
***Dissipation and
The Thermal Energy Domain Part I***

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***(with thanks to SDS)**

Outline

- > **Thermal energy domain: why we love it and why we hate it**
- > **Dissipative processes**
 - **Example: Charging a capacitor through a resistor**
- > **The Thermal Energy Domain**
 - **Governing equations**
- > **Equivalent-circuit elements & the electrothermal transducer**
- > **Modeling the bolometer**

Thermal MEMS

- > Everything is affected by temperature**
- > Therefore, anything can be detected or measured or actuated via the thermal domain**
- > Sometimes this is good...**

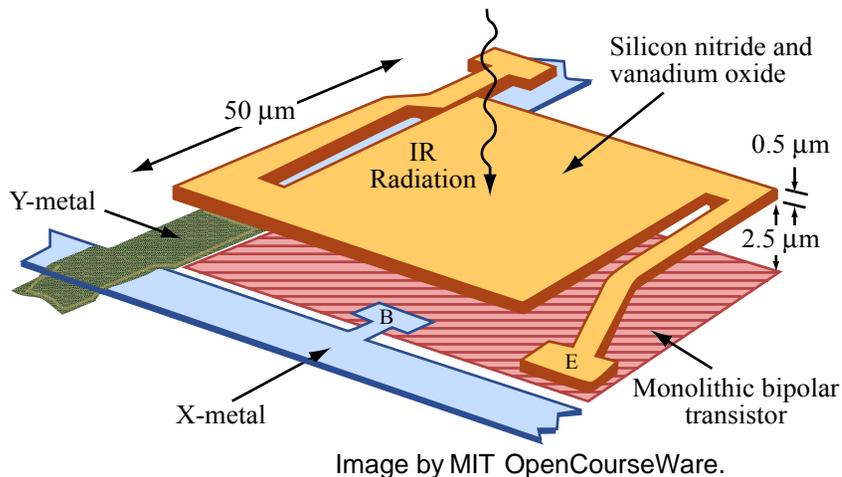
MEMS Imagers

- > A bolometer heats up due to incoming radiation
- > This results in a temperature change that changes the resistance across the pixel

Poor residual stress control

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Figure 1 on p. 55 in: Leonov, V. N., N. A. Perova, P. De Moor, B. Du Bois, C. Goessens, B. Grietens, A. Verbist, C. A. Van Hoof, and J. P. Vermeiren. "Micromachined Poly-SiGe Bolometer Arrays for Infrared Imaging and Spectroscopy." *Proceedings of SPIE Int Soc Opt Eng* 4945 (2003): 54-63.



Honeywell

Better design...

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Figure 2 on p. 56 in: Leonov, V. N., N. A. Perova, P. De Moor, B. Du Bois, C. Goessens, B. Grietens, A. Verbist, C. A. Van Hoof, and J. P. Vermeiren. "Micromachined Poly-SiGe Bolometer Arrays for Infrared Imaging and Spectroscopy." *Proceedings of SPIE Int Soc Opt Eng* 4945 (2003): 54-63.

MEMS Imagers

> This application illustrates key features of thermal MEMS

- **Excellent thermal isolation creates excellent sensitivity**
 - » **Response is proportional to thermal resistance**
- **Low thermal mass creates fast response time**
 - » **Response time is proportional to thermal capacitance**
- **Easy integration with sense electronics**

Thermal flow sensing

- > A time-of-flight flowrate sensor
- > One resistor creates a heat pulse
- > A downstream resistor acts as a temperature sensor
- > Time for heat pulse to drift downstream is inversely related to flowrate
- > This example illustrates the important benefit of MEMS materials
 - Large range in thermal conductivities
 - From vacuum (~ 0) to metal (~ 100 's W/m-K)

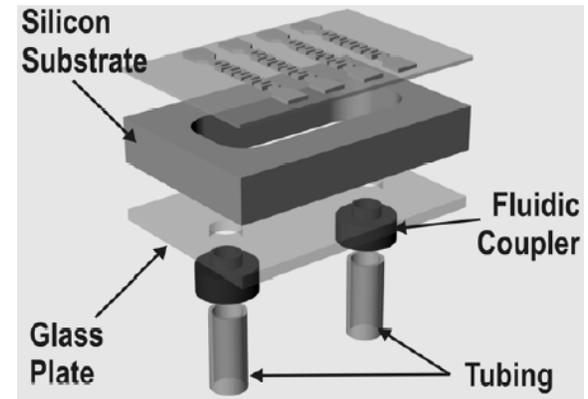


Figure 1 on p. 686 in: Meng, E., and Y.-C. Tai. "A Parylene MEMS Flow Sensing Array." *Technical Digest of Transducers'03: The 12th International Conference on Solid-State Sensors, Actuators, and Microsystems, Boston, June 9-12, 2003*. Vol. 1. Piscataway, NJ: IEEE Electron Devices Society, 2003, pp. 686-689. ISBN: 9780780377318. © 2003 IEEE.

