

Corso di Laurea in Fisica - UNITS  
ISTITUZIONI DI FISICA  
PER IL SISTEMA TERRA

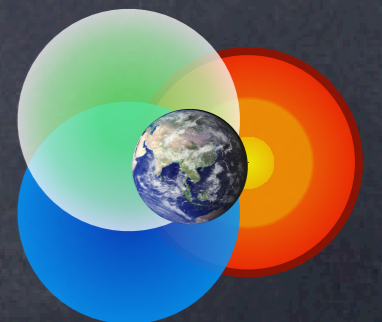
# Continuity and Transport equations

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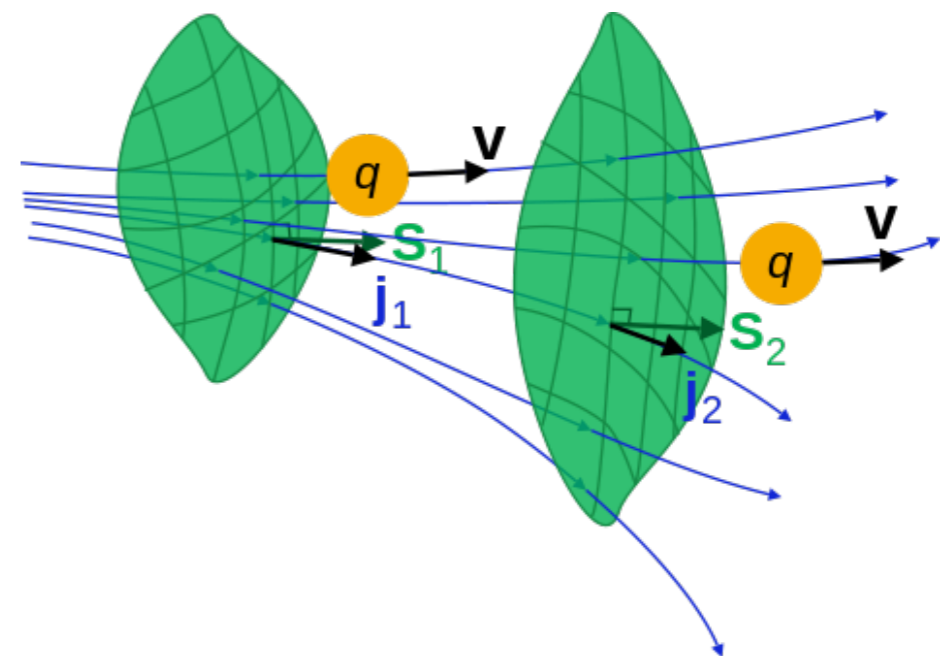
# Continuity Equation - FD

- General differential form:  $\rho$  is the density of a quantity  $q$ ,  $\mathbf{j}$  is the flux of  $q$ ,  $\sigma$  is the generation of  $q$  per unit volume per unit time

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\mathbf{j}) = \sigma$$

- In fluid dynamics, the continuity equation states that, in any steady state process, the rate at which mass enters a system is equal to the rate at which mass leaves the system:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \mathbf{V}) = 0$$



# Summary of Heat transfer Process

Difference in term of	Way of heat transfer		
	Conduction	Convection	Radiation
<b>How is heat transferred</b>	Heat flow from vibration (solid)/ collision (liquid & gas) between molecules due to temperature difference.	Heat is carried by molecules that move, following the convection current due to temperature difference (density)	Heat is transferred in the form of electromagnetic waves
<b>Medium</b>	Solids & fluids(static)	Liquids or gases	Does not need a medium (vacuum)
<b>Law involved in the heat transfer process</b>	Fourier's law of heat conduction	Newton's law of cooling	Stefan-Boltzmann & Kirchhoff's laws

