Fin Convection Experiment Thermal Network Solution with TNSolver

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Outline

- Fin Convection Experiment
- Math Model
- Thermal Network Model Analysis
- Calculations

Fins to be Studied

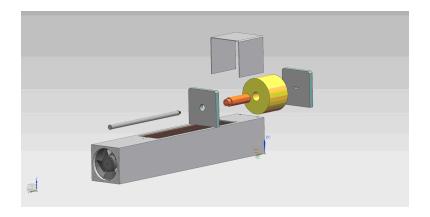
Fin Convection Experiment

- Four uniform cross section fins will be studied
- Steady state, forced and natural convection
- Three are circular, ●, and one is diamond shaped ◆ (a square, rotated 45°)

Fin Material	Dimensions	k (W/m-K)
Aluminum Alloy 6061-T6	0.5" ∅ X 11.22" L	167.0
Copper Alloy 110	0.5" □ X 11.22" L	388.0
Copper Alloy 110	0.5" Ø X 6.77" L	388.0
Stainless Steel Alloy	0.375" Ø X 11.22" L	16.0

Test Fixture Assembly

Fin Convection Experiment



Measurements

Fin Convection Experiment

The following measurements are made:

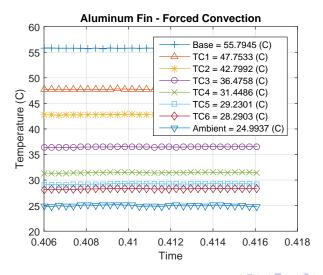
- Base temperature of the fin
- Heater power
- Ambient air temperature
- Fin temperatures along the length of the fin
 - Thermocouples are located at the center line of the fin
- Flow velocity for forced convection

A typical data set is shown for the aluminum fin, for both forced and natural convection.

Aluminum Fin - Forced Convection

Fin Convection Experiment

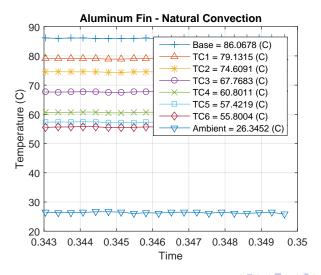
Heater Power = 10.53 W



Aluminum Fin - Natural Convection

Fin Convection Experiment

Heater Power = 10.53 W



Math Model Overview Math Model

- Conduction
- Forced Convection Correlations
- Natural or Free Convection Correlations
- Surface Radiation

Heat Conduction: Cartesian Coordinates (Plane Wall)

The rate of heat transfer, Q_{ij} , due to conduction, between the two temperatures T_i and T_j , separated by a distance L and area A, is:

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{kA}{L} \left(T_i - T_j \right)$$

The heat flux, q_{ii} , is:

$$q_{ij} = \frac{Q_{ij}}{A} = \frac{k}{L} (T_i - T_j)$$

where k is the thermal conductivity of the material.

Convection Correlations Math Model

The convection heat flow rate is:

$$Q = hA(T_s - T_\infty)$$

where h is the heat transfer coefficient, T_s is the surface temperature and T_{∞} is the fluid temperature

External Forced Convection over a Cylinder Math Model

Correlation is (Equation (17.69), page 504 in [KK58]):

$$\overline{Nu}_D \equiv \frac{\overline{h}D}{k} = CRe_D^m Pr^{1/3}$$

where *D* is the diameter of the cylinder and the Reynolds number is $Re_D = \rho VD/\mu = VD/\nu$.