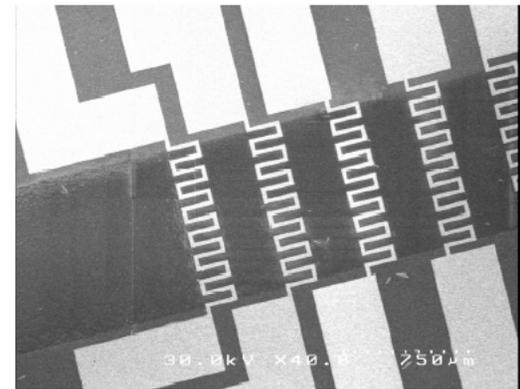


Figure 3 on p. 687 in: Meng, E., and Y.-C. Tai. "A Parylene MEMS Flow Sensing Array." *Technical Digest of Transducers'03: The 12th International Conference on Solid-State Sensors, Actuators, and Microsystems, Boston, June 9-12, 2003*. Vol. 1. Piscataway, NJ: IEEE Electron Devices Society, 2003, pp. 686-689. ISBN: 9780780377318. © 2003 IEEE.

MEMS flow sensing: commercial

- > OMRON flow sensor uses measures temperature distribution around a heat source
- > Convection alters temperature profile in a predictable fashion

Image removed due to copyright restrictions. OMRON flow sensor.

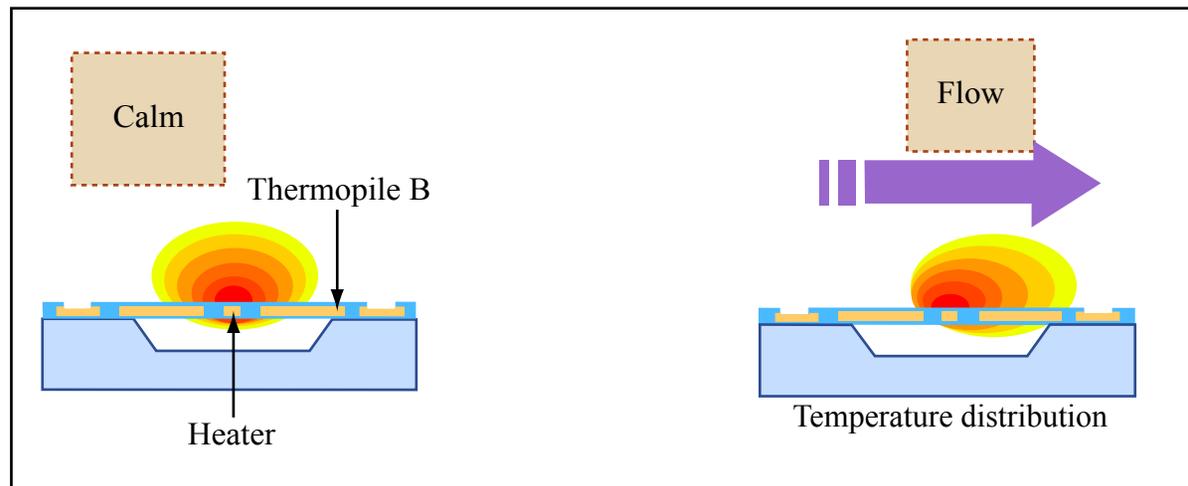


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The Thermal Domain

> Sometimes this is bad...

> Reason #1

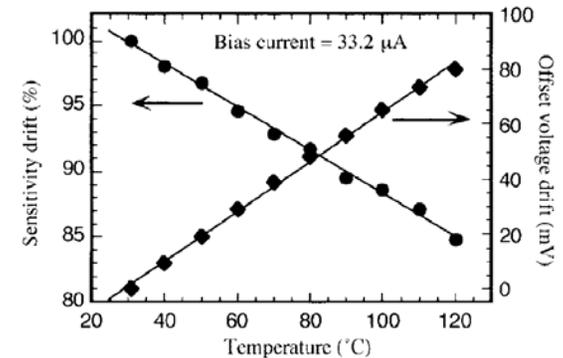
- Everything is a temperature sensor
- Evaluation of MEMS devices over temperature is often critical to success

> Reason #2

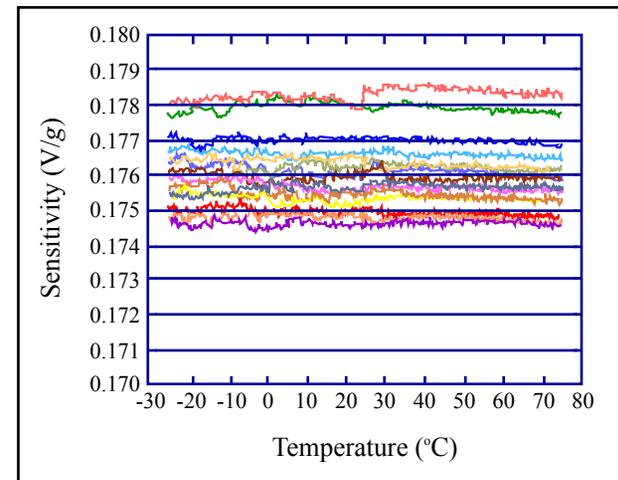
- As we will see, we can never transfer energy between domains perfectly
- The “extra” energy goes into the thermal domain (e.g., heat)
- We can never totally recover that heat energy

ADI ADXL320

Academic



Commercial



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Charging a capacitor

- > **We will transfer energy from a power supply to a capacitor**
- > **Ideally, all energy delivered from supply goes to capacitor**
- > **In actuality, there is ALWAYS dissipation**
 - **And this is true for ALL domains**
- > **Thus, we will lose some energy**

Example: Charging a Capacitor

- > Use step input
- > Voltage source must supply twice the amount of energy as goes into the capacitor
- > One half the energy is dissipated in the resistor, independent of the value of R !

