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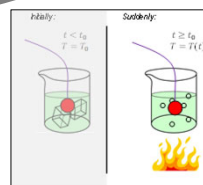
CM3215

Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

*Unsteady Heat Transfer to a Sphere—  
Measuring the heat transfer  
coefficient (fitting PDE soln)*

**Professor Faith Morrison**

Department of Chemical Engineering  
Michigan Technological University



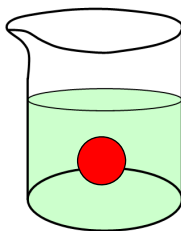
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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

**Objective:** Measure the heat-transfer coefficient to a 1.0 inch brass sphere dropped into in a well-stirred beaker of hot water.

**Strategy:** ?



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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

**Objective:** Measure the heat-transfer coefficient to a 1.0 inch brass sphere dropped into in a well-stirred beaker of water.

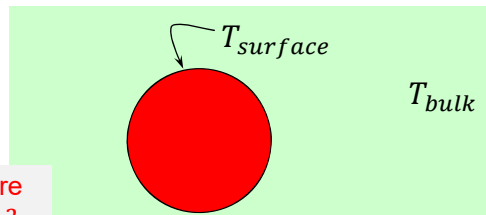
**Strategy:** ?

To determine our experimental strategy, we begin with: **What is heat transfer coefficient?**

Newton's Law of Cooling:  
(a boundary condition)

$$\left| \frac{q_r}{A} \right| = h |T_{bulk} - T_{surface}|$$

Perhaps: measure  $T_{surface}$  and  $T_{bulk}$ ?



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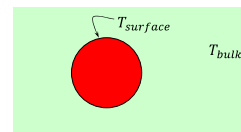
## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

**How to experimentally measure heat-transfer coefficient?**

Newton's Law of Cooling:  
(a boundary condition)

$$\left| \frac{q_r}{A} \right| = h |T_{bulk} - T_{surface}|$$

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

## How to experimentally measure heat-transfer coefficient?

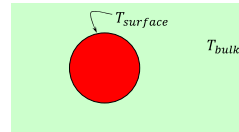
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*But they will be equal!*

Need *heat transfer* to be taking place.



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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

## How to experimentally measure heat-transfer coefficient?

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(a boundary condition)

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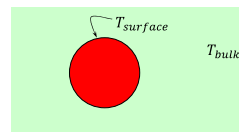
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Need *heat transfer* to be taking place.

*Unsteady state experiment, then.*

It would be awkward to try to measure the surface temperature.



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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

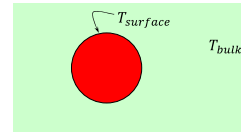
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Need *heat transfer* to be taking place.

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It would be awkward to try to measure the surface temperature.

*We can embed a thermocouple in the center perhaps?*

How is the temperature at the center related to what we seek to measure,  $h$ ?

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

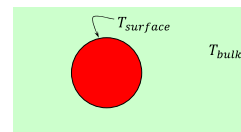
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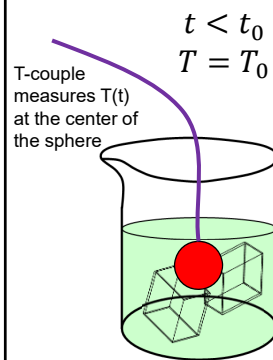
How is the temperature at the center related to what we seek to measure,  $h$ ?

*We can model the situation and see what the connection is.*

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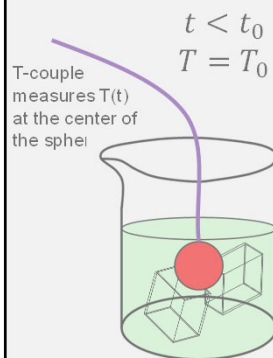
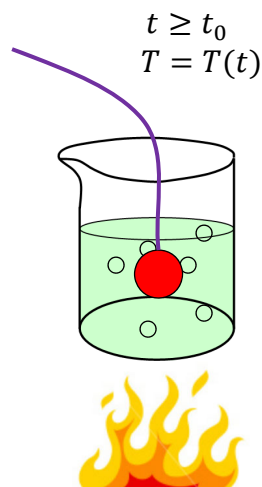
## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

Experiment: Measure  $T(t)$  at the center of a sphere:*Initially:*

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

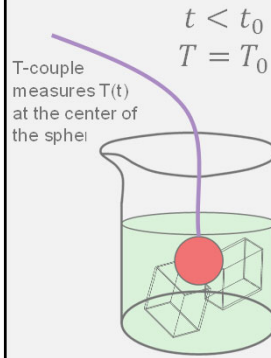
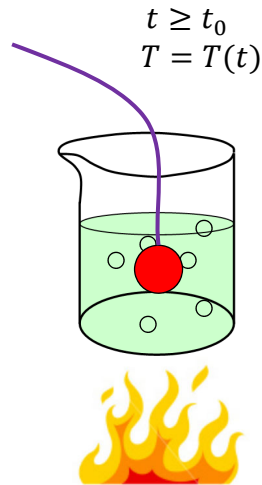
Experiment: Measure  $T(t)$  at the center of a sphere:*Initially:**Suddenly:*

Heat transfer takes place.