Re _D	С	m
0.4–4	0.989	0.330
4–40	0.911	0.385
40-4,000	0.683	0.466
4,000-40,000	0.193	0.618
40,000-400,000	0.027	0.805
Table 17-5 nage	505 in [k	(K581

External Forced Convection over a Noncircular Cylinder

Math Model

For the case of a gas flowing over noncircular cylinders in crossflow (see [SAT04]):

Geometry	Re_D	С	m
$\Rightarrow \spadesuit D = \sqrt{2H^2}$	6,000-60,000	0.304	0.59
$\Rightarrow \square D = H$	5,000-60,000	0.158	0.66

Note that the fluid properties are evaluated at the film temperature, T_f :

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

External Natural Convection over a Horizontal Cylinder

Correlation is (see [CC75]):

Math Model

$$\overline{Nu}_D = \frac{\overline{h}D}{k} = \left\{ 0.60 + \frac{0.387 Ra_D^{1/6}}{\left[1 + (0.559/Pr)^{9/16}\right]^{8/27}} \right\}^2$$

valid for $Ra_D \le 10^{12}$, $Pr \ge 0.7$, where D is the diameter of the cylinder and the Rayleigh number, Ra, is:

$$Ra_D = GrPr = rac{g
ho^2 ceta D^3 \left(T_s - T_\infty
ight)}{k\mu} = rac{geta D^3 \left(T_s - T_\infty
ight)}{
ulpha}$$

Note that the fluid properties are evaluated at the film temperature, T_f :

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

Surface Radiation

Math Model

Radiation exchange between a surface and *large* surroundings The heat flow rate is (Equation (1.32), p. 32 in [LL16]):

$$Q = \sigma \epsilon_{s} A_{s} (T_{s}^{4} - T_{sur}^{4})$$

where σ is the Stefan-Boltzmann constant, ϵ_s is the surface emissivity and A_s is the area of the surface.

Note that the surface area, A_s , must be *much* smaller than the surrounding surface area, A_{sur} :

$$A_s \ll A_{sur}$$

Note that the temperatures must be the absolute temperature, K or ${}^{\circ}R$

Radiation Heat Transfer Coefficient

Math Model

Define the radiation heat transfer coefficient, h_r (see Equation (2.29), p. 74 in [LL16]):

$$h_r = \epsilon \sigma (T_s + T_{sur})(T_s^2 + T_{sur}^2)$$

Then,

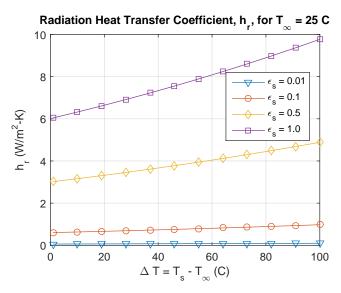
$$Q = h_r A_s (T_s - T_{sur})$$

Note:

- \blacktriangleright h_r is temperature dependent
- ▶ h_r can be used to compare the radiation to the convection heat transfer from a surface, h (if T_{sur} and T_{∞} have similar values)

Range of Radiation Heat Transfer Coefficient

Math Model



Thermal Network Terminology

- Geometry
 - Control Volume
 - ▶ Volume property, $V = \int_V dV$
 - ▶ Node: •, $T_{\text{node}} = \int_{V} T(x_i) dV$
 - Control Volume Surface
 - Area property, $A = \int_A dA$
 - ▶ Surface Node: \bigcirc , $T_{\text{surface node}} = \int_A T(x_i) dA$
- Material properties
- Conductors
 - Conduction, convection, radiation
- Boundary conditions
 - ▶ Boundary node: ▲

TNSolver Input Files

Thermal Network Model Analysis

The supplied TNSolver input files for each fin model:

Fin	Forced Convection	Natural Convection
Aluminum, 11.22"	Al_fin_FC.inp	Al_fin_NC.inp
Round Copper, 6.77"	$Cu_fin_FC.inp$	Cu_fin_NC.inp
Square Copper, 11.22"	sqCu_fin_FC.inp	sqCu_fin_NC.inp
Stainless Steel, 11.22"	SS_fin_FC.inp	SS_fin_NC.inp

Edit each file to set appropriate boundary conditions (Tc, Tr and base) and flow velocities (forced convection models) for your specific experimental data set

TNSolver Input Files for Estimating h

Thermal Network Model Analysis

The supplied TNSolver input files for each fin model to be used with ls_fin_h.m:

Fin	Convection
Aluminum, 11.22"	Al_fin_C.inp
Round Copper, 6.77"	Cu_fin_C.inp
Square Copper, 11.22"	sqCu_fin_C.inp
Stainless Steel, 11.22"	SS_fin_C.inp

