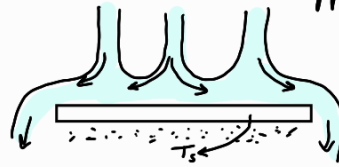
Cold plate,  $T_s < T_\infty$

$$\overline{Nu}_L = 0.54 Ra_L^{1/4} \longrightarrow 10^4 \leq Ra_L \leq 10^7, Pr \geq 0.7$$

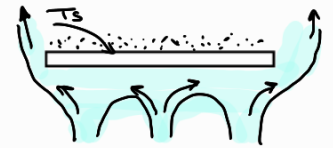
$$\overline{Nu}_L = 0.15 Ra_L^{1/3} \longrightarrow 10^7 \leq Ra_L \leq 10^{11}, \text{ all } Pr$$

Direction of heat transfer is upward

lower surface of Hot plate  
or upper surface of cold plate



Cold plate,  $T_s > T_\infty$



Hot plate,  $T_s < T_\infty$

$$\overline{Nu}_L = 0.52 Ra_L^{1/5} \longrightarrow 10^4 \leq Ra_L \leq 10^9, Pr \geq 0.7$$

Direction of heat transfer is downward

$$L = \frac{A_s}{P} \begin{matrix} \nearrow \text{surface area of} \\ \text{one side} \\ \nwarrow \text{perimeter} \end{matrix}$$

- For a circular disk  $L = \frac{R}{2}$
- For a square surface  $L = \frac{a}{4}$
- For a rectangular surface  $L = \frac{\text{length} \times \text{width}}{2(\text{length} + \text{width})}$
- For a rectangular surface with width much smaller than

### Long horizontal cylinder

$$\overline{Nu}_D = \frac{\overline{h}D}{k} = C Ra_D^n \quad C, n \text{ from Table 9.1}$$

TABLE 9.1 Constants of Equation 9.33 for free convection on a horizontal circular cylinder [22]

$Ra_D$	$C$	$n$
$10^{-10} - 10^{-2}$	0.675	0.058
$10^{-2} - 10^2$	1.02	0.148
$10^2 - 10^4$	0.850	0.188
$10^4 - 10^7$	0.480	0.250
$10^7 - 10^{12}$	0.125	0.333

### Sphere

$$\overline{Nu}_D = 2 + \frac{0.589 Ra_D^{1/4}}{[1 + (0.469/Pr)^{9/16}]^{1/4}}$$

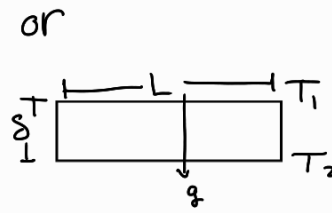
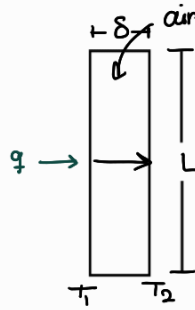
$$L = D \text{ for sphere}$$

$$A_s = 4\pi r^2$$

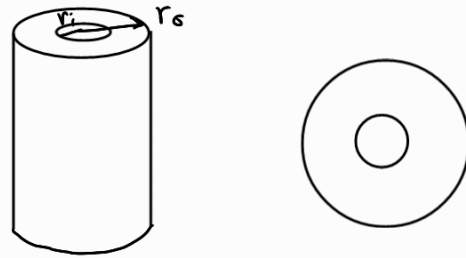
# Enclosure

$$\frac{\bar{h}\delta}{k} = C \underbrace{(Gr\delta Pr)^n}_{Ra^n} \left(\frac{L}{\delta}\right)^m$$

where:  $Gr\delta = \frac{g\beta(T_1 - T_2)\delta^3}{\nu^2}$



• If there are two cylinders same but  $\delta = r_o - r_i$



• If there are two spheres same but  $\delta = r_o - r_i$

Fluid	Geometry	$Gr\delta Pr$	$Pr$	$\frac{L}{\delta}$	$C$	$n$	$m$
Gas	Vertical plate, isothermal	<2000	$k_o/k = 1.0$	—	—	—	—
		6000-200,000	0.5-2	11-42	0.197	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$
	Horizontal plate, isothermal heated from below	200,000- $1.1 \times 10^7$	0.5-2	11-42	0.073	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$
		<1700	$k_o/k = 1.0$	—	—	—	—
		1700-7000	0.5-2	—	0.059	0.4	0
		7000- $3.2 \times 10^5$	0.5-2	—	0.212	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
		$>3.2 \times 10^5$	0.5-2	—	0.061	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
Liquid	Vertical plate, constant heat flux or isothermal	<2000	$k_o/k = 1.0$	—	—	—	—
		$10^4-10^7$	1-20,000	10-40	Eq. 7-52	—	—
	Horizontal plate, isothermal, heated from below	$10^6-10^9$	1-20	1-40	0.046	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
		<1700	$k_o/k = 1.0$	—	—	—	—
		1700-6000	1-5000	—	0.012	0.6	0
		6000-37,000	1-5000	—	0.375	0.2	0
	37,000- $10^8$	1-20	—	0.13	0.3	0	
	$>10^8$	1-20	—	0.057	$\frac{1}{4}$	0	
Gas or liquid	Vertical annulus	Same as vertical plates	—	—	—	—	—
	Horizontal annulus, isothermal	$6000-10^6$	1-5000	—	0.11	0.29	0
	Spherical annulus	$10^6-10^8$	1-5000	—	0.40	0.20	0
		$120-1.1 \times 10^9$	0.7-4000	—	0.228	0.226	0

TABLE 9.2 Summary of free convection empirical correlations for immersed geometries

Geometry	Recommended Correlation	Restrictions
1. Vertical plates <sup>a</sup> 	Equation 9.26	None
2. Inclined plates Cold surface up or hot surface down 	Equation 9.26	$0 \leq \theta \leq 60^\circ$
3. Horizontal plates (a) Hot surface up or cold surface down 	Equation 9.26 $g \rightarrow g \cos \theta$	$0 \leq \theta \leq 60^\circ$
(b) Cold surface up or hot surface down 	Equation 9.30 Equation 9.31	$10^4 \leq Ra_L \leq 10^7, Pr \geq 0.7$ $10^7 \leq Ra_L \leq 10^{11}$
	Equation 9.32	$10^4 \leq Ra_L \leq 10^9, Pr \geq 0.7$

4. Horizontal cylinder



Equation 9.34

$$Ra_D \leq 10^{12}$$

5. Sphere



Equation 9.35

$$Ra_D \leq 10^{11}$$

$$Pr \geq 0.7$$

<sup>a</sup> The correlation may be applied to a vertical cylinder if  $(D/L) \geq (35/Gr_L^{1/4})$ .

Note:

In Blue these are treated like horizontal plates with rectangular crosssection

