

ANALYSIS OF THE 2-D TRANSIENT HEAT CONDUCTION  
IN A COMPOSITE FINITE CYLINDER WITH HEAT GENERATION

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التوصيل الحراري المشع مستقر شتاكى السعد في اسطوانه  
مركبه و محدوده الطول مع وجود مصدر حراره داخلي

يهدف البحث الى الحصول على التطور الزمني لتوزيع درجات الحراره في الاتجاهين القطري والمحوري نتيجة لانتقال الحراره بالتوصيل الغير مستقر في نظام اسطوانى محدود الطول ، ويتكون هذا النظام من اسطوانه داخليه محصته محاطه باسطوانه خارجيه ، ويفترض ان الاسطوانه الداخليه بها مصدر حرارى ، كما يفترض ان هذه الاسطوانه المركبه تبرد بالحمل بواسطه مائع ذي درجه حراره معينه عند الدخول . ونظرا لعدم وجود حل رياضى تحليلى لهذه المشكله فلقد تم تم الحصول على التطور الزمني لدرجات الحراره بتطبيق طريقة الفروق المحدوده ، وفيها تم تحويل المعادله التفاضليه الاطليه لانتقال الحراره بالتوصيل الى معادله جبريه خطيه تميزت انها عامه بدون ابعاد . ويتطلب هذه المعادله على كل عنصر من عناصر الاسطوانه حبه قسمت في الاتجاهين  $r, z$  نحصل على مجموعه من المعادلات الخطيه التي تم حلها بالطريقه الجبريه . وفي هذا البحث تم ايجاد المقادير الحراريه للتلامس بين الاسطوانتين الخارجيه والداخليه في الاعتبار . وتدل النتائج على ان التطور الزمني وتوزيع درجات الحراره في الاتجاهين القطري والمحوري يعتمد على عدة عوامل مثل مدد Biot ونسبة الانتشار الحرارى لمادتي الاسطوانتين و نسبة معامل التوصيل الحرارى لهما . وتدل النتائج على صلاحية ودقة الحل المقدم .

#### ABSTRACT

The objective of this paper is to study the 2-D transient temperature behavior in a composite finite cylinder with internal heat generation. For this purpose, a new dimensionless 2-D finite difference technique in the axial and radial directions is developed. The developed technique is then applied to obtain the time development of temperature profiles in a complex composite cylinder.

#### INTRODUCTION

The problem of heat conduction in rectangular fins both in steady-state and transient case receives recently great interest [1,2]. A single analytical 1-D transient heat conduction equation has been developed which is applicable for cartesian, cylindrical, and spherical coordinates [3]. The effect of temperature dependent thermophysical material properties has been considered in [4]. On the other hand, there is little activity on the 2-D heat conduction in cylindrical coordinates.

In nuclear industry, the transient temperature behavior of the fuel is of vital importance [5-10]. In light water reactors such as pressurized water reactor (PWR), the fuel rods are cooled convectively through the heat transfer into the cooling fluid. Therefore, the problem of heat conduction in the cylindrical fuel rod has been studied explicitly under predescribed conditions and assumptions. Conduction in the radial direction is usually taken into account [6,7,8]. With nonuniform cooling, conduction in the azimuthal direction must be considered. The steady-state heat conduction in the radial and azimuthal directions has been

considered in [9], while the transient case was studied in [10]. The general equation for heat conduction is

$$\nabla^2 T^* + \frac{q'''}{k} = \frac{\rho c}{k} \frac{\partial T^*}{\partial t^*} \quad (1)$$

Unfortunately, the exact analytical solution for Eq.1 for the 2-D case is formidable. Analytical solutions are obtained only for the 1-D conduction and simple boundary conditions [2,11].

In the present work, a new dimensionless finite difference technique is developed for the problem of transient heat conduction in the radial and axial directions in a composite cylinder with internal heat generation. The new technique is general and simple.

