

Exact Solution for Transient Heat Conduction through Long Fin

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Abstract

This work emphasizes on the analysis of transient heat conduction through fins. The exact local and mean temperature distribution had been generated by numerical technique methods. Exact solutions are given for the transient temperature influx-base fins with the method of Green's functions (GF) in the form of infinite series for three different tip conditions. The time of convergence is improved by replacing the series part. For the long fin case, exact fin solution is presented in graphical forms. Programmed solutions are determined for analysis of exact fin theory. Dimensionless temperature distribution is also presented for exact fin theory.

Keywords: Fin, Transient Conduction, Extended Surface, Exact Solution

Nomenclatures

A_h	surface area of fin for convection (m^2)
α	thermal diffusivity (m^2s^{-1})
Bi	Biot number, $h_i (V/A_h)/K$
β_n	eigen value [eq. (1)]
B_2	Biot number, hL/k
θ	dimensionless temperature
G	Green's function
ξ, X	dimensionless x-coordinate
h	heat transfer coefficient ($W m^{-2}K^{-1}$)

τ, dt	dimensionless time
k	thermal conductivity ($\text{W m}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$)
L	length of fin (m)
N_n	norm [eq. (1)] (m)
m	fin parameter, (m^{-1})
M	dimensionless fin parameter = mL
q_o	heat flux (W m^{-2})
Q	input heat (W)
T	temperature (K)
t	time (s)
V	fin volume (m^3)

1. Introduction

Fins are the extended surfaces used for enhancing the dissipation of heat transfer rate. The transient response of fins is important in a wide range of engineering devices, automobiles and industrial sectors. Work under steady state conduction had been carried out extensively. Transient heat conduction analysis for the fins is being considered for simplifying heat transfer queries. Transient Closed form solutions had been derived earlier by various researchers.

Chapman [1] studied the transient behavior of an annular fin of uniform thickness subjected to a sudden step change in the base temperature. Donaldson and Shouman [2] studied the transient temperature distribution in a convecting straight fin of constant area for two distinct cases, namely, a step change in base temperature, and a step change in base heat flow rate. Suryanarayana [3,4] studied the transient response of straight fins of constant cross-sectional area. However, rather than using the separation of variables technique followed by [2], Mao and Rooke [5] used the Laplace transform method to study straight fins with three different transients: a step change in base temperature; a step change in base heat flux and a step change in fluid temperature. Transient fins of constant cross-section have also been studied with the method of Green's functions [6], a flexible and powerful approach that is applicable to any combination of end conditions on the fin. Kim [7] developed an approximate solution to the transient heat transfer in straight fins of constant cross-sectional area and constant physical and thermal properties. Aziz and Na [8] considered the transient response of a semi-infinite fin of uniform thickness, initially at the ambient temperature, subjected to a step change in temperature at its base, with fin cooling governed by a power-law type dependence on temperature difference. Aziz and Kraus [9] present a variety of analytical results for transient fins, developed by separation of variable and Laplace transform techniques.

Campo and Salazar [10] explored the analogy between the transient conduction in a planar slab for short times and the steady state conduction in a straight fin of uniform cross-section. Saha and Acharya [11] given a detailed parametric analysis of the unsteady three-dimensional flow and heat transfer in a pin-fin heat exchanger. Several numerical studies of transient fins combined with complicating factors, such as natural convection [12, 13], spatial arrays of fins [14, 15] and phase change materials [16] have been presented. Mutlu and Al-Shemmeri [17] studied a longitudinal array of straight fins suddenly heated at the base. The instantaneous heat transfer coefficient was found at one point on the fin as a ratio of the measured temperature to the measured heat flux.

Present article deals with exact temperature distribution of transient heat conduction through fins.

2. Governing Equations for Transient Conduction of Fins

Efficient solutions for the transient heat transfer in flux-base long fins are presented for the three different tip conditions and improvement of convergence of the series solutions. Representation of dimensionless exact fin solution for long fin is also given.

General expression for the transient heat transfer through flux base fins for the three different tip conditions is given by [18].

$$T(x, t) - T_e = \frac{q_0 L}{k N_0} \frac{(1 - e^{-m^2 a t})}{m^2 L^2} + \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{L}{N_n} \frac{\cos(\beta_n x / L)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \times [1 - \exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) a t / L^2]] \quad (1)$$

Table 1 shows the Eigen values for three different tip conditions.