Edit each file to set appropriate boundary conditions (Tc, Tr and base) for your specific experimental data set

Running a TNSolver Model

Thermal Network Model Analysis

The MATLAB/Octave command to run the aluminum fin, forced convection model is:

```
>>tnsolver('Al_fin_FC');
```

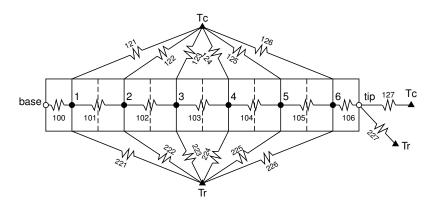
Note that you supply the base of the input file name (AL_fin_FC, in this example), without the .inp extension

The results output file will be the base name with the extension .out (Al_fin_FC.out, in this example)

11.22" Fin Thermal Network Model

Thermal Network Model Analysis

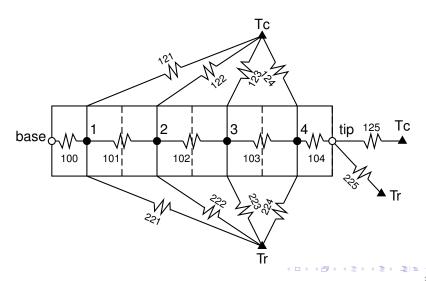
For the 11.22" long fin, there are six thermocouples:



6.77" Fin Thermal Network Model

Thermal Network Model Analysis

For the 6.77" long fin, there are four thermocouples:



Surface Radiation Properties

	Emissivity, ϵ	
Fin Material	(dimensionless)	
Aluminum Alloy 6061-T6	0.09	
Copper Alloy 110	0.12-0.15	
Stainless Steel Alloy	0.5-0.7	
See Table 10.1, page 530, in [LL16]		

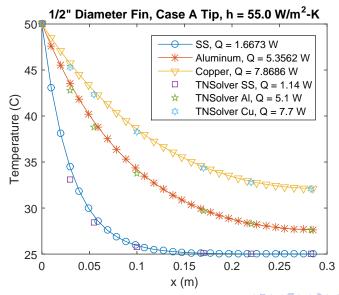
Verification with Analytical Solution

Table 3.4, page 161 in [BLID11], Temperature distribution and heat loss for fins with a uniform cross section

Case	Tip Condition	Temperature, θ/θ_b	Fin Heat Transfer Rate, Q
A	Convection	$\frac{\cosh m(L-x)+(h/mk)\sinh m(L-x)}{\cosh mL+(h/mk)\sinh ml}$	$M \frac{\sinh mL + (h/mk) \cosh mL}{\cosh mL + (h/mk) \sinh mL}$
В	Adiabatic	$\frac{\cosh m(L-x)}{\cosh ml}$	M tanh mL
С	Specified T	$\frac{\cosh mL}{(\theta_L/\theta_b) \sinh mx + \sinh m(L-x)}$ $\frac{\sinh mL}{\sinh mL}$	$M \frac{\cosh mL - (\theta_L/\theta_b)}{\sinh mL}$
D	$L = \infty$	e ^{mx}	M
$\theta = T$	$-T_{\infty}$	$m = \sqrt{hP/kA_c}$	
$\theta_b = \theta$	$(0)=T_b-T_\infty$	$M = (\sqrt{hPkA_c})\theta_b$	

For circular fins:
$$P = \pi D$$
 and $A_c = \pi (D/2)^2$
For square/diamond fins: $P = 4H$ and $A_c = H^2$

Comparison with TNSolver Network Model



Calculations

Calculations

For the four forced convection experimental data sets:

- 1. Using forced convection correlations, determine h and h_r for each fin
 - ► EFCcyl and EFCdiamond conductors
- 2. Using least-squares fit, estimate ϵ , using forced convection correlations
 - ▶ ls_fin_emiss.m function
- 3. Using least-squares fit, estimate h, using estimated ϵ and forced convection correlations
 - ▶ ls_fin_h.m function

How does the estimated *h* compare to the correlation?