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

Experiment: Measure  $T(t)$  at the center of a sphere:*Initially:**Suddenly:*

(already done for you)

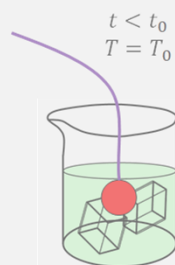
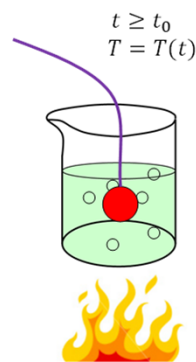
Excel:

t(s)	T(°C)
9.50E-02	7.46E+00
2.11E-01	7.44E+00
3.09E-01	7.44E+00
4.09E-01	7.57E+00
5.24E-01	7.46E+00
6.23E-01	7.49E+00
7.39E-01	7.53E+00
8.37E-01	7.46E+00
9.54E-01	7.59E+00
1.05E+00	7.53E+00
1.15E+00	7.58E+00
1.27E+00	7.48E+00
1.37E+00	7.57E+00
...	...

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

Experiment: Measure  $T(t)$  at the center of a sphere:*Initially:**Suddenly:***How do we set up the model for this problem?****Where does  $h$  come into it?**

**Modeling exercise:** How does the temperature at the center of a sphere, subjected to **this history**, change with time?

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

## Microscopic Energy Balance

Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; Gibbs notation

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \underline{v} \cdot \nabla T \right) = k \nabla^2 T + S$$

Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; Cartesian coordinates

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + v_z \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = k \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right) + S$$

Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; cylindrical coordinates

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} + v_z \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = k \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right) + S$$

Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; spherical coordinates

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} + \frac{v_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi} \right) = k \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + S$$

[www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/cm310/energy2013.pdf](http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/cm310/energy2013.pdf)

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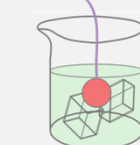
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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

Modeling exercise: How does the temperature at the center of a sphere, subjected to **this history**, change with time?

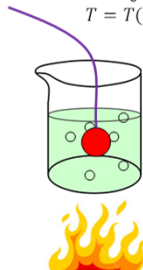
Initially:

$$t < t_0 \\ T = T_0$$



Suddenly:

$$t \geq t_0 \\ T = T(t)$$



Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; Gibbs notation

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \underline{v} \cdot \nabla T \right) = k \nabla^2 T + S$$

Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; Cartesian coordinates

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + v_z \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = k \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right) + S$$

Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; cylindrical coordinates

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Microscopic energy balance, constant thermal conductivity; spherical coordinates

$$\rho \hat{C}_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} + \frac{v_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi} \right) = k \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + S$$

You try.

[www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/cm310/energy2013.pdf](http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/cm310/energy2013.pdf)

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### Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

Microscopic energy balance in the sphere:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{k}{\rho \hat{C}_p} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) \right) \quad \equiv \alpha$$

Boundary conditions:

$$r = R, \quad \frac{q_r}{A} = -k \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} = h(T(r) - T_{bulk}) \quad t > 0$$

$$r = 0, \quad \frac{q_r}{A} = 0 \quad \forall t$$

Initial condition:

$$t = 0, \quad T = T_{initial} \quad \forall r$$

- Unsteady
- Solid ( $v = 0$ )
- $\theta, \phi$  symmetry
- No current, no rxn

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### Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

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("∀" means "for all")



**Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere**

Microscopic energy balance in the sphere:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{k}{\rho \hat{C}_p} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) \right)$$

$\equiv \alpha$

- Unsteady
- Solid ( $v = 0$ )

**Now, Solve**

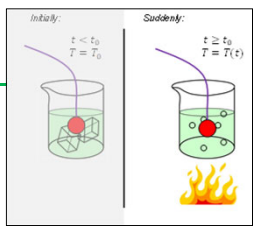
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Initial condition:

$$t = 0, \quad T = T_{\text{initial}} \quad \forall r$$

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**Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere**

Microscopic energy balance in the sphere:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{k}{\rho \hat{C}_p} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) \right)$$

$\equiv \alpha$

- Unsteady
- Solid ( $v = 0$ )
- $\theta, \phi$  symmetry
- No current, no rxn

**Conduction of Heat in Solids**

SECOND EDITION

OXFORD AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

H. S. CARSLAW and J. C. JAEGER

1959

Boundary conditions:

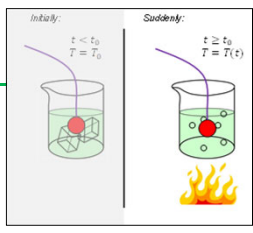
$$r = R, \quad T = T_{\text{surface}} \quad t > 0$$

$$r = 0, \quad \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} = 0 \quad \forall t$$