# Continuity and Heat Equation

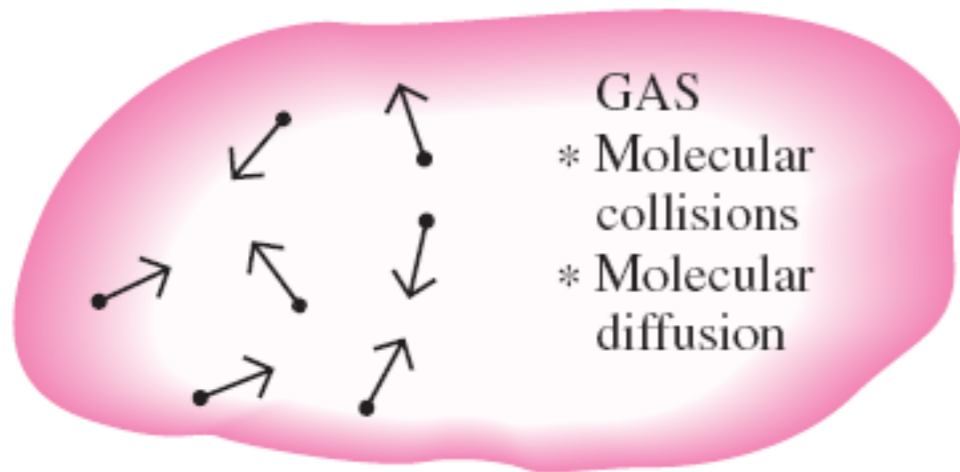
- Conservation of energy says that energy cannot be created or destroyed: there is a continuity equation for **energy**  $U$ , is heat per unit volume, and its flow:

$$U = \rho C_p T$$

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\mathbf{Q}) = 0$$

- When heat flows inside a medium, the continuity equation can be combined with **Fourier's law**, where  $k$  is thermal **conductivity** (W/(m K))

$$\mathbf{Q} = -k \text{ grad}(T)$$

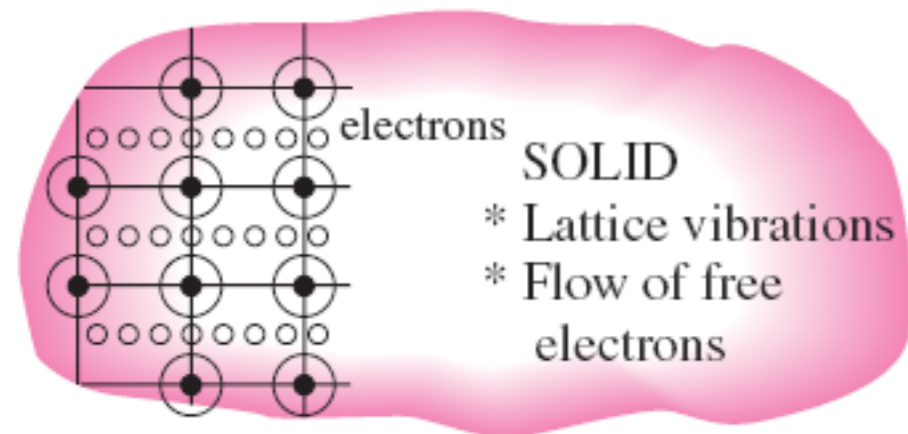


The thermal conductivity of an alloy is usually much lower than the thermal conductivity of either metal of which it is composed