How does the estimated ϵ compare to the material property table value?

Calculations (continued)

Calculations

For four free convection experimental data sets:

- 1. Using free convection correlations, determine h and h_r for each fin
 - ► ENChcyl conductor
- 2. Using least-squares fit, estimate ϵ , using free convection correlation
 - ▶ ls_fin_emiss.m function
- 3. Using least-squares fit, estimate h, using estimated ϵ and free convection correlation
 - ▶ ls_fin_h.m function

How does the estimated *h* compare to the correlation?

How does the estimated ϵ compare to the material property table value?

Least Squares Estimation

Calculations

Least squares estimation of a parameter θ , for n data points, is:

$$R = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\theta_{\mathsf{exp}}^{i} - \theta_{\mathsf{model}}^{i} \right)^{2}$$

The closest model parameter is determined by the index i, of the minimum R

Function to estimate emissivity, ϵ , is: ls_fin_emiss.m

Function to estimate convection coefficent, h, is: ls_fin_h.m

Conclusion

- Fin convection experiment overview
- Conduction, convection and surface radiation math model
- Thermal network model analysis
- Calculations using the experimental data

Questions?

Appendix

Heat Transfer Analysis

Thermal Network Model

- Energy conservation: control volumes
- Identify and sketch out the control volumes
- Use the conductor analogy to represent energy transfer between the control volumes and energy generation or storage
 - Conduction, convection, radiation, other?
 - Capacitance
 - Sources or sinks
- State assumptions and determine appropriate parameters for each conductor
 - Geometry, material properties, etc.
- Which conductor(s)/source(s)/capacitance(s) are important to the required results?
 - Sensitivity analysis
- What is missing from the model? peer/expert review

Thermal Network Terminology

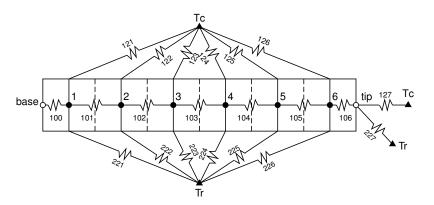
Thermal Network Model

- Geometry
 - Control Volume
 - ▶ Volume property, $V = \int_V dV$
 - ▶ Node: •, $T_{\text{node}} = \int_{V} T(x_i) dV$
 - Control Volume Surface
 - Area property, $A = \int_A dA$
 - ▶ Surface Node: \bigcirc , $T_{\text{surface node}} = \int_A T(x_i) dA$
- Material properties
- Conductors
 - Conduction, convection, radiation
- Boundary conditions
 - ▶ Boundary node: ▲

Thermal Network Analysis

Thermal Network Model

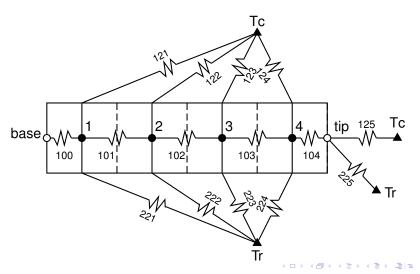
For the 11.22" long fin, there are six thermocouples:



Thermal Network Analysis

Thermal Network Model

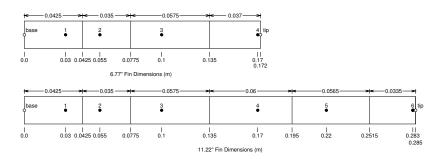
For the 6.77" long fin, there are four thermocouples:



Control Volume Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Scale drawing of thermocouple locations and control volume lengths:



Note that the control volume boundaries are located midway between the thermocouple locations

Round Fin, 11.22" Long, Conduction Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Axial conduction in the fin, L = 11.22" = 0.285 m D = 0.5" = 0.0127 m and r = 0.25" = 0.00635 m:

$$L = \text{distance between TC}$$
 $A = \pi r^2$

Conductor	Length (m)	A (<i>m</i> ²)
100	0.030	0.00012667
101	0.025	0.00012667
102	0.045	0.00012667
103	0.070	0.00012667
104	0.050	0.00012667
105	0.063	0.00012667
106	0.002	0.00012667