Initial condition:

$$t = 0, \quad T = T_{\text{initial}} \quad \forall r$$

("∀" means "for all")



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### Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

**Solution:**

$$\xi(r, t) \equiv \frac{T(r, t) - T_{bulk}}{T_{initial} - T_{bulk}}$$

$$Bi \equiv \frac{hR}{k} \quad Fo \equiv \frac{\alpha t}{R^2}$$

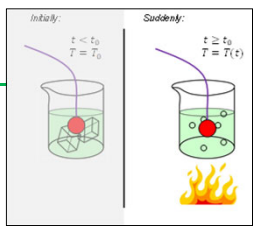
(Bi=Biot number; Fo=Fourier number)

$$\xi = \frac{T - T_b}{T_i - T_b} = 2Bi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-Fo(\lambda_n R)^2} \left( \frac{\sin r \lambda_n}{r \lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{\sin R \lambda_n}{R \lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{(R \lambda_n)^2 + (Bi - 1)^2}{(R \lambda_n)^2 + Bi(Bi - 1)} \right)$$

where the **eigenvalues**  $\lambda_n$  satisfy this equation:

$$\frac{R \lambda_n}{\tan R \lambda_n} + Bi - 1 = 0$$

Characteristic Equation



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### Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

**Solution:**

$$\xi(r, t) \equiv \frac{T(r, t) - T_{bulk}}{T_{initial} - T_{bulk}}$$

Depends on material ( $\alpha = k/\rho \hat{C}_p$ ), and heat transfer processes at surface ( $h$ )

$$Bi \equiv \frac{hR}{k} \quad Fo \equiv \frac{\alpha t}{R^2}$$

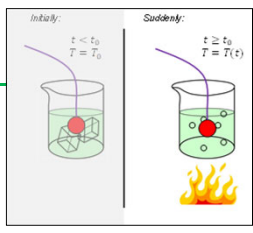
(Bi=Biot number; Fo=Fourier number)

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Characteristic Equation

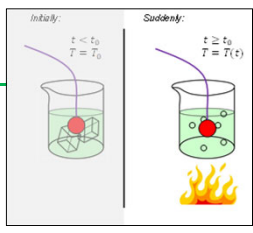


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**Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere**

## What does this look like?



$$\xi = \frac{T - T_b}{T_i - T_b} = 2\text{Bi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-Fo(\lambda_n R)^2} \left( \frac{\sin r \lambda_n}{r \lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{\sin R \lambda_n}{R \lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{(R \lambda_n)^2 + (\text{Bi} - 1)^2}{(R \lambda_n)^2 + \text{Bi}(\text{Bi} - 1)} \right)$$

where the eigenvalues  $\lambda_n$  satisfy this equation:

$$\frac{R \lambda_n}{\tan R \lambda_n} + \text{Bi} - 1 = 0$$

*Characteristic Equation*

## Let's plot it to find out.

(Excel)

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Let's plot it to find out: what are the variables?

**Solution:**

$$\text{Bi} \equiv \frac{hR}{k} \quad \text{Fo} \equiv \frac{\alpha t}{R^2}$$

$$\xi = \frac{T - T_b}{T_i - T_b} = 2\text{Bi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-Fo(\lambda_n R)^2} \left( \frac{\sin r \lambda_n}{r \lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{\sin R \lambda_n}{R \lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{(R \lambda_n)^2 + (\text{Bi} - 1)^2}{(R \lambda_n)^2 + \text{Bi}(\text{Bi} - 1)} \right)$$

$$\xi = \frac{T - T_b}{T_i - T_b} = 2\text{Bi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-(\text{Fo})(\lambda_n R)^2} \left( \text{bunch of terms that vary with Bi and } \lambda_n(\text{Bi}) \right)$$

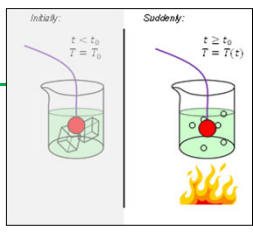
Exponential decay with Fo (scaled time)

$\lambda_n(\text{Bi}) \text{ varies with Bi: } \frac{R \lambda_n}{\tan R \lambda_n} + \text{Bi} - 1 = 0$ 