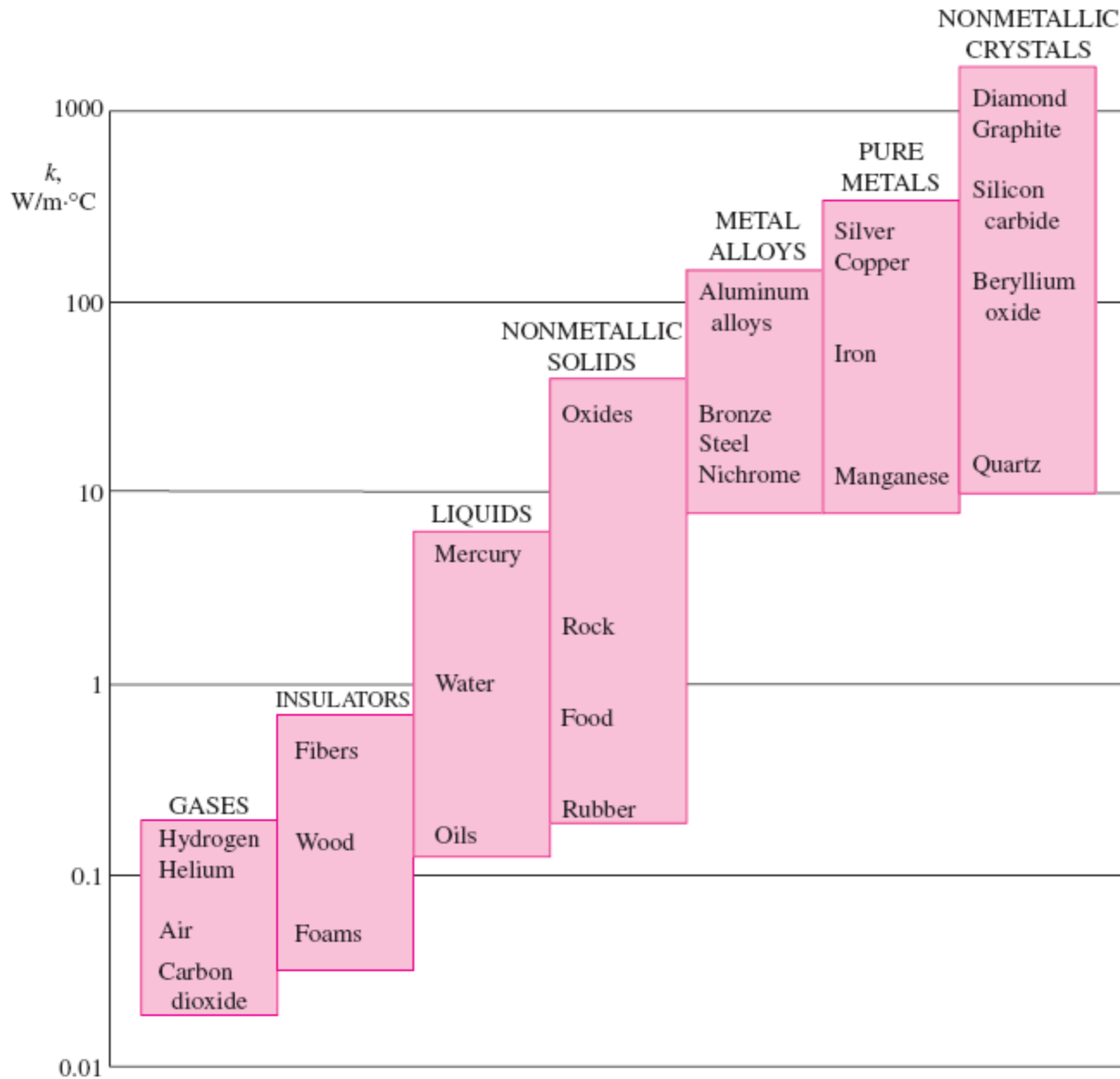
Pure metal or alloy	$k$ , W/m · °C, at 300 K
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Copper	401
Nickel	91
<i>Constantan</i> (55% Cu, 45% Ni)	23

Copper	401
Aluminum	237
<i>Commercial bronze</i> (90% Cu, 10% Al)	52



The mechanisms of heat conduction in different phases of a substance.



The range of thermal conductivity of various materials at room temperature.

# Continuity and Heat Equation

● When heat flows inside a solid, the continuity equation can be combined with Fourier's law to arrive at the heat equation, defining  $\alpha$  (m<sup>2</sup>/s) the heat **diffusivity**:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \frac{k}{\rho C_p} \Delta(T) = \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \alpha \Delta(T) = 0$$

● The equation of heat flow may also have source terms: Although energy cannot be created or destroyed, heat can be created from other types of energy, for example via friction or joule heating:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \alpha \Delta(T) = \sigma$$

# Transport Equation

- The **convection**–diffusion equation is a combination of the diffusion and advection equations, and describes physical phenomena where particles, energy, or other physical quantities are transferred inside a physical system due to two processes: **advection** and **diffusion**.

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\mathbf{j} - D \text{grad}(\rho)) = \sigma$$

- It can be derived in a straightforward way from the continuity equation, which states that the rate of change for a scalar quantity in a differential control volume is given by **flow** and **diffusion** into and out of that part of the system along with any generation or consumption inside the control volume



# Continuity and Moment Equation

● Other than advecting momentum, the only other way to change the momentum in our representative volume is to exert forces on it. These forces come in two flavors: stress that acts on the surface of the volume (**flux of force**) and body forces (acting as a **source of momentum**):

$$\frac{\partial(\rho V)}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho V V) = \text{div}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \text{grad}(\rho\phi)$$

or

$$\rho \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \rho(V \cdot \text{grad})V = \text{div}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \rho \mathbf{g}$$

# Navier-Stokes & Transport equations

- Coupled description, necessary for studies of convection inside the Earth at long time scales:

$$\rho \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \rho (V \cdot \text{grad}) V = \eta \Delta V - \text{grad}(P) - \rho g \alpha T$$

- **advective inertial term**
- **diffusion like viscosity term**
- **buoyancy gravity term**