Round Fin, 11.22" Long, Convection Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Surface convection area:

$$A = L_{CV}P = L_{CV}\pi D$$

$$D = 0.5$$
" = 0.0127 m

Conductor	L_{CV} (m)	$A (m^2)$
121	0.0425	0.001696
122	0.0350	0.001396
123	0.0575	0.002294
124	0.0600	0.002394
125	0.0565	0.002254
126	0.0335	0.001337

Round Fin, 6.77" Long, Conduction Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Axial conduction in the fin, L = 6.77" = 0.172 m D = 0.5" = 0.0127 m and r = 0.25" = 0.00635 m:

$$L = \text{distance between TC}$$
 $A = \pi r^2$

Conductor	Length (m)	A (<i>m</i> ²)
100	0.030	0.00012667
101	0.025	0.00012667
102	0.045	0.00012667
103	0.070	0.00012667
104	0.002	0.00012667

Round Fin, 6.77" Long, Convection Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Surface convection area:

$$A = L_{CV}P = L_{CV}\pi D$$

$$D = 0.5$$
" = 0.0127 m

Conductor	L_{CV} (m)	$A (m^2)$
121	0.0425	0.001696
122	0.0350	0.001396
123	0.0575	0.002294
124	0.0370	0.001476

Square Fin, 11.22" Long, Conduction Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Axial conduction in the fin, L = 11.22" = 0.285 m, H = 0.5" = 0.0127 m

$$L = \text{distance between TC}$$
 $A = H^2$

Conductor	Length (m)	A (<i>m</i> ²)
100	0.030	0.000016129
101	0.025	0.000016129
102	0.045	0.000016129
103	0.070	0.000016129
104	0.050	0.000016129
105	0.063	0.000016129
106	0.002	0.000016129

Square Fin, 11.22" Long, Convection Geometry

Thermal Network Model

Surface convection area:

$$A = L_{CV}P = L_{CV}4H$$

$$H = 0.5$$
" = 0.0127 m

Conductor	L_{CV} (m)	$A(m^2)$
121	0.0425	0.002159
122	0.0350	0.001778
123	0.0575	0.002921
124	0.0600	0.003048
125	0.0565	0.0028702
126	0.0335	0.0017018

Conduction Conductor

Thermal Network Model

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{kA}{L}(T_i - T_j)$$

Begin Conductors

label	. type	nd_i n	d_j	k	L	A
100	$\verb"conduction"$	base	1	X.X	0.030	0.00012667
101	$\verb"conduction"$	1	2	X.X	0.025	0.00012667
102	conduction	2	3	X . X	0.045	0.00012667
103	conduction	3	4	X . X	0.070	0.00012667
104	conduction	4	5	x.x	0.050	0.00012667
105	conduction	5	6	X . X	0.063	0.00012667
106	$\verb"conduction"$	6	tip	X . X	0.002	0.00012667
	100 101 102 103 104 105	100 conduction 101 conduction 102 conduction 103 conduction 104 conduction	100 conduction base 101 conduction 1 102 conduction 2 103 conduction 3 104 conduction 4 105 conduction 5	101 conduction 1 2 102 conduction 2 3 103 conduction 3 4 104 conduction 4 5 105 conduction 5 6	100 conduction base 1 x.x 101 conduction 1 2 x.x 102 conduction 2 3 x.x 103 conduction 3 4 x.x 104 conduction 4 5 x.x 105 conduction 5 6 x.x	100 conduction base 1 x.x 0.030 101 conduction 1 2 x.x 0.025 102 conduction 2 3 x.x 0.045 103 conduction 3 4 x.x 0.070 104 conduction 4 5 x.x 0.050 105 conduction 5 6 x.x 0.063

End Conductors

Convection Conductor

Thermal Network Model

$$Q_{ij} = hA(T_s - T_\infty) = hA(T_i - T_j)$$

Begin Conductors

```
! label type nd_i nd_j h A
121 convection 1 Tc x.x 0.001696
122 convection 2 Tc x.x 0.001396
123 convection 3 Tc x.x 0.002294
124 convection 4 Tc x.x 0.002394
125 convection 5 Tc x.x 0.002254
126 convection 6 Tc x.x 0.001337
127 convection tip Tc x.x 0.00012667
```