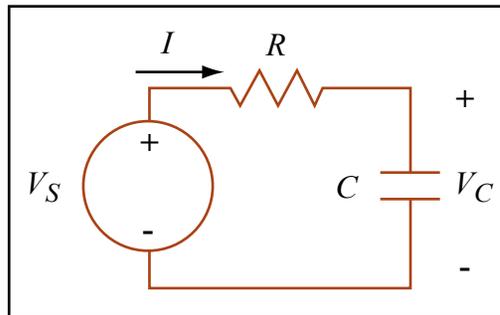
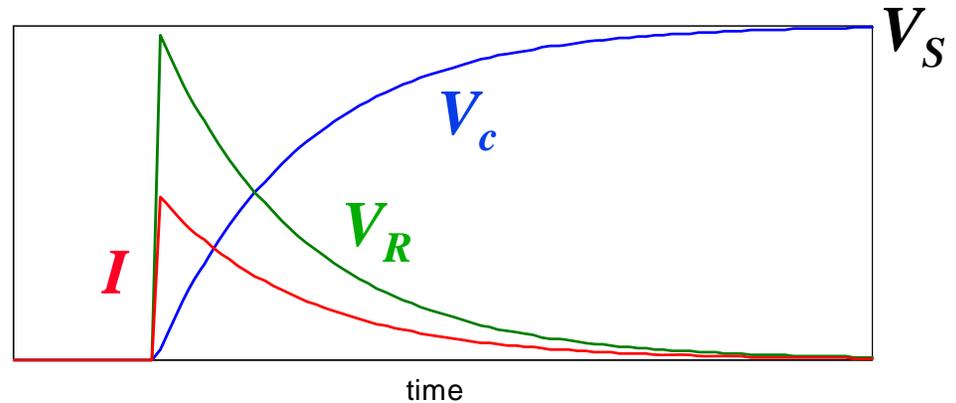


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$$V_C = V_S (1 - e^{-t/RC})$$
$$I = C \frac{dV_C}{dt} = \frac{V_S}{R} e^{-t/RC}$$

Energy stored in capacitor: $W_C = \frac{1}{2} CV_S^2$

Energy delivered by power supply:

$$P_S(t) = IV_S = \frac{V_S^2}{R} e^{-t/RC}$$

$$W_S = \int_0^{\infty} P_S dt = CV_S^2$$

Power Considerations: Joule Heating

> The extra energy is lost to Joule heating in the resistor

$$P_R = IV_R = I^2R = \frac{V_R^2}{R}$$

For normal "positive" resistors

$$P_R \geq 0$$

> **Globally**, the power entering a resistor is given by the IV product.

This means

[]/m³


$$\dot{P}_R^0 = J_e \mathbf{E} = \sigma_e \mathbf{E}^2$$

For normal positive conductivity

$$\dot{P}_R^0 \geq 0$$

> **Locally**, there is power dissipation given by the product of the charge flux and the electric field.

and, one is the integral of the other

$$P_R = \iiint_{\text{Volume}} \dot{P}_R^0 d^3r$$

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Thermal Energy Domain

- > It is easier to put ENERGY INTO than get WORK OUT of thermal domain
- > All domains are linked to thermal domain via dissipation
- > Thermal domain is linked to all domains because temperature affects constitutive properties

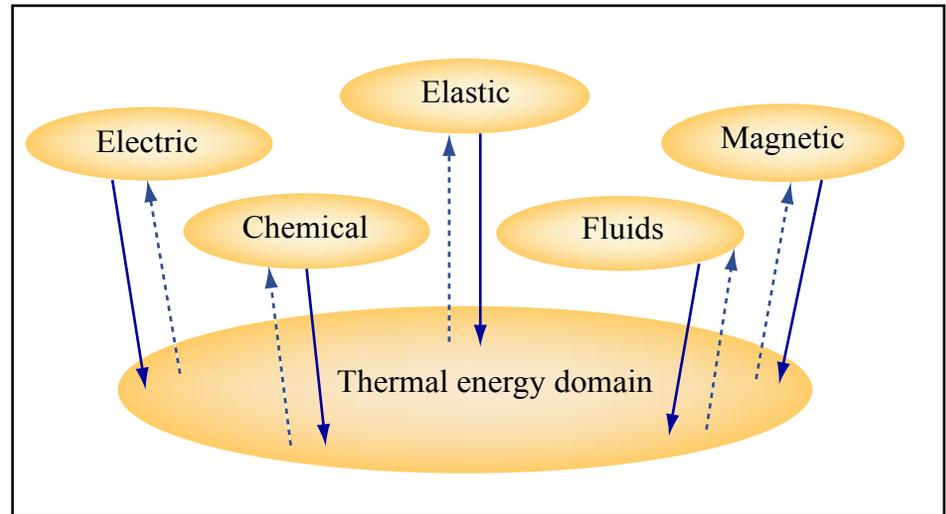
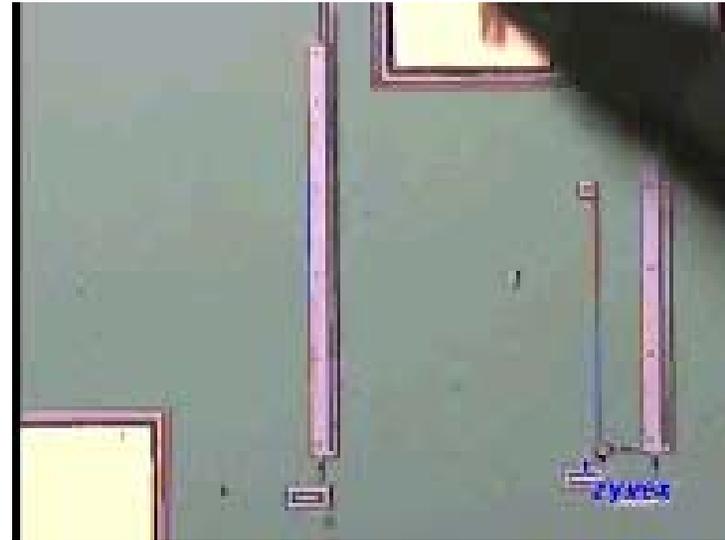