Characteristic Equation

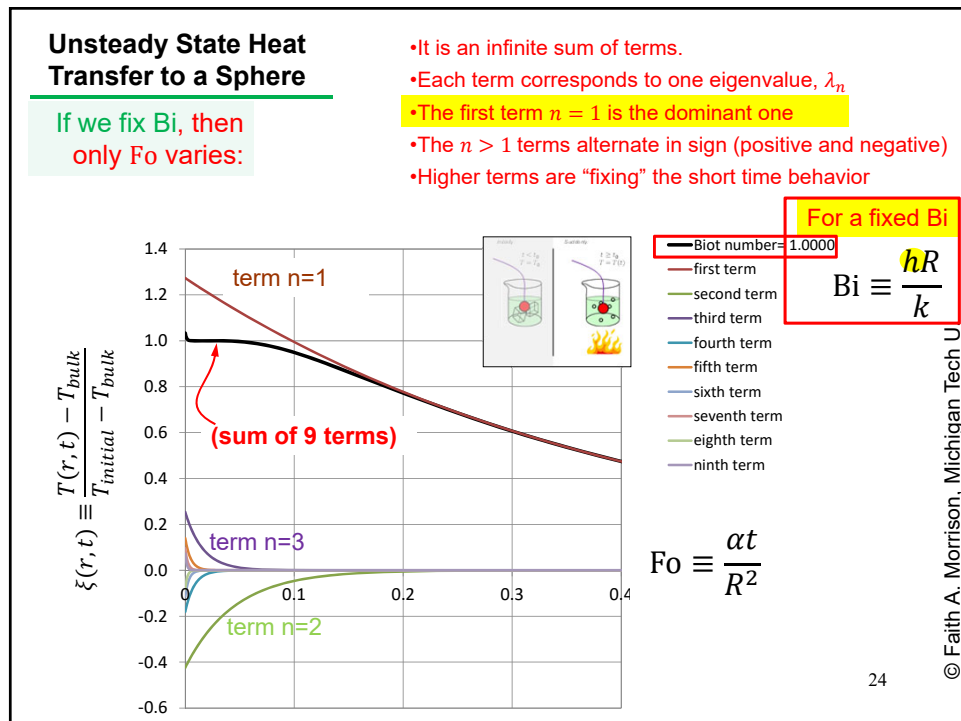
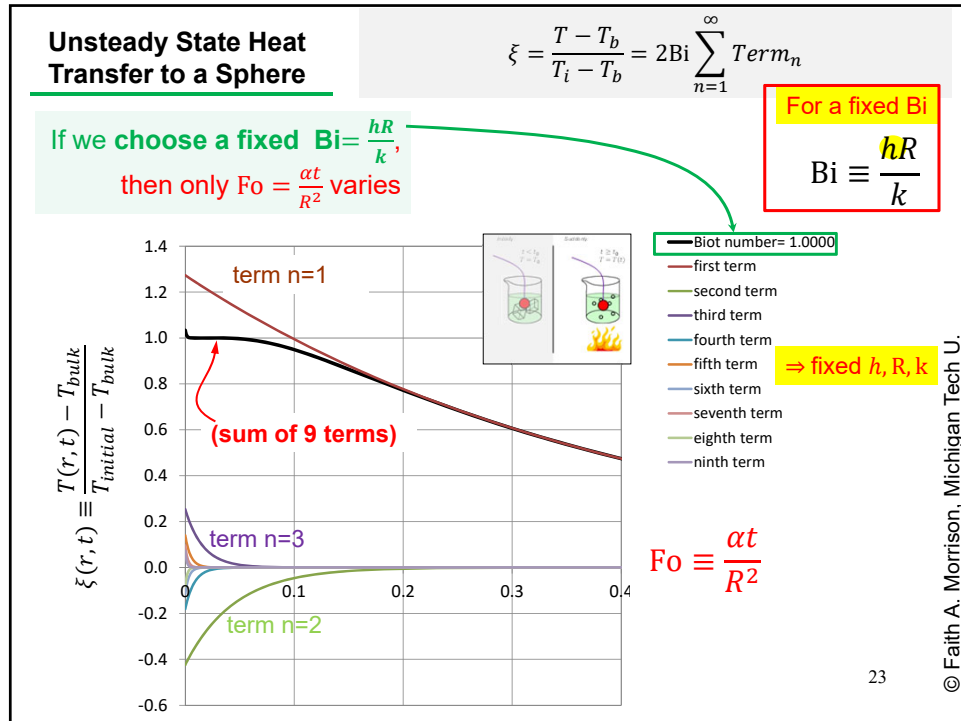
If we choose a fixed  $\text{Bi} = \frac{hR}{k}$ ,