End Conductors

Forced Convection Over Cylinder Conductor

Thermal Network Model

Heat transfer coefficient, h, is evaluated using the correlation.

```
Begin Conductors
! label type nd i nd i fluid V D
 121
     EFCcyl
                              0.0127 0.001696
                 Tc
                      air
                          x.x
 122
     EFCcyl 2 Tc air x.x
                              0.0127 0.001396
 123
     EFCcyl
           3 Tc air x.x
                              0.0127 0.002294
 124
     EFCcyl 4 Tc air x.x
                              0.0127 0.002394
            5 Tc air x.x
                                     0.002254
 125
     EFCcyl
                              0.0127
 126
    EFCcvl
            6 Tc air x.x
                                     0.001337
                              0.0127
 127
     EFCcvl tip
                 Tc air x.x
                              0.0127
                                     0.00012667
End Conductors
```

Note that Re, Nu and h are reported in the output file.

Forced Convection Over Diamond Conductor

Thermal Network Model

Heat transfer coefficient, h, is evaluated using the correlation.

```
Begin Conductors
! label type    nd i   nd i  fluid    V
 121
      EFCdiamond
                                    0.018 0.002159
                      Тc
                           air
                               x.x
 122
     EFCdiamond
                      Tc air x.x 0.018 0.001778
 123
     EFCdiamond
                                    0.018 0.002921
                      To air x.x
 124
     EFCdiamond
                      Tc air x.x 0.018 0.003048
 125 EFCdiamond
                      Tc air x.x 0.018 0.0028702
 126 EFCdiamond
                                    0.018 0.0017018
                      Tc air x.x
 127 EFCdiamond
                      Tc air x.x 0.0127 0.00012667
                 tip
End Conductors
```

Note that Re, Nu and h are reported in the output file.

Natural Convection Conductor

Thermal Network Model

Heat transfer coefficient, h, is evaluated using the correlation.

```
Begin Conductors
! label type nd_i nd_j fluid
                            A
 121 ENChcyl 1 Tc air 0.0127 0.001696
 122 ENChcyl 2 Tc air 0.0127 0.001396
 123 ENChcyl 3 Tc air 0.0127 0.002294
 124 ENChcyl 4 Tc air 0.0127 0.002394
 125 ENChcyl 5 Tc air 0.0127 0.002254
 126 ENChcyl 6 Tc air 0.0127 0.001337
     ENChcyl tip Tc air 0.0127 0.00012667
 127
End Conductors
```

Note that Ra, Nu and h are reported in the output file.

Surface Radiation Conductor

Thermal Network Model

$$Q_{ij} = \sigma \epsilon_i A_i (T_i^4 - T_j^4)$$

```
Begin Conductors
```

```
! label type nd_i nd_j emissivity
                                Α
 2.2.1
     surfrad
                            0.001696
                 Τr
                      x.xx
 222 surfrad
             2 Tr x.xx
                            0.001396
 223 surfrad 3 Tr x.xx 0.002294
 224 surfrad 4 Tr
                            0.002394
                    x.xx
 225 surfrad
             5 Tr x.xx
                              0.002254
 226 surfrad
             6 Tr x.xx 0.001337
 227 surfrad
                              0.00012667
            tip
                 Tr
                      x.xx
```

End Conductors

Note that h_r is reported in the output file.