Table 1. Eigen values for three different tip conditions

Case	$\frac{L}{N_n}$	β_n Or Eigen condition
X21	2	$(n - 1/2)\pi$
X22	$2; n \neq 0$ $1; n = 0$	$n\pi$
X23	$\frac{2(\beta_n^2 + B_2^2)}{(\beta_n^2 + B_2^2 + B_2)}$	$\beta_n \tan(\beta_n) = B_2$

For the temperature-end condition,

$$T(x, t) - T_e = 2 \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(\beta_n x / L)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \times [1 - \exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) a t / L^2]] \quad (2)$$

Where $\beta_n = (n - 1/2)\pi$

For the insulated end condition,

$$T(x, t) - T_e = \frac{q_0 L}{k} \frac{(1 - e^{-m^2 \alpha t})}{m^2 L^2} + 2 \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(\beta_n x/L)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \times [1 - \exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) \alpha t / L^2]] \quad (3)$$

Where $\beta_n = n\pi$

For convective end condition,

$$T(x, t) - T_e = 2 \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\beta_n^2 + B_2^2}{\beta_n^2 + B_2^2 + B_2} \right) \frac{\cos(\beta_n x/L)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \times [1 - \exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) \alpha t / L^2]] \quad (4)$$

Where β satisfies $\beta_n \tan \beta_n = B_2$ & $B_2 = h_2 L / k$.

For the improvement in series convergence of steady part, infinite series expression is being transformed into finite non series expression with the help of Green's function.

Using the method of Green's functions, the steady-fin temperature has the form [19].

$$T(x) - T_e = \frac{q_0}{k} G_{X2J}(x, x' = 0) \quad (5)$$

Green's function G_{X2J} for the steady-fin is given by [24].

$$G_{X2J}(x, x') = \frac{R(e^{-m(2L-|x-x'|)} + e^{-m(2L-x-x')})}{D} + (e^{-m|x-x'|} + e^{-m(x+x')})/D \quad (6)$$

Where $D = 2m(1 - R.e^{-2mL})$

Coefficient R is determined by the tip condition:

$$R = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{type1 at } x = L \\ 1 & \text{type2 at } x = L \\ \frac{mL - B_2}{mL + B_2} & \text{type3 at } x = L \end{cases}$$

Where $B_2 = h_2 L / k$.

The Green's function may be evaluated at $x=0$ and substituted into Eq.(5) to give:

$$T(x) - T_e = \frac{q_0 L}{k} \frac{(R.e^{-m(2L-x)} + e^{-mx})}{mL(1 - R.e^{-2mL})} \quad (7)$$

The closed-form steady solutions given by Eq.(7) is used in the transient-fin solutions to replace the slow converging series by replacing the *series steady term* with *non series steady term*. The improved-convergenceform of the transient temperature in flux-base fins are given by:

For the temperature tip condition,

$$T(x, t) - T_e = \frac{q_0 L}{k} \frac{(e^{-mx} - e^{-m(2L-x)})}{mL(1 - e^{-2mL})} - 2 \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(\beta_n x/L)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \times [\exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) \alpha t / L^2]] \quad (8)$$

Where $\beta_n = (n-1/2)\pi$

For the insulated end condition,

$$T(x, t) - T_e = \frac{q_0 L}{k} \frac{(e^{-m(2L-x)} + e^{-mx})}{mL(1 - e^{-2mL})} - \frac{q_0 L}{k} \frac{e^{-m^2 \alpha t}}{m^2 L^2} - 2 \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\beta_n x}{L}\right)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \times \left[\exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) \alpha t / L^2] \right] \quad (9)$$

Where $\beta_n = n\pi$

For convective tip condition,

$$T(x, t) - T_e = \frac{q_0 L}{k} \frac{\left(\frac{mL - B_2}{mL + B_2} e^{-m(2L-x)} + e^{-mx}\right)}{mL \left(1 - \frac{mL - B_2}{mL + B_2} e^{-2mL}\right)} - 2 \frac{q_0 L}{k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\beta_n x}{L}\right)}{m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2} \left(\frac{\beta_n^2 + B_2^2}{\beta_n^2 + B_2^2 + B_2}\right) \times \left[\exp[-(m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2) \alpha t / L^2] \right] \quad (10)$$

Where β satisfies $\beta_n \tan \beta_n = B_2$ & $B_2 = h_2 L / k$

It is instructive to examine above three temperature solutions as a group, contains a steady term and a transient series term. However, the insulated-tip solution uniquely contains an additional a non-series transient term.

Dimensionless Exact Fin Solution for Long Fin

The exact temperature expression for long fin case contains two terms: a series steady term and a series transient term. The series contains an exponential factor with argument $m^2 L^2 + \beta_n^2$. By comparing these arguments, it is clear that as time increases the series term will decay more rapidly.