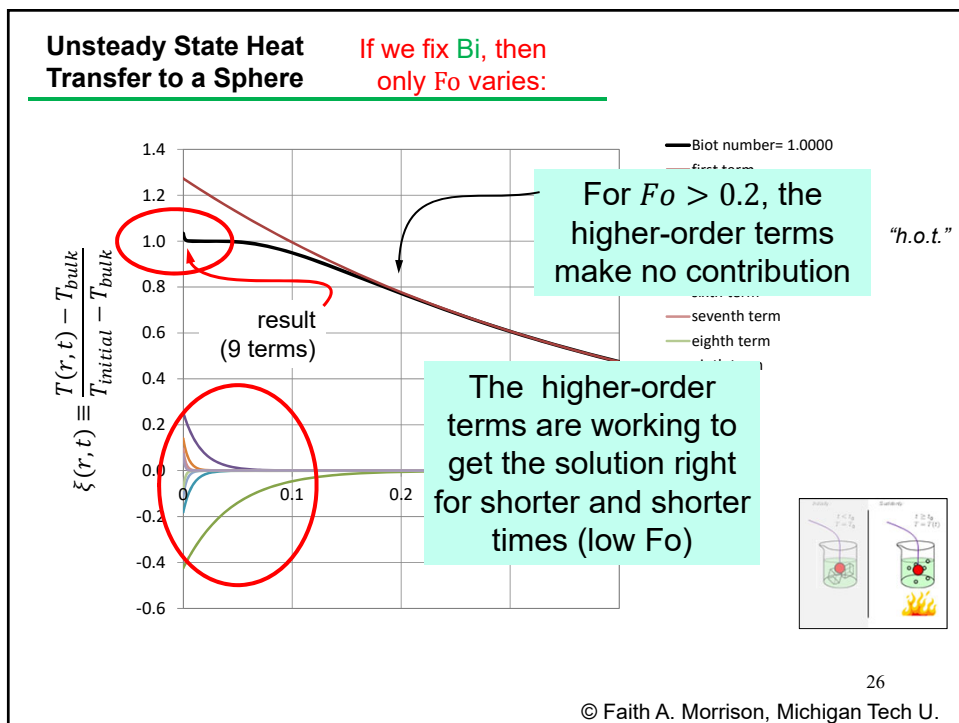
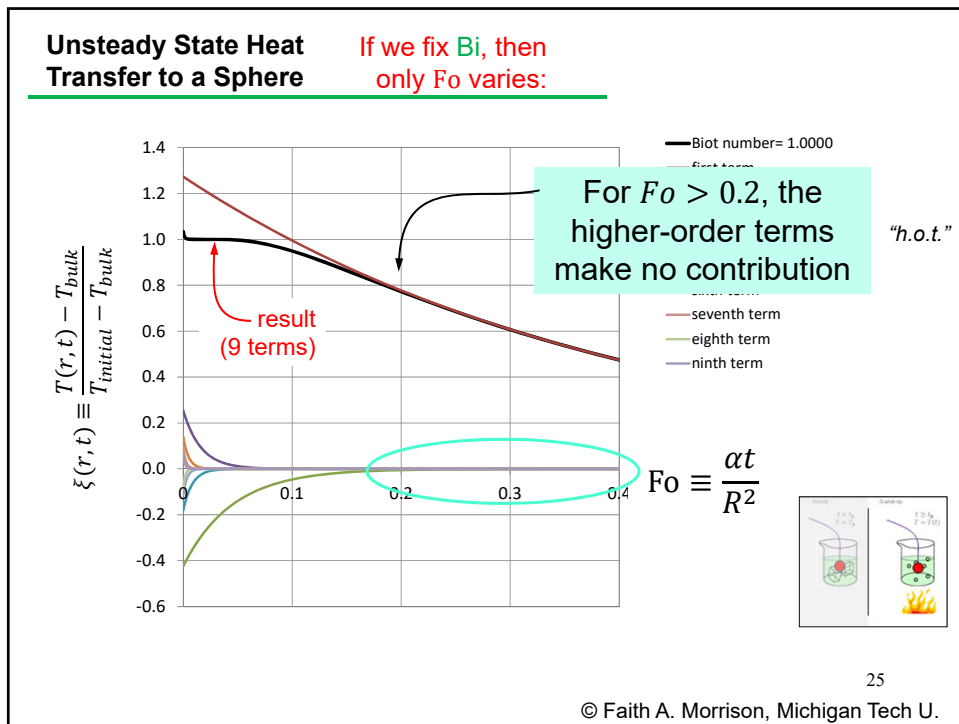
then only  $\text{Fo} = \frac{\alpha t}{R^2}$  varies