Boundary Conditions

Thermal Network Model

```
Begin Boundary Conditions
```

```
! type         Tb         Node(s)
fixed_T         x.xx         Tc    ! fluid T
fixed_T         x.xx         Tr    ! surrounding radiation T
fixed_T         x.xx         base ! fin base T
```

End Boundary Conditions

TNSolver Input Files

Thermal Network Model

The supplied TNSolver input files for each fin model:

Fin	Forced Convection	Natural Convection
Aluminum, 11.22"	Al_fin_FC.inp	Al_fin_NC.inp
Round Copper, 6.77"	$Cu_fin_FC.inp$	Cu_fin_NC.inp
Square Copper, 11.22"	sqCu_fin_FC.inp	sqCu_fin_NC.inp
Stainless Steel, 11.22"	SS_fin_FC.inp	SS_fin_NC.inp

Edit each file to set appropriate boundary conditions (Tc, Tr and base) and flow velocities (forced convection models) for your specific experimental data set

Running a TNSolver Model

Thermal Network Model

The MATLAB/Octave command to run the aluminum fin, forced convection model is:

```
>>tnsolver('Al_fin_FC');
```

Note that you supply the base of the input file name (AL_fin_FC, in this example), without the .inp extension

The results output file will be the base name with the extension .out (Al_fin_FC.out, in this example)

Screen Output When Running TNSolver

```
*********************
          TNSolver - A Thermal Network Solver
           Version 0.2.0, October 28, 2014
Reading the input file: Al fin FC.inp
Initializing the thermal network model ...
Starting solution of a steady thermal network model ...
    Nonlinear Solve
 Iteration Residual
           52.9978
           0.0309635
            1.21353e-05
            5.09316e-09
Results have been written to: Al fin FC.out
All done ...
```

View TNSolver Output File For Results

Thermal Network Model

Open Al_fin_FC.out in your favorite text editor

```
TNSolver - A Thermal Network Solver
           Version 0.2.0, October 28, 2014
Model run finished at 10:05 AM, on October 29, 2014
*** Solution Parameters ***
  Title. Aluminum Fin - Forced Convection
  Type
                                steady
  Units
                               = SI
 Temperature units
 Nonlinear convergence
                             = 1e-008
  Maximum nonlinear iterations = 15
  Gravity
                             = 9.80665 (m/s^2)
  Stefan-Boltzmann constant = 5.67037e-008 (W/m^2-K^4)
```

View TNSolver Output File For Results (continued)

T.ahel	Material	Volume (m^3)	Temperature (C)	
1	N/A	0	47.1038	
2	N/A	0	42.202	
3	N/A	0	36.0832	
4	N/A	0	31.0199	
5	N/A	0	29.207	
6	N/A	0	28.4181	
Tc	N/A	0	25	
Tr	N/A	0	25	
base	N/A	0	55.8	
tip	N/A	0	28.416	

View TNSolver Output File For Results (continued)

Label	Type	Node i	Node j	Q_ij (W)	
100	conduction	base	1	6.13192	
101	conduction	1		4.14771	
102	conduction	2		2.87638	
103	conduction	3		1.53011	
104	conduction	4	5	0.766993	
105	conduction	5	6	0.264889	
106	conduction	6	tip	0.0229109	
	EFCcyl		Tc	1.96157	
122	EFCcyl		Tc	1.25717	
123	EFCcyl	3	Tc	1.33172	
	EFCcyl		Tc	0.755085	
	EFCcyl			0.496864	
	EFCcyl			0.239463	
	EFCcyl			0.0226728	
	surfrad	1	Tr	0.0226511	
222		2	Tr		
223		3		0.0145417	
	surfrad	4		0.00803642	
	surfrad	5		0.00523996	
	surfrad	6		0.00251536	
227	surfrad	tip	Tr	0.000238156	

View TNSolver Output File For Results (continued)

```
*** Conductor Parameters ***
surfrad: Surface Radiation
               h r
   label
           (W/m^2-K)
       221 0.60422
       222 0.589676
       223 0.571949
       224 0.557634
       225 0.552586
       226
            0.550402
       227
            0.550396
EFCcvl: External Forced Convection - Cvlinder
   label Re Number Nu Number
       121 2832.69 24.7609 52.325
122 2869.36 24.9192 52.3515
             2917.02 25.1207 52.3789
       123
            2958.53 25.2909 52.3941
       124
       125 2973.94 25.3526 52.3974
       126 2980.75 25.3797 52.3984
       127
             2980.77 25.3798
                                52.3984
```

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