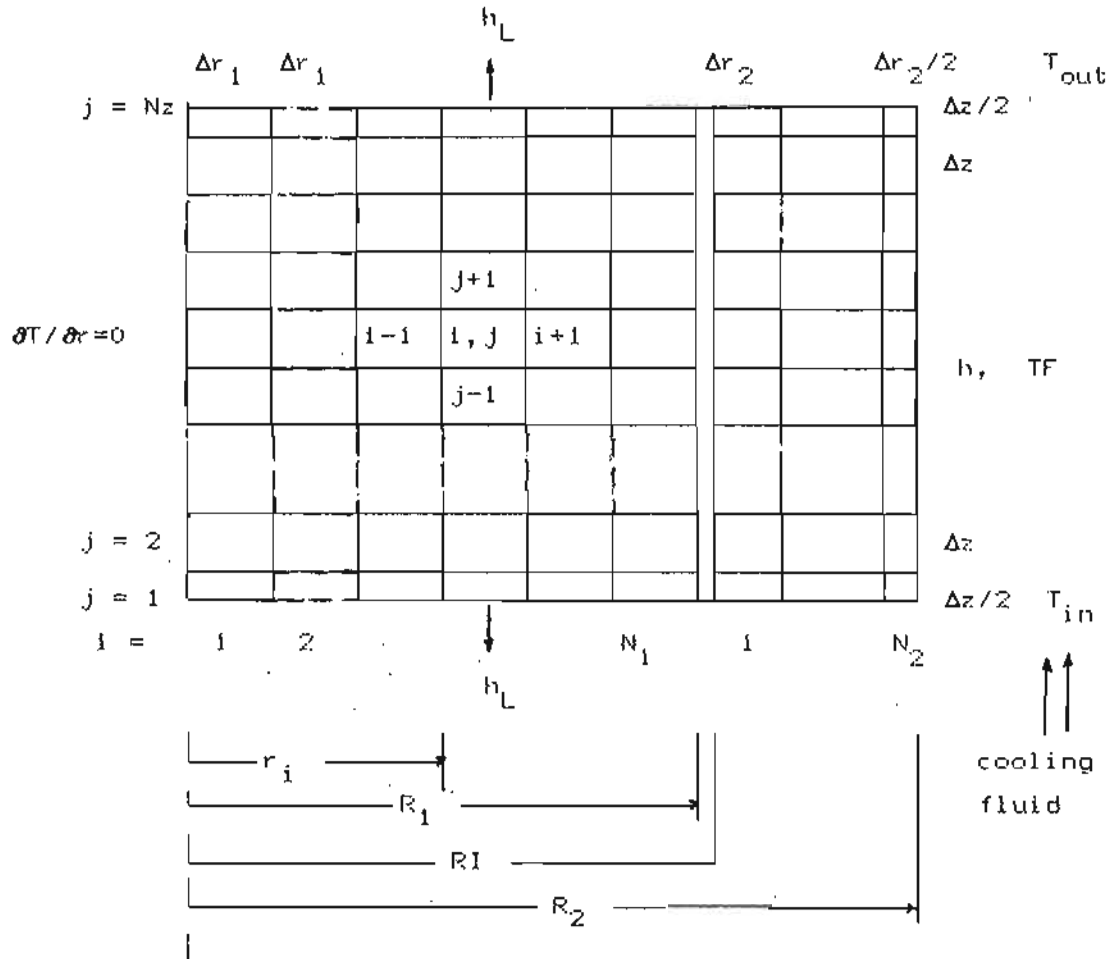


Fig.(1) Composite cylindrical system

**PHYSICAL FORMULATION AND MATHEMATICAL MODEL**

Figure (1) represents a composite cylindrical system. The heat is generated in the inner solid cylinder of radius  $R_1$ . The material of this cylinder may be an electric conductor, nuclear reactive material or chemical reactor. This inner cylinder is encapsulated

within another cylinder having an inside radius  $R_1$  and outside radius  $R_2$ . The outer cylinder represents the cladding material of a fuel rod or the insulator of an electric cable. The contact resistance has been considered through the heat transfer coefficient in a very thin gap between the two materials. The system is cooled by convection into the surrounding fluid which has temperature that varies along the axial direction of the system from  $T_{in}^*$  to  $T_{out}^*$ . Numerical solution of Eq.1 is obtained through transforming it into algebraic equation. Therefore, the dimensionless time variable  $t$  and the dimensionless space variables  $r, z$  are broken into discrete intervals  $\Delta t, \Delta r,$  and  $\Delta z,$  as shown in Fig.(1). The inner solid cylinder is divided in the radial direction into  $N_1$  layer and the outer cylinder into  $N_2$  layer. The entire system is then divided in the axial direction into  $Nz$  divisions. Applying the principle of energy balance for each nodal point  $i, j$  and rearranging, one gets the following dimensionless discretization equation :

$$T_{i,j}^{t+\Delta t} = a_0 + a_1 T_{i-1,j}^t + a_2 T_{i+1,j}^t + a_3 T_{i,j-1}^t + a_4 T_{i,j+1}^t + a_5 T_{i,j}^t \quad (2)$$

where  $T = \frac{T - T_{in}^*}{\Delta T_g^*}, \Delta T_g^* = q_c''' R_1^2 / k_1, a_0 = (q_c''' / q_c''') \Delta t$

and  $\Delta t = (\Delta F_{o,r})_i = \frac{k_1 \Delta t^*}{\rho_1 c_1 R_1^2}$

The following boundary conditions are applicable for the considered case :