The numerical results are presented with the following dimensionless variables:

$$\theta = \frac{T - T_e}{q_0 L / k} \xi = X = x / L \tau = dt = \alpha t / L^2 M = \sqrt{Bi} \left(\frac{L}{V / A_h} \right) Bi = \frac{h(V / A_h)}{k} \quad (11)$$

Where

θ = dimensionless temperature

ξ = dimensionless location

τ = dimensionless time

M = fin parameter

Bi = biot number

The dimensionless exact fin temperature for long fin is given by:

$$\theta = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos\left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \pi \xi}{M^2 + \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \pi^2} \times \left[1 - \exp[-(M^2 + (n - 1/2)^2 \pi^2) \tau] \right] \quad (12)$$

3. Result and Discussions

Graphical results for the exact fin theory are as follows. Fig. 3.1 to 3.3 shows

the temperature distribution curve for exact fin theory, taking $M = 0.2$ & $\tau = 0, 0.5$ & 1 . Curve does not change much for large dimensionless time when M is small. Temperature decreases when location changes from zero to one. Base temperature increases as the time increases.

Fig 3.4 to 3.6 shows the temperature distribution curve for exact fin theory, taking $M = 1$ & $\tau = 0, 0.5$ & 1 . Curve shows that the base temperature increases with increase in time. For low value of M temperature distribution curve remains same.

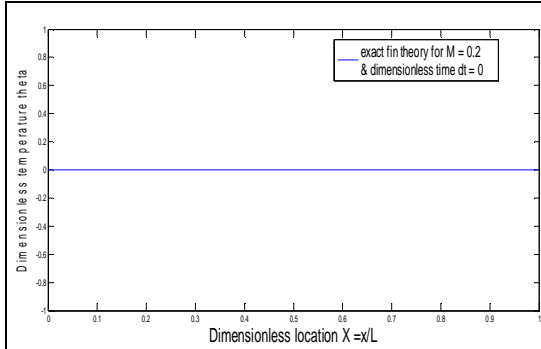


Fig.3.1 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 0.2$ & dimensionless time $dt = 0$

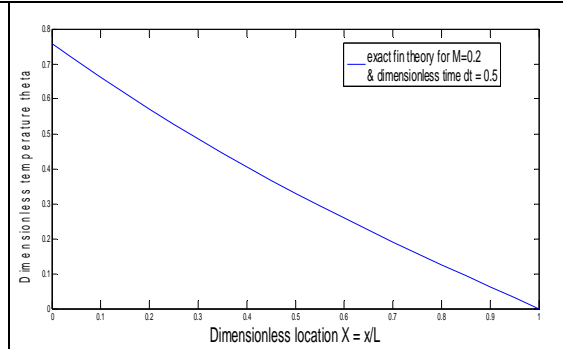


Fig.3.2 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 0.2$ & dimensionless time $dt = 0.5$

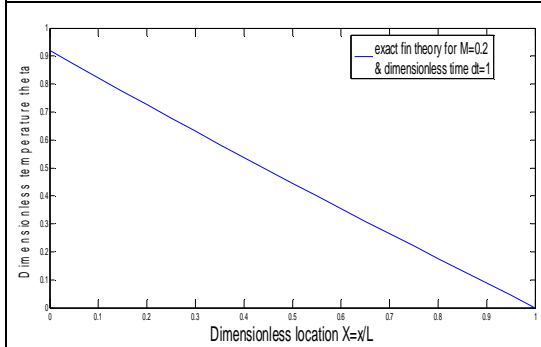


Fig.3.3 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 0.2$ & dimensionless time $dt = 1$

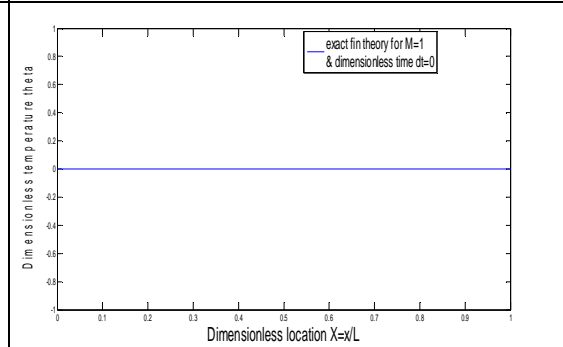


Fig.3.4 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 1$ & dimensionless time $dt = 0$