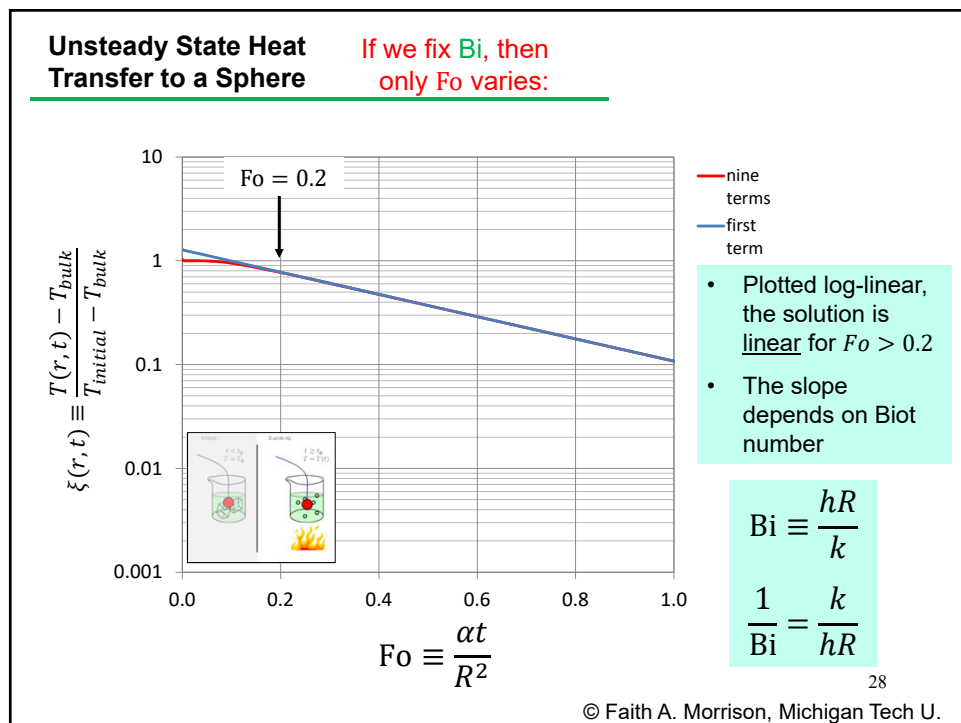
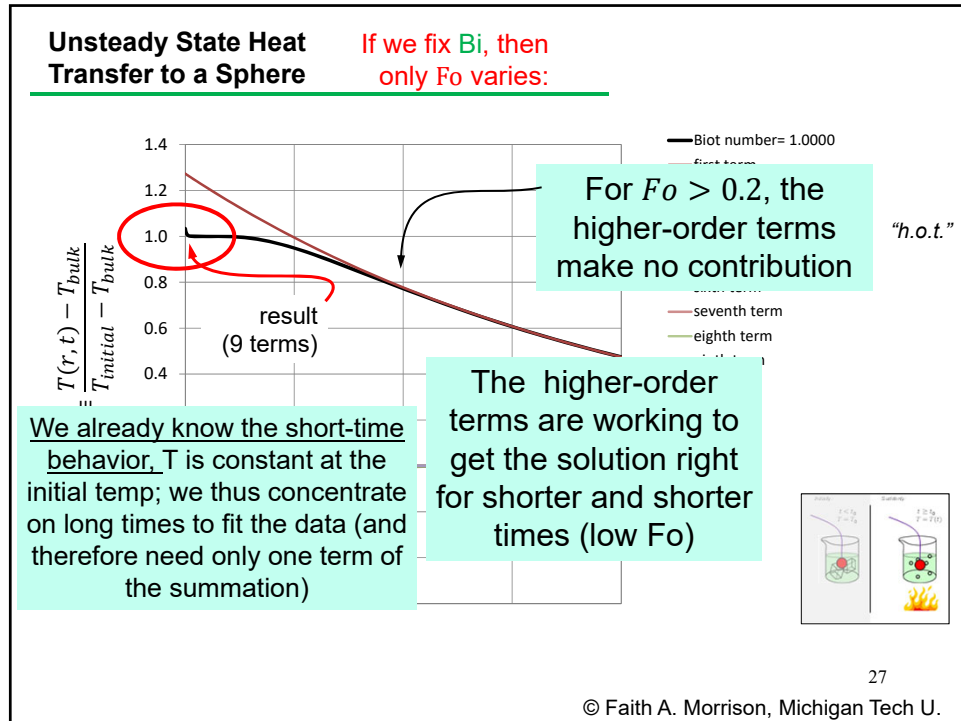


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## Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

If we fix Bi, then only Fo varies:

(summary)

For a fixed Bi:

the results are only a function of Fo.

$$Bi \equiv \frac{hR}{k}$$

$$Fo \equiv \frac{\alpha t}{R^2}$$

- Solution is an infinite sum of terms.
- Each term corresponds to one eigenvalue,  $\lambda_n$
- The first term  $n = 1$  is the dominant one
- The  $n > 1$  terms alternate in sign (positive and negative)
- Higher terms are "fixing" the short time behavior
- At fixed Biot number, the time-dependence is an exponential decay (for  $Fo > 0.2$ )
- Our Biot number will be fixed; but we not know what it is until we fit our results to the model.