1- at  $r = 0$  ( the innermost nodal points  $i = 1$  ), we have

$$(\partial T / \partial r)_{r=0} = 0.0 \quad (3)$$

2- at  $r = R_2 / R_1$  (the outermost nodal points  $i = N_1 + N_2$ ), we have

$$(\partial T / \partial r)_{r=R_2/R_1} = - (h R_1 / k_2) \cdot (T_{N,j} - T_{Fj}) \quad (4)$$

3- at  $z = 0$  (bottom nodal points  $j = 1$ ), we have

$$(\partial T / \partial z)_{z=0} = (h_L L / k) \cdot (T_{i,1} - T_{in}^*) \quad (5)$$

4- at  $z = 1$  (the top nodal points  $j = Nz$ ), we have

$$(\partial T / \partial z)_{z=1} = - (h_L L / k) \cdot (T_{i,Nz} - T_{out}^*) \quad (6)$$

where  $k$  in Eqs.5 and 6 is  $K_1$  for material 1 and  $K_2$  for material 2.

The coefficients  $a_1, a_2, a_3,$  and  $a_4$  which satisfy the above boundary conditions are listed in the tables below, where :

$$X_1 = 2 \Delta r_1 N_1^2 \Delta t, \quad X_2 = 2 \cdot \Delta r_2 N_2^2 (DR) (RD) \Delta t$$

$$Y_1 = \epsilon^2 Nz^2 \Delta t, \quad Y_2 = Y_1 (DR)$$

$$E = \left[ 0.5 + \frac{N_1}{H_g} + \frac{0.5 N_1}{N_2 (CR) (RD)} \right], \quad \text{and} \quad A(i) = R_i^2 - R_{i-1}^2$$

The effect of the contact resistance at the interface between the first material and the inner surface of the second material is taken into account through the coefficients  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  for both layers  $N_1$  and  $N_1+1$ .

Coefficients of the nodal points in the inner cylinder

	Interior nodes	Last column $i = N_1$	Bottom layer $j = 1$	Top layer $j = N_z$
$a_1$	$\frac{X_1 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_1 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_1 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_1 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$
$a_2$	$\frac{X_1 r_i}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_1 r_i}{A(i) E}$	$\frac{X_1 r_i}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_1 r_i}{A(i)}$
$a_3$	$Y_1$	$Y_1$	$\frac{Y_1 H_{L1}}{N_z}$	$Y_1$
$a_4$	$Y_1$	$Y_1$	$Y_1$	$\frac{Y_1 H_{L1}}{N_z}$

Coefficients of the nodal points in the outer cylinder

	Interior nodes	First column $i = N_1+1$	Last column $i = N_1+N_2$	Bottom layer $j = 1$	Top layer $j = N_z$
$a_1$	$\frac{X_2 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_{i-1}}{A(i)}$
$a_2$	$\frac{X_2 r_i}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_i}{A(i) E}$	$\frac{X_2 B_1 \Delta r_2}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_i}{A(i)}$	$\frac{X_2 r_i}{A(i)}$
$a_3$	$Y_2$	$Y_2$	$Y_2$	$\frac{Y_2 H_{L2}}{N_z}$	$Y_2$
$a_4$	$Y_2$	$Y_2$	$Y_2$	$Y_2$	$\frac{Y_2 H_{L2}}{N_z}$

For all nodal points  $a_0 = (q''''/q_c''')\Delta t$ , and

$$a_5 = 1 - a_1 - a_2 - a_3 - a_4$$

Applying Eq.2 to each nodal point one gets a system of finite difference dimensionless equations. In this stage, The solution of this system can be performed using either the explicit or the implicit scheme [12]. In this work, the explicit scheme is used because of its simplicity although it is conditionally stable. As an illustrative example, the transient temperature profile of nuclear fuel rod of a PWR has been calculated. Such a composite cylinder system is chosen here because of its complexity as described in the Appendix, where the following data are valid:

$R_1 = 1$ ,  $R_1 = 1.021$ ,  $R_2 = 1.18$ ,  $c = 0.001$ ,  $RD = 6.29$ ,  $CR = 6$ ,  
 $DR = 9$ ,  $H_g = 6.44$ ,  $HH = 1.0$ ,  $M = 2.55$ , and  $BI = 12.55$ .

