

**Enrico Nobile**

*Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura  
Università degli Studi di Trieste*

*Corso di Termofluidodinamica Computazionale*

**Homework No. 2  
AA 2021/2022**



April 2022



## Proposed problem

1. Following *Homework 1 - AA. 2021-22*, first case, consider a cylindrical (pin) fin, as shown in figure 1, which is made with a uniform, isotropic material with a thermal conductivity value of  $k = 40 \text{ W/(m K)}$ . The fin has a length  $L = 40 \text{ mm}$  and a diameter  $d = 4 \text{ mm}$ . The fin is cooled only by convection with a convective heat transfer coefficient  $h = 400 \text{ W/(m}^2 \text{ K)}$ , and the temperature of the surrounding fluid is  $T_\infty = 25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . The temperature of the base of the fin is maintained at a temperature  $T_b = 200 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , while also the tip of the fin contributes, with the same heat transfer coefficient, to the overall heat flux.

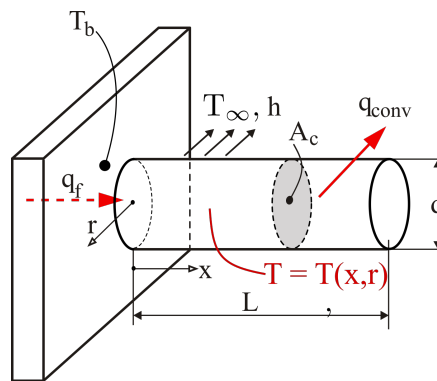


Figure 1: Axisymmetrical cylindrical (pin) fin.

In this case, disregard the usual assumption of 1D temperature distribution (see [1, 2]), i.e.

$$T \approx T(x)$$

and consider a full 2D, *axisymmetric* temperature distribution [1, 2]:<sup>1</sup>

$$T = T(x, r)$$

Using the MATLAB *PDE Toolbox*, develop a 2D axisymmetric steady numerical model for the fin and, using an *adequate* number of finite elements, compute the heat flux  $q_{num2D}$  [W]. Compare the result with that obtained with the 1D model of *Homework 1*. What is the % error using the 1D assumption? Plot a contour map of the temperature field.

<sup>1</sup>The general heat (conduction) equation for an isotropic material in cylindrical coordinates is

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( kr \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( k \frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( k \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) + \dot{q}_g = \rho c_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial \tau}$$

which, under the assumption of steady, 2D axisymmetric temperature field with no heat generation, reduces to

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( kr \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( k \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) = 0$$

2. Repeat the same analysis for the second case of *Homework 1*, e.g. fin length  $L = 40$  mm and diameter  $d = 20$  mm, and again compare the result with that from the 1D model. What is the % error using the 1D assumption in this second case? Is it lower or higher? Why?  
Plot a contour map of the temperature field.

## References

- [1] G. Comini, G. Cortella, *Fondamenti di trasmissione del calore*, 4a Ed., S.G.E. Editore, (2013).
- [2] F. P. Incropera, D. P. Dewitt, T. L. Bergman, A. S. Lavine, *Fundamentals of Heat and Mass Transfer*, 6th Ed., Wiley, (2007).