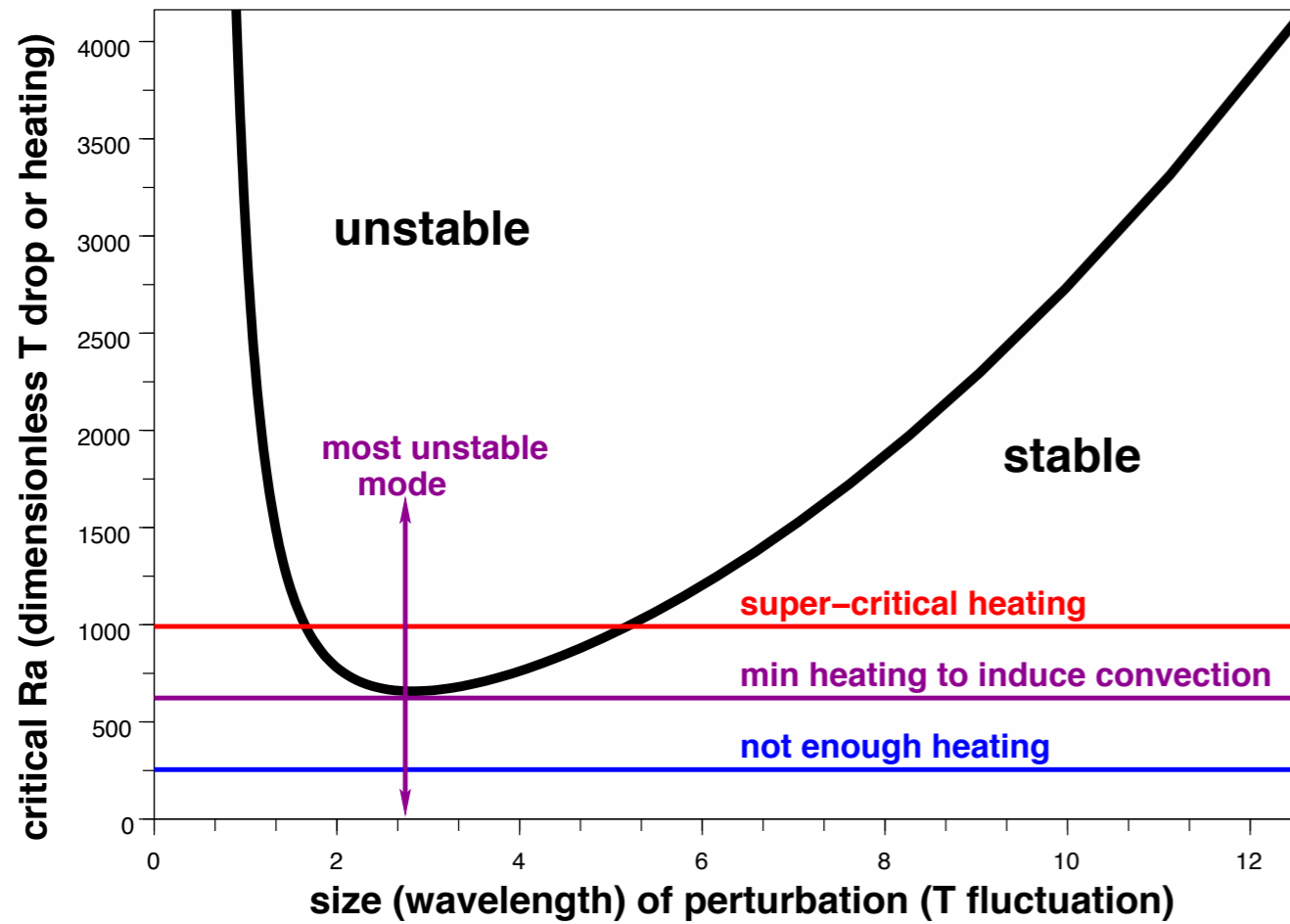
$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \alpha \Delta(T) - \text{div}(VT) + \frac{H}{C_p}$$

- **conductive term**
- **advective term**
- **internal heating term**

when the mass density difference is caused by temperature difference, **Rayleigh number** (Ra) is, the ratio of the time scale for diffusive thermal transport to the time scale for convective thermal transport

$$\text{Ra} = \frac{\Delta \rho l^3 g}{\eta \alpha}$$

# Convection in the Mantle



Values of  $Ra$  above the  $Ra_c$  curve are associated with the conductive layer being convectively unstable (perturbations grow), while below the curve the layer is stable (perturbations decay). The minimum in the  $Ra_c$  curve occurs at the wavelength of the first perturbation to go unstable as heating and  $Ra$  is increased, often called the most unstable mode.