For this specific problem, the heat generation rate is a sinusoidal function in axial coordinate  $z$ , where

$$\frac{q'''}{q_c'''} = \sin(\pi z) \quad (7)$$

To get the dimensionless temperature of the cooling fluid at any level  $z$ , the following dimensionless relation is then obtained from the heat balance:

$$TF_{j+1} = M \Delta Z (T_{N,j} - TF_j) + TF_j \quad (8)$$

Other systems are easier to deal with, such as electric cables, chemical reactors etc..

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Since there is no analytical solution of Eq.1 for the 2-D case in cylindrical bodies, then there are no reference data for comparison. Fortunately, the radius to height ratio of the considered example is too small ( $c = 0.001$ ), which makes reasonable comparison between the numerically obtained values (at large time) and the 1-D steady-state values. The 1-D steady-state analytical solution of the considered example has been obtained in the Appendix.

Referring to Fig.2, the dimensionless temperature at the centerline  $T_o$  is 0.352 at  $t = 2$  (which is steady-state value). The physical centerline temperature is then given by

$$T_o^* = T_o \left( \frac{q_c''' R_1^2}{k_1} \right) + T_{in}^* \\ = 0.352 \times 3045.7 + T_{in}^* = 1072 + T_{in}^* \text{ degree}$$

According to the 1-D analytical solution given in the Appendix, the corresponding value is  $T_o^* = 1074 + T_{in}^*$ . Comparison between the two values indicates well agreement which proves validity of the proposed numerical technique.

Figure 3 illustrates the radial temperature profiles at the bottom ( $z = 0.0$ ), center ( $z = 0.5$ ), and top ( $z = 1.0$ ) of the composite cylinder. It is clear that the temperature distribution at the center is higher because the heat generation rate is a sinusoidal function in  $z$  with its maximum value  $q_c'''$  at the  $z = 0.5$ . Another important result is that the radial temperature profile at the top of the composite cylinder is higher than that at the bottom. This is expected since the temperature of the cooling fluid rises in the direction of  $z$ .

Figures 3 and 4 indicate the effect of Biot number on the radial temperature profiles at different times (0.1 and 2.0). It is clear that the effect of Biot number on the temperature of the outer cylinder is faster than its effect on the inner one. In addition, low Biot numbers exhibit higher temperature level. The time development of the radial temperature profiles for low Biot number ( $BI = 0.1$ ) is given on Fig.6.

To examine the effect of the material thermophysical properties, the radial temperature profiles are plotted on Fig.7 for different