**Question:** How do various values of Biot number affect the heat transfer that occurs?

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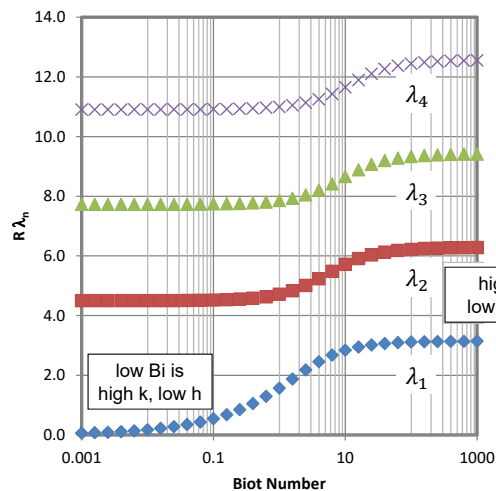
## Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

The roots of the characteristic equation

$\lambda_n$  vary with Bi

Characteristic Equation:

$$\frac{R\lambda_n}{\tan R\lambda_n} + Bi - 1 = 0$$



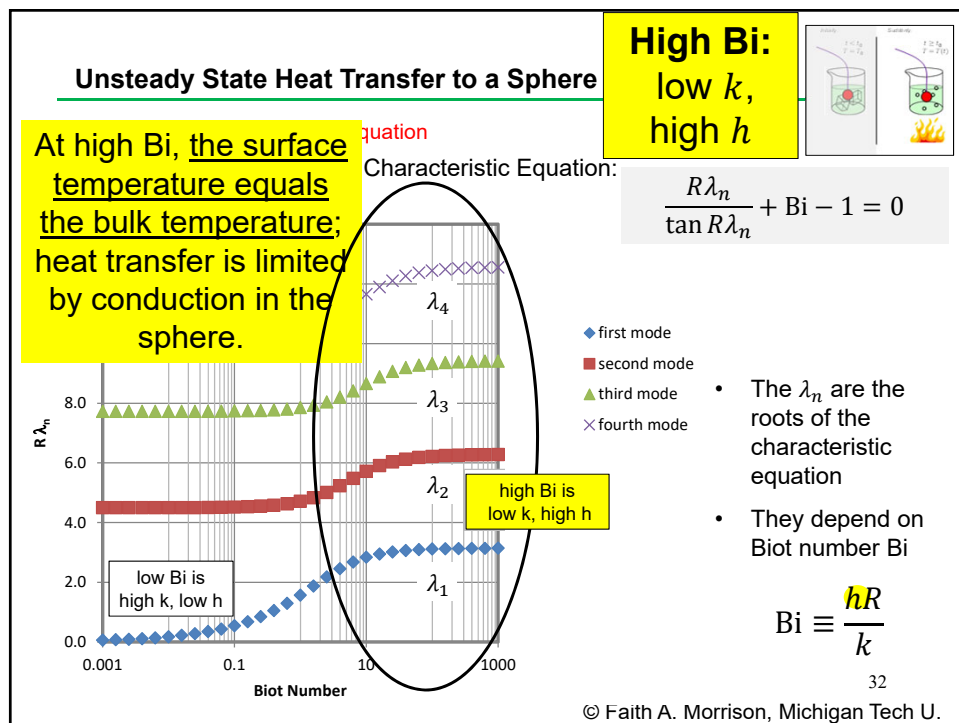
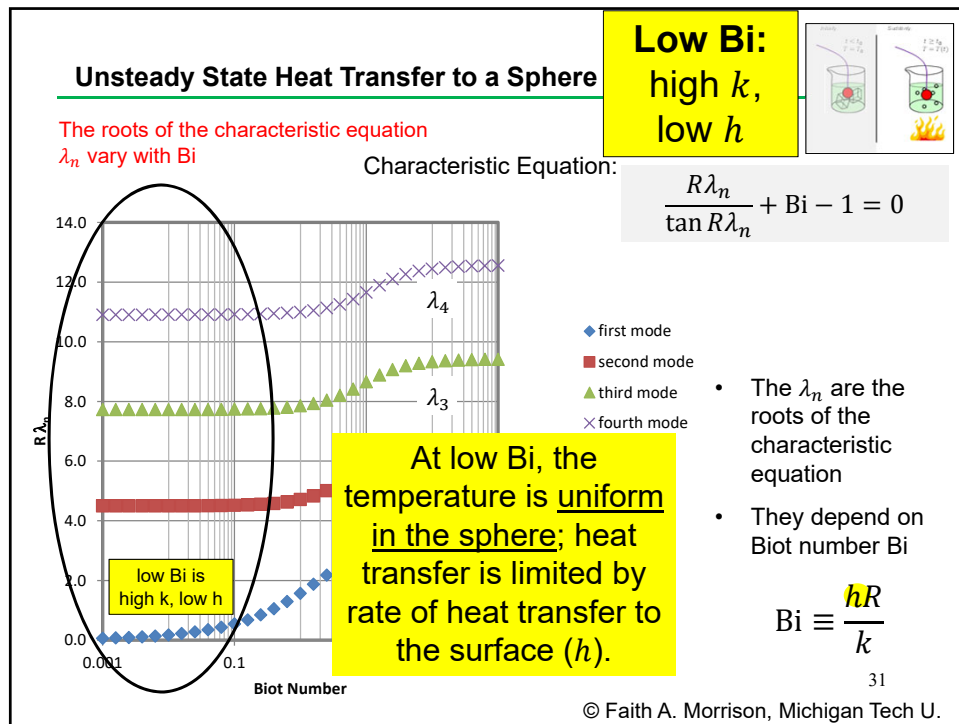
- ◆ first mode
- second mode
- ▲ third mode
- × fourth mode