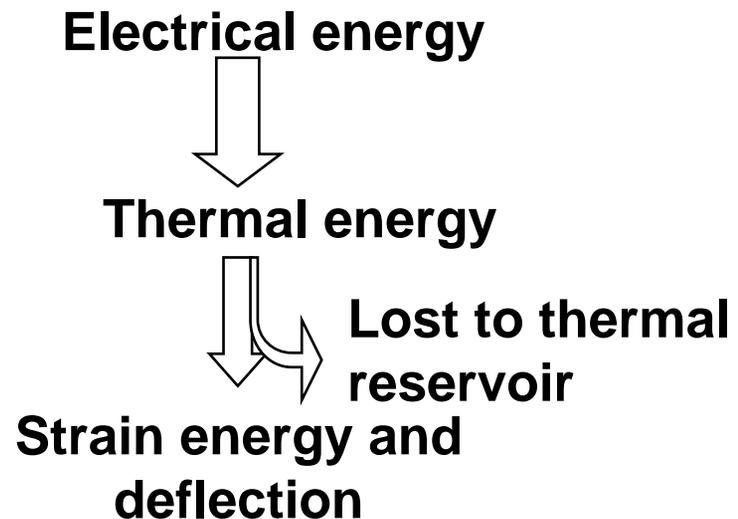
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Adapted from Figure 11.2 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*.
Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 271. ISBN: 9780792372462.

Thermal Energy Domain

- > Heat engines convert heat into mechanical work, but not perfectly efficiently, just like the charging of a capacitor cannot be done perfectly efficiently
- > This is a statement of irreversibility: the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics
- > Zyvex heatuator
 - One skinny leg and one fat leg
 - Run a current and skinny leg will heat up
 - Structure will bend in response



Courtesy of Zyvex Corporation. Used with permission.



Governing Equations

> Some introductory notation

> Be careful with units and normalizations

Q Thermal energy [J]  $\frac{X}{v} = \tilde{X}$

\tilde{Q} Thermal energy/volume [J/m³]

$\mathcal{Q} = I_Q$ Heat flow [W]

J_Q Heat flux [W/m²]

$C_V = \left. \frac{\partial Q}{\partial T} \right|_{Volume}$ Heat capacity at constant volume (J/K)

$C_P = \left. \frac{\partial Q}{\partial T} \right|_{Pressure}$ Heat capacity at constant pressure (J/K)

Are the same for incompressible materials

$$C_V = C_P = C$$

$\tilde{C} = C/v$ Heat capacity/unit volume (J/K-m³)

$\tilde{C}_m = \tilde{C}/\rho_m$ Heat capacity/unit mass (J/K-kg) AKA specific heat

Governing Equations

> Like many domains, conservation of energy leads to a **continuity equation for thermal energy**

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\begin{matrix} \text{stuff in} \\ \text{volume} \end{matrix} \right) = \left(\begin{matrix} \text{net stuff} \\ \text{entering} \\ \text{volume} \end{matrix} \right) + \left(\begin{matrix} \text{generation} \\ \text{of stuff in} \\ \text{volume} \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int b dV = - \int \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS + \int g dV$$



Get point relation

Divergence theorem and bring derivative inside $\int \frac{\partial b}{\partial t} dV = - \int \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dV + \int g dV$

$$\frac{\partial b}{\partial t} = - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} + g$$

$$\frac{d\tilde{Q}}{dt} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_Q = \tilde{P}|_{sources}$$