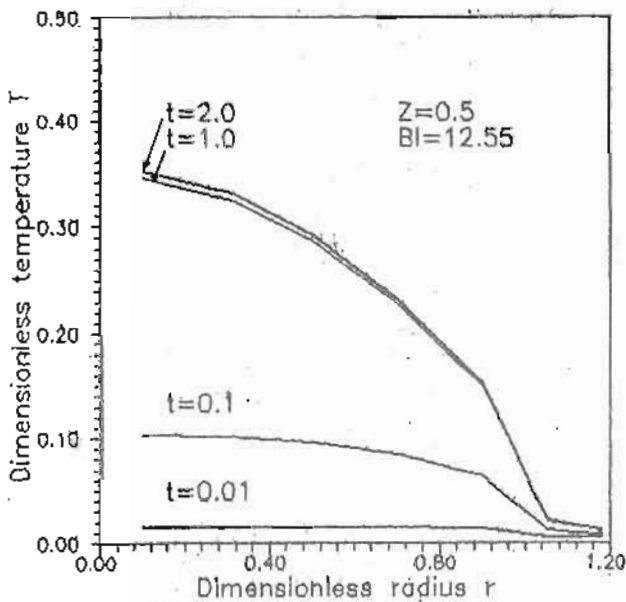


Fig.(2) Time development of radial temperature profile

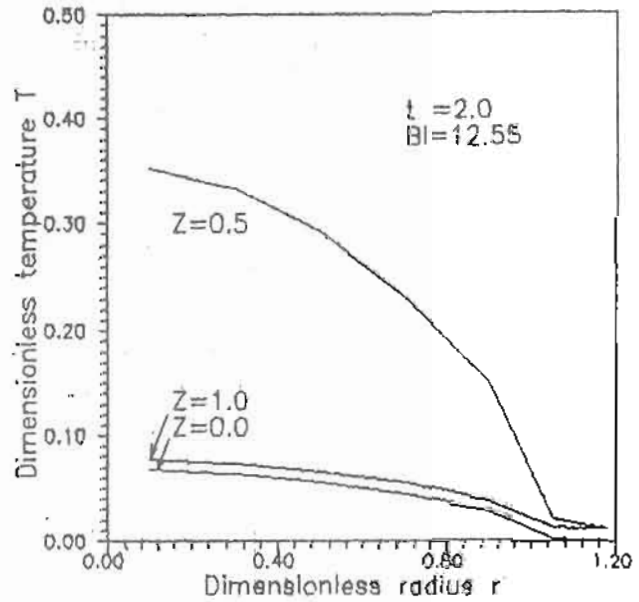


Fig.(3) Radial temperature distributions at different axial distances Z

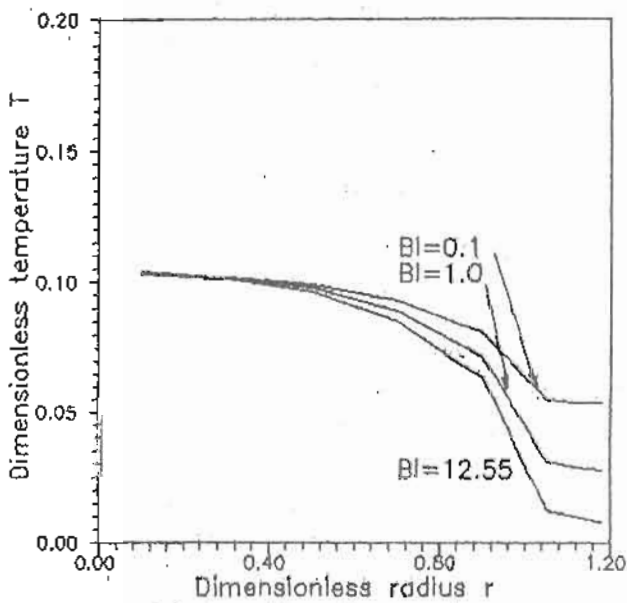


Fig.(4) Effect of Biot number on radial temperature profile ( $t=0.1, z=0.5$ )

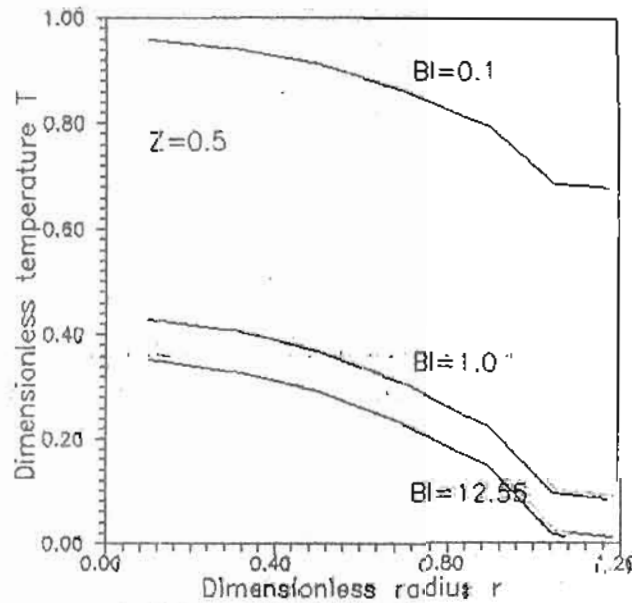


Fig.(5) Effect of Biot number on radial temperature profile ( $t=2.0$ )