- The  $\lambda_n$  are the roots of the characteristic equation
- They depend on Biot number Bi

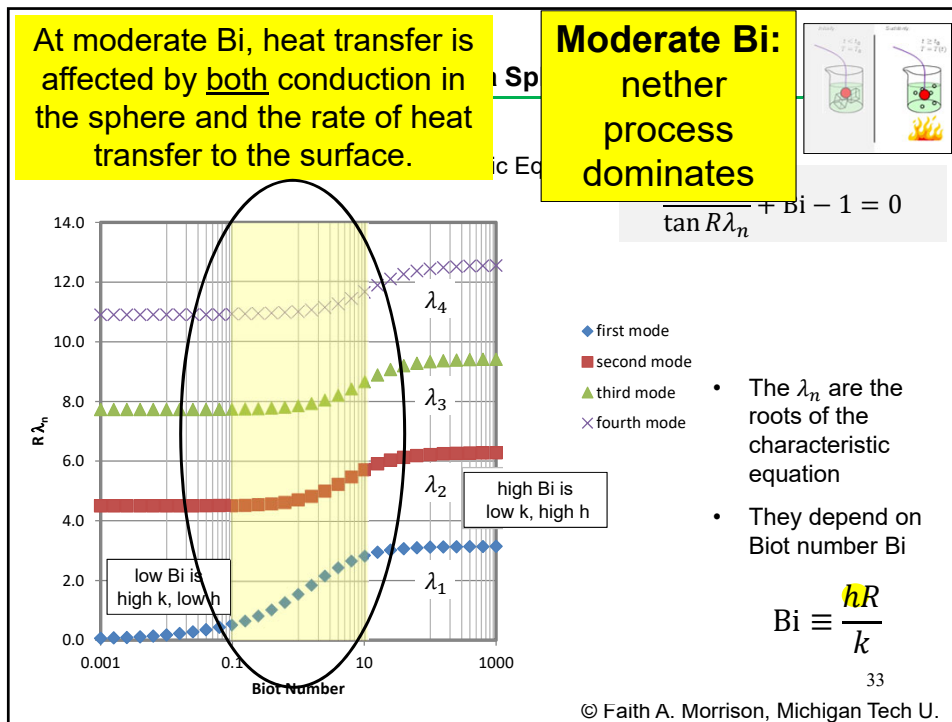
$$Bi \equiv \frac{hR}{k}$$

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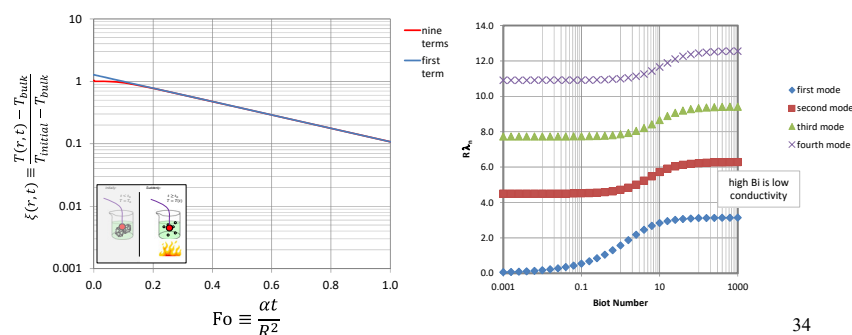


The key to analyzing our data is determining the Biot number for the experiment.

We determine the Biot number by fitting the model predictions to our data.

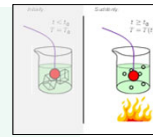
The value of **Biot number** that results in the closest fit between model and data tells us our value of ***h***.

$$\text{Bi} \equiv \frac{hR}{k}$$



## Summary:

- The key to analyzing our data is determining the Biot number for the data.
- We determine the Biot number by fitting the model predictions to our data.
- The value of Biot number that results in the closest fit between model and data tells us our value of  $h$ .



In the literature, there are handy plots of the solutions to Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere (and other shapes)

## Heisler charts

(Geankoplis; see also Wikipedia)

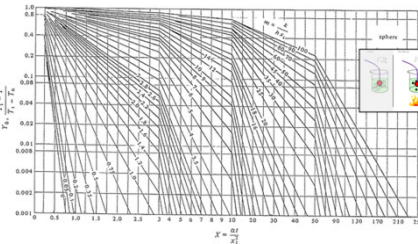


FIGURE 5.3-10. Chart for determining the temperature at the center of a sphere for unsteady-state heat conduction. [From H. P. Heisler, Trans. A.S.M.E., 69, 227 (1947). With permission.]

From Geankoplis, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, page 374

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## Literature solutions to Unsteady State Heat Transfer to a Sphere

Heisler charts (Geankoplis; see also Wikipedia)