For heat transfer

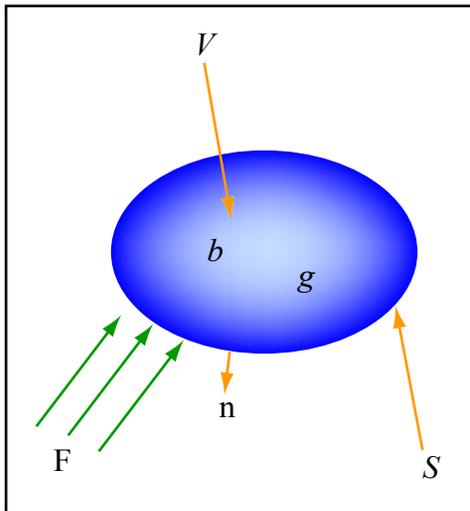


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Types of Heat Flow

> Flow proportional to a temperature gradient

- Heat conduction

$$J_Q = -k\nabla T$$

> Convective heat transfer

- A subject coupling heat transfer to fluid mechanics
- Often not important for MEMS, but sometimes is...
- Talk more about this later

$$J_Q = h_c (T_2 - T_1)$$

> Radiative heat transfer

- Between two bodies (at T_1 and T_2)
- Stefan-Boltzmann Law
- Can NEVER turn off

$$J_Q = \sigma_{SB} F_{12} (T_2^4 - T_1^4)$$

The Heat-Flow Equation

- > If we assume linear heat conduction, we are led to the heat-flow equation

$$J_Q = -\kappa \nabla T$$

⇓

$$\nabla \cdot J_Q = -\nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla T)$$

⇓

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{Q}}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla T) + \tilde{P}_{sources}$$

For homogeneous materials, with $\frac{d\tilde{Q}}{dT} = \tilde{C}$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\kappa}{\tilde{C}} \nabla^2 T + \frac{1}{\tilde{C}} \tilde{P} \Big|_{sources}$$

Thermodynamic Realities

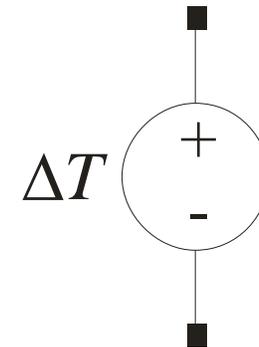
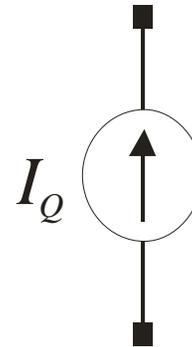
- > The First law of thermodynamics implies that entropy is a generalized displacement, and temperature is a generalized effort; their product is energy
- > The Second Law states that entropy production is ≥ 0 for any process
 - In practice it always increases
- > Entropy is not a conserved quantity....
- > Thus, it does not make for a good generalized variable
- > Therefore, we use a new convention, the thermal modeling convention, with **temperature as effort** and **heat flow (power) as the flow**. Note that the product of effort and flow is no longer power!!!
 - But heat energy (thermal displacement) is conserved
 - Just like charge (electrical displacement) is conserved

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Thermal sources

- > Heat current source I_Q is represented with a flow source
- > Temperature difference source ΔT is represented with an effort source



Thermal equivalent-circuit elements

> Use direct analogy again

Thermal
conductivity

$$J_Q = -k \nabla T$$

Relation between
effort and flow

Electrical
conductivity

$$J_E = \sigma_e E = -\sigma_e \nabla V$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\kappa}{\tilde{C}} \nabla^2 T + \tilde{P} \Big|_{sources}$$

$$\nabla^2 T = 0$$

Laplace's Eqn.

$$\nabla^2 V = 0$$

$$T_2 = T_1$$

Continuity of effort

$$V_2 = V_1$$

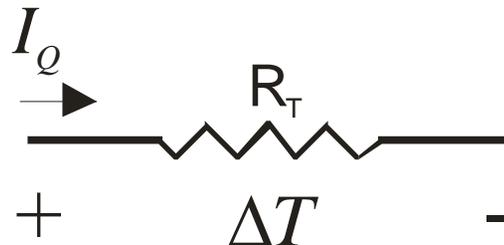
No heat
storage $(\mathbf{J}_Q \cdot \mathbf{n})_1 = (\mathbf{J}_Q \cdot \mathbf{n})_2$

Continuity of flow

No
charge
storage $(\mathbf{J}_E \cdot \mathbf{n})_1 = (\mathbf{J}_E \cdot \mathbf{n})_2$

Thermal equivalent-circuit elements

> Therefore we can derive a thermal resistance



The diagram shows a thermal resistor represented by a zigzag line. Above the resistor is the label R_T . To the left of the resistor, there is a plus sign (+) and a minus sign (-) indicating a temperature difference ΔT . An arrow labeled I_Q points to the right, representing heat flow.

$$R_T = \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{L}{A} \quad [\text{K/W}] \quad \text{For bar of uniform cross-section}$$

> Plus, heat conduction and current flow obey the same differential equation

> Thus, we can use *exactly* the same solutions for thermal resistors as for electrical resistors

- Just change σ to κ

Thermal equivalent-circuit elements

> What about other types of heat flow?