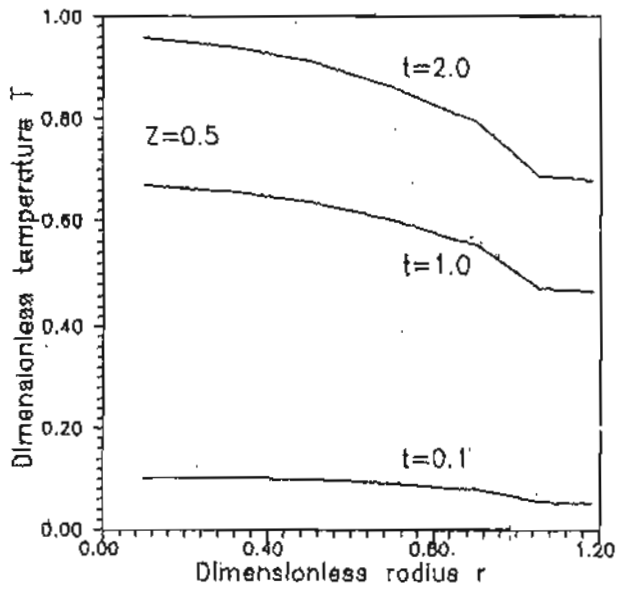


Fig.(6) Time development of radial temperature profile (BI=0.1)