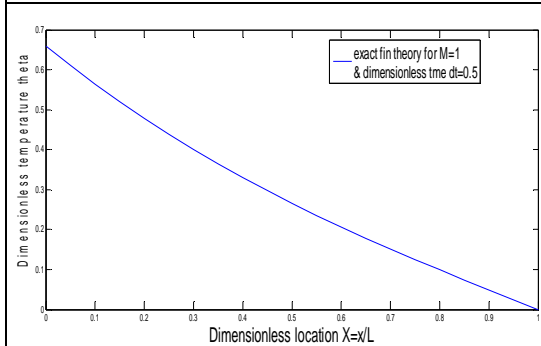


Fig.3.5 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 1$ & dimensionless time $dt = 0.5$

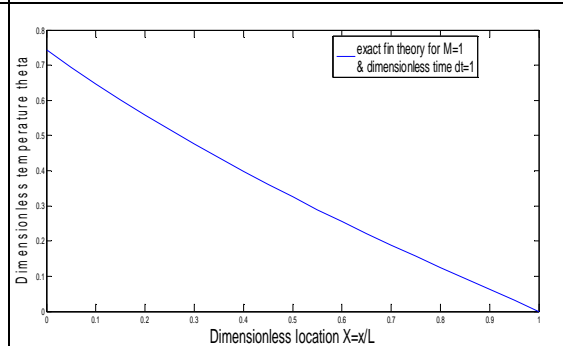


Fig.3.6 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 1$ & dimensionless time $dt = 1$

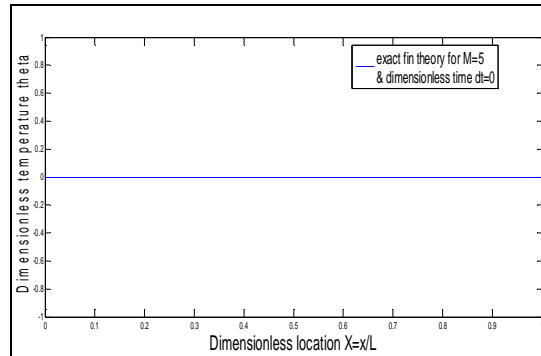


Fig.3.7 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 5$ & dimensionless time $dt = 0$

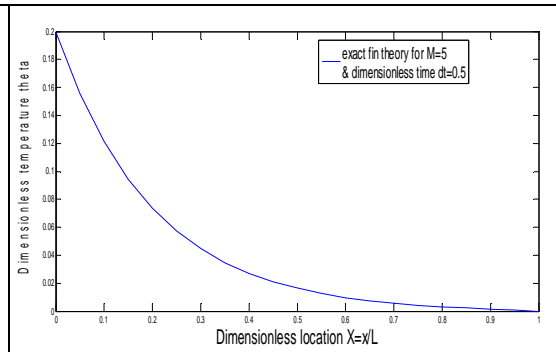


Fig.3.8 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 5$ & dimensionless time $dt = 0.5$

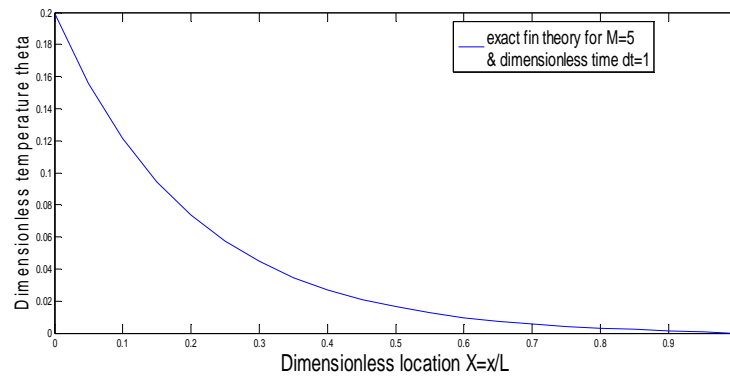


Fig.3.9 Temperature history of exact fin theory for $M = 5$ & dimensionless time $dt = 1$

Fig. 3.7 to 3.9 shows the temperature distribution curve for exact fin theory, taking $M = 5$ & $\tau = 0, 0.5$ & 1 . Curve attains steady state for large value of M . Curve does not change much for large dimensionless time.

For the exact fin theory, temperature was computed in the range as: $[0 < x=L < 1$ and $0 < \alpha t/L^2 < 1]$ for fin parameter values $M = 0.2, 1.0$ and 5 . This program was coded in Matlab.

4. Conclusion

The temperature distribution for long fin has been taken into account for exact fin theory. Following are the conclusions.

Complicated exact transient solutions can be simplified for temperature distribution analysis through Greens function method.

Convergence of the solution can be improved by replacing the series steady term with non- series finite steady term.

A unique solution is produced containing non dimensionless parameter for long fin case.

Larger value of M increases the transient response of fin.

The exact fin model can be a simple way to find temperature distribution associated with heat loss.

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