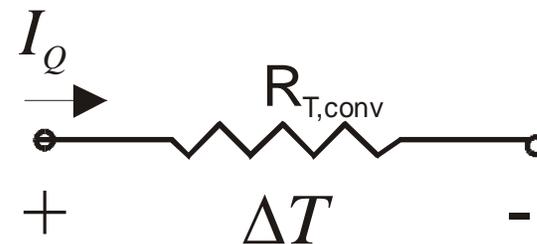
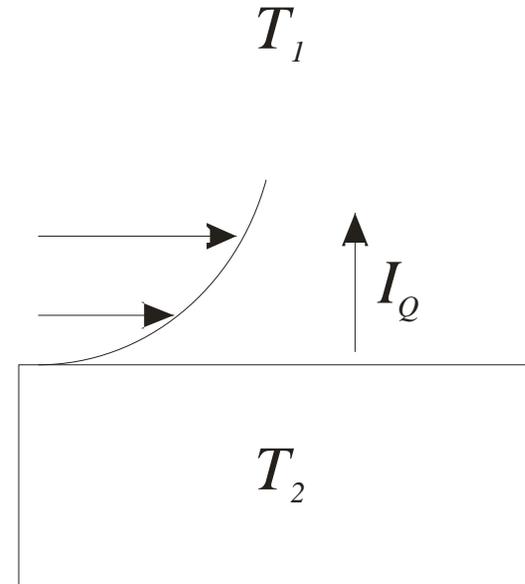
> Convection

> Use linear resistor

$$J_Q = h_c (T_2 - T_1)$$

$$I_Q = h_c A (T_2 - T_1) = h_c A \Delta T$$

$$R_{T,conv} = \frac{1}{h_c A}$$

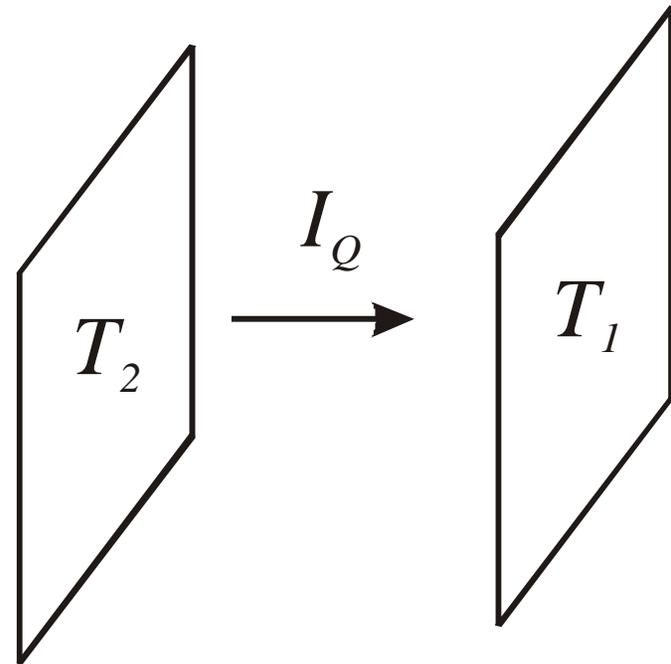
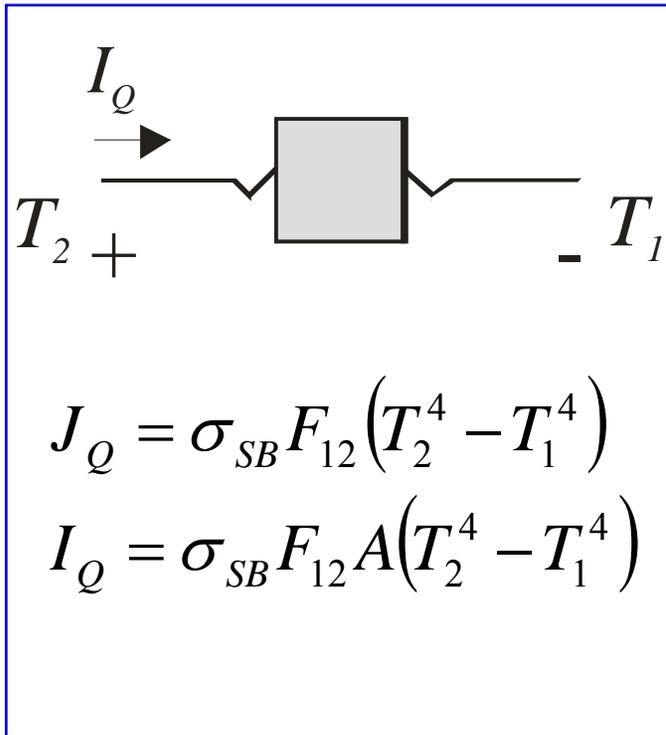


Thermal equivalent-circuit elements

> Radiation

- Nonlinear with temperature

Large-signal model



Thermal equivalent-circuit elements

> Radiation

- Many ways to linearize
- We show two approaches

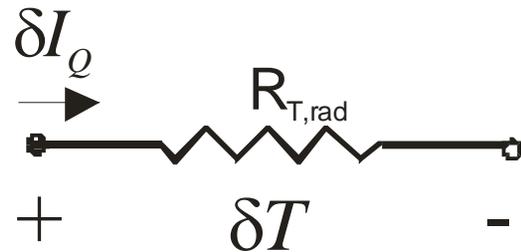
$$T_2 \gg T_1$$

$$I_Q = \sigma_{SB} F_{12} A (T_2^4 - T_1^4)$$

$$T_2 \approx T_1$$

$$I_Q \approx \sigma_{SB} F_{12} A T_2^4$$

$$\delta I_Q = (4\sigma_{SB} F_{12} A T_2^3) \delta T$$



$$I_Q \approx \sigma_{SB} F_{12} A \left((T_1 + \delta T)^4 - T_1^4 \right)$$

$$\delta I_Q = (4\sigma_{SB} F_{12} A T_1^3) \delta T$$

Thermal equivalent-circuit elements

> What about energy storage?

> Just like electrical capacitors store charge (Q),

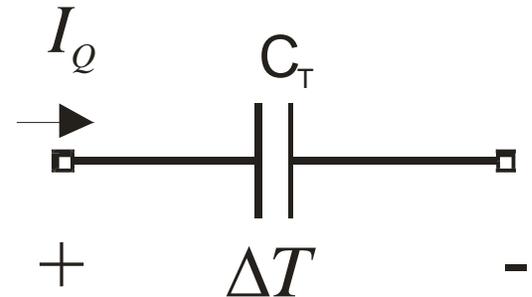
$$C_E = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial V}$$

> We can store thermal energy (Q)

> No thermal inductor ☹

$$C_T = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}$$

$$C_T = \tilde{C}_m \rho_m \mathcal{V}$$

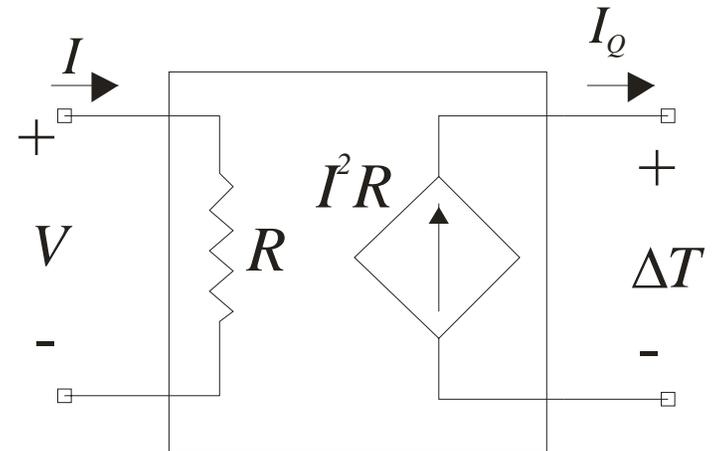


Electro-thermal transducer

- > In electromechanical energy transduction, we introduced the two-port capacitor
 - Energy-storing element coupling the two domains
 - Capacitor because it stores potential energy
- > What will we use to couple electrical energy into thermal energy?
 - In the electrical domain, this is due to Joule dissipation, a loss mechanism
 - » Therefore it looks like an electrical resistor
 - In the thermal domain it looks like a heat *source*
 - » Therefore it looks like a thermal current source

Electro-thermal transducer

- > Our transducer is a resistor and a *dependent* current source
 - The thermal current source *depends* on R and I in the electrical domain
- > We reverse convention on direction of port variables in thermal domain
 - OK, because $I_Q \cdot \Delta T$ does not track power
 - Reflects fact that heat current will always be positive out of transducer
- > This is not energy-conserving
 - Dissipation is intrinsic to transducer
- > This is not reciprocal
 - Heat current does not cause a voltage
- > Thermal domain can couple back to the electrical domain
 - See next time...



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Different heat transfer components

- > How does one know which heat transfer processes are important for thermal modeling?

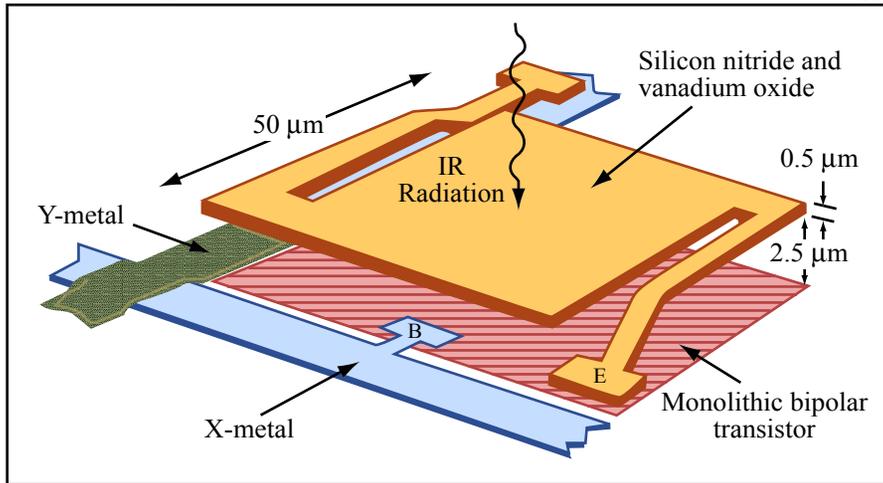
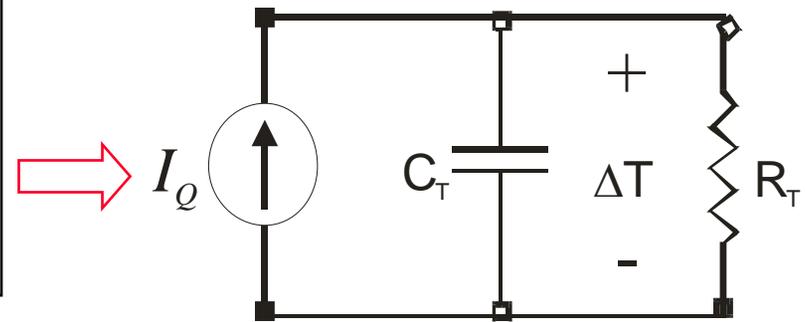


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- > Heat input is a current
- > Heat loss is a resistor
- > Heat storage in mass is a capacitor

$$\Delta T = I_Q \left(R_T \parallel \frac{1}{C_T s} \right) = \frac{R_T I_Q}{1 + R_T C_T s}$$

$$\Delta T_{ss} = R_T I_Q$$
$$\tau = R_T C_T$$

Implications

> Increasing R_T increases response

- This means better thermal isolation
- There is always some limiting value determined by radiation

> Given a fixed R_T , decreasing C_T improves response time

- This means reducing the mass or volume of the system

$$\Delta T_{ss} = R_T I_Q$$

$$\tau = R_T C_T$$

Thermal resistance

- > What goes into R_T ?
- > R_T is the parallel combination of all loss terms
 - Conduction through the air and legs
 - Convection
 - Radiation
- > We can determine when different terms dominate

Conduction resistance

> Conduction

- Si is too thermally conductive
- SiO₂ is compressively stressed
- Try SiN

Material	κ (W/m-K)
Silicon	148
Silicon Nitride	20
Thermal Oxide	1.5
Air (1 atm)	0.03
Air (1 mtorr)	10 ⁻⁵

$$R_{T,legs} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{L}{A}$$
$$= \frac{(50 \mu\text{m})}{2(20 \text{ W/m-K})(0.5 \mu\text{m})(5 \mu\text{m})}$$

$$R_{T,legs} = 5 \cdot 10^5 \text{ K/W}$$

$$R_{T,air} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{L}{A}$$
$$= \frac{(2.5 \mu\text{m})}{(10^{-5} \text{ W/m-K})(50 \mu\text{m})(50 \mu\text{m})}$$

$$R_{T,air} = 10^8 \text{ K/W}$$

Conduction through legs dominates

Other resistances

> Convection

- At low pressure, there will be no air movement
- Convection will not exist

$$R_{T,rad} = \frac{1}{4\sigma_{SB} F_{12} A T_1^3}$$

> Radiation

- There is transfer between plate and body
- Use case where bodies are close in temp
- Radiation negligible

$$R_{T,rad} = \frac{1}{4(5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}^4)(0.5)(50 \mu\text{m})(50 \mu\text{m})(300 \text{ K})^3}$$

$$R_{T,legs} = 1.3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ K/W}$$

Leg conduction dominates loss

> Very fast time constant

- ~ms is typical for thermal MEMS

$$\begin{aligned} C_T &= \rho_m^0 \rho_m \mathcal{V} \\ &= (700 \text{ J/kg-K})(3000 \text{ kg/m}^3)(50 \mu\text{m})(50 \mu\text{m})(0.5 \mu\text{m}) \\ &= 3 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ J/K} \end{aligned}$$

$$R_T C_T = 1.5 \text{ ms}$$

Improving the design

- > How can we make responsivity higher?
- > Change materials
- > Decrease thickness or width of legs, or increase length
 - This reduces mechanical rigidity

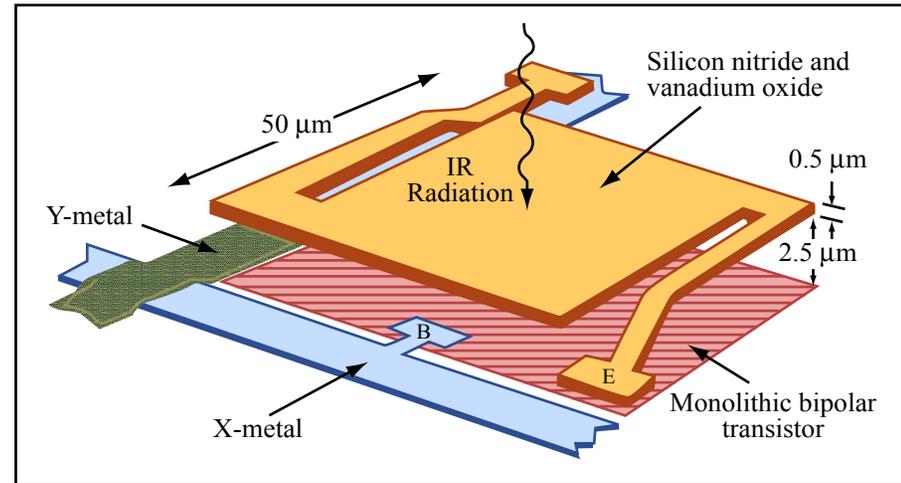


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Does convection ever matter?

- > Usually not
- > But it can come into play in microfluidics
- > The key is whether energy is transported faster by fluid flow or heat conduction
- > We'll analyze this a bit better after we do fluids

The Next Step

- > When dealing with conservative systems, we found general modeling methods based on energy conservation**
- > With dissipative systems, we must always be coupled to the thermal energy domain, and must address time-dependence**
- > This is the topic for the next Lecture**