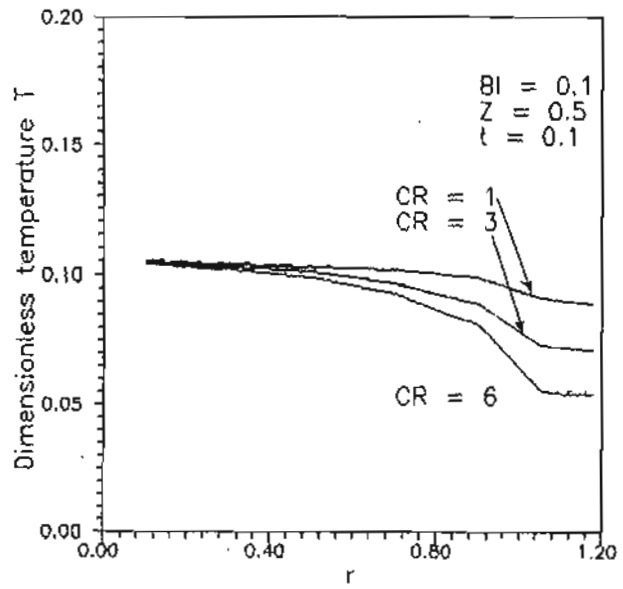


Fig.(7) Effect of conductivity ratio on temperature profile

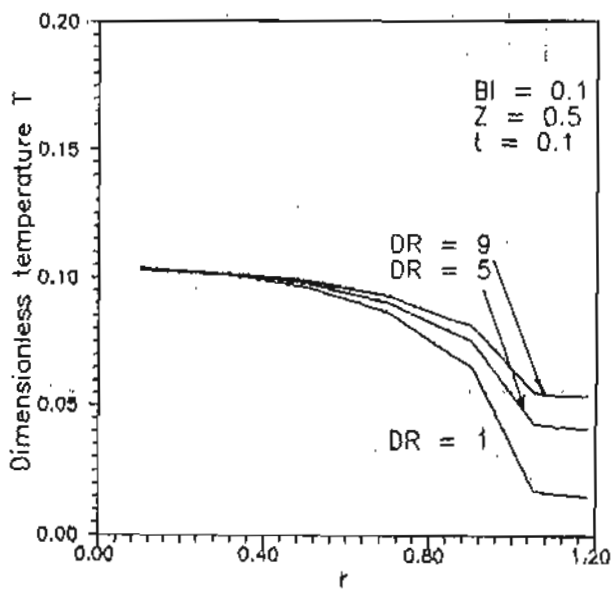


Fig.(8) Effect of diffusivity ratio on temperature profile

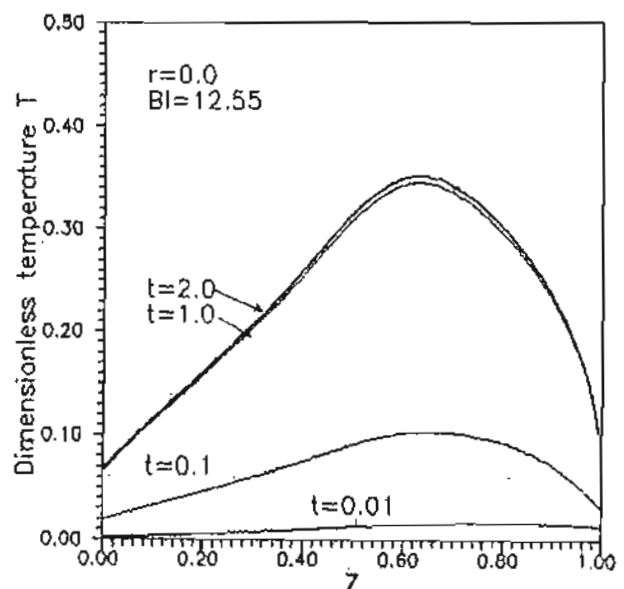


Fig.(9) Time development of axial temperature profile

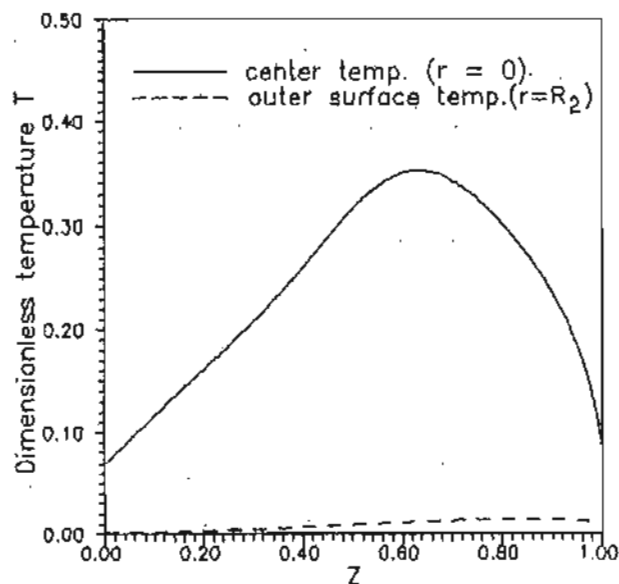


Fig.(10) Axial temperature distribution  
( $t = 2.0$ ,  $Bi = 12.55$ )

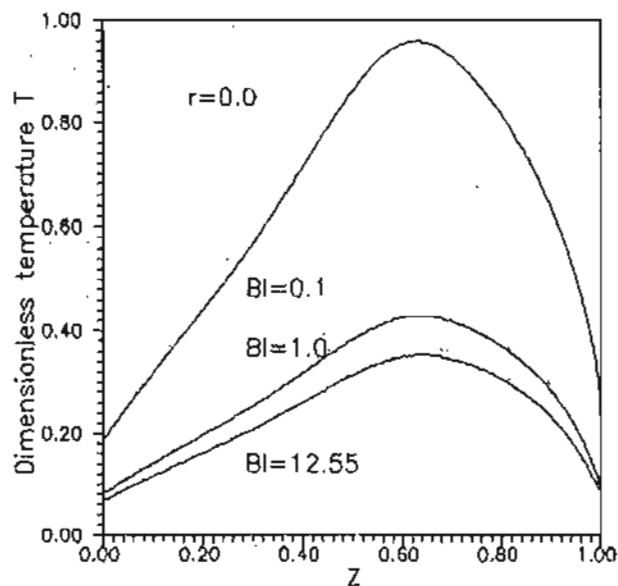


Fig.(11) Effect of Biot number on  
axial temperature profile ( $t = 2.0$ )

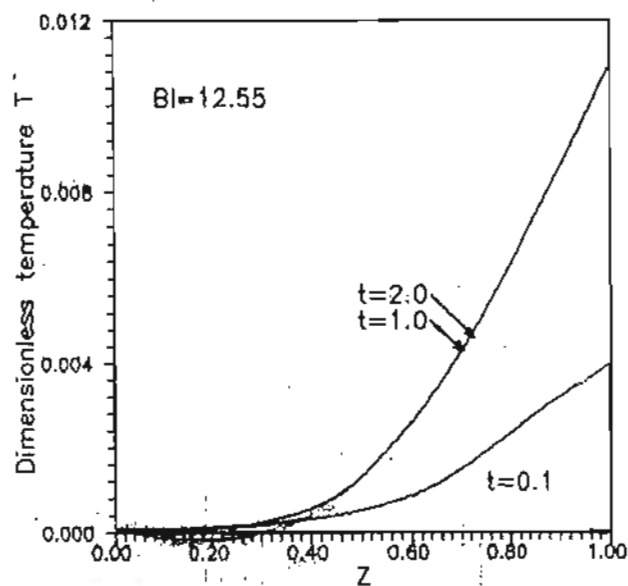


Fig.(12) Time development of temperature  
profile of the cooling fluid



APPENDIX

Steady-state analytical solution of the 1-D heat conduction in composite cylinder with internal heat generation

Thermal and hydraulic specifications of a KWU 1300 MWe PWR [13]

Heat generation rate at  $z = L/2$  is  $q_c'' = 4.7 \times 10^8 \text{ W/m}^2$ ,

Inlet temperature  $T_{in}^* = 291 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ,

Mass flow rate  $m = 332 \times 10^{-3} \text{ Kg/s}$ ,

Specific heat of coolant  $c_p = 5.5 \text{ KJ/Kg.K}$ ,

Fuel is  $\text{UO}_2$ ,

$k_1 = 2.5 \text{ W/m.K}$ ,  $\alpha_1 = 8.28 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $R_1 = 4.025 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$ ,

Cladding is Zircaloy-4,

$k_2 = 15.13 \text{ W/m.K}$ ,  $\alpha_2 = 7.538 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ ,

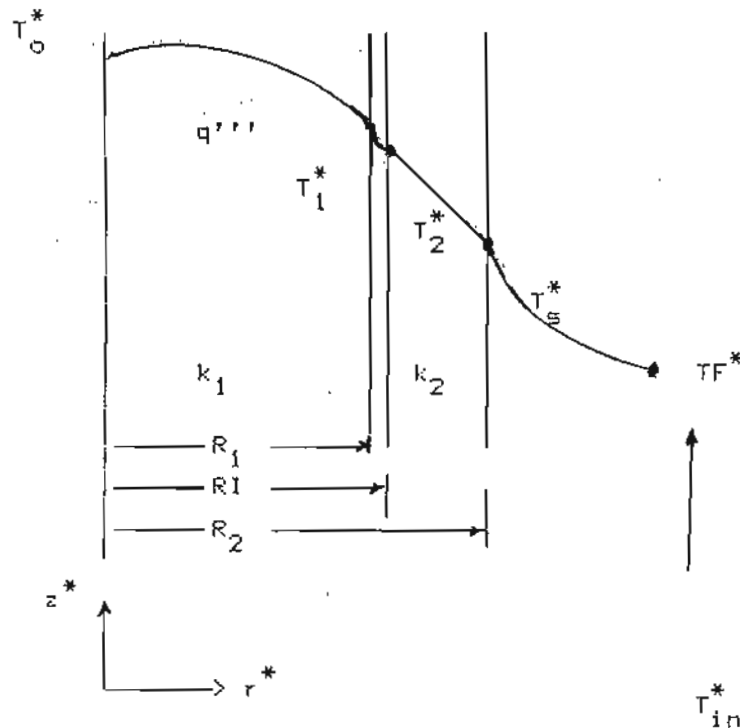
$R_1 = 4.11 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$ ,  $R_2 = 4.75 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$ ,

Fuel rod active height  $L = 3.9 \text{ m}$ ,

Heat transfer coefficient in the gas gap  $h_g = 4000 \text{ W/m}^2$ ,

The heat transfer coefficient along the cooling channel  $h = 40000 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$  as calculated using following Sieder-Tate correlation [5,11]

$$Nu = 0.023 Re^{0.8} Pr^{0.4} \left( \frac{\mu_w}{\mu} \right)^{0.14}$$



Considering the composite cylindrical system described in the above figure, under steady-state condition the centerline temperature  $T_o^*$  is given by:

$$T_o^* - TF^* = (q'''R_1^2/4k_1) + (q'''R_1/2h_g) + \frac{q'''R_1^2}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{k_2} \text{LN}(R_2/RI) + \frac{1}{h R_2} \right] \quad (1)$$

where  $q''' = q_c''' \sin(\pi z/L)$  (2)

Substituting for values of  $q_c'''$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $RI$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ ,  $h_g$ , and  $h$ , we get

$$T_o^* - TF^* = 2.2433 \times 10^{-6} q''' = 1054 \text{ degree} \quad (3)$$

To determine  $TF^*$  consider the relation:

$$TF^* - T_{in}^* = \frac{L R_1^2 q_c'''}{m c p} \left[ 1 - \cos(\pi z/L) \right] \quad (4)$$

At  $z = L/2$ , we get  $TF^* - T_{in}^* = 20 \text{ degree}$  (5)

From Eqs.3 and 5, we get  $T_o^* = 1074 + T_{in}^* \text{ degree}$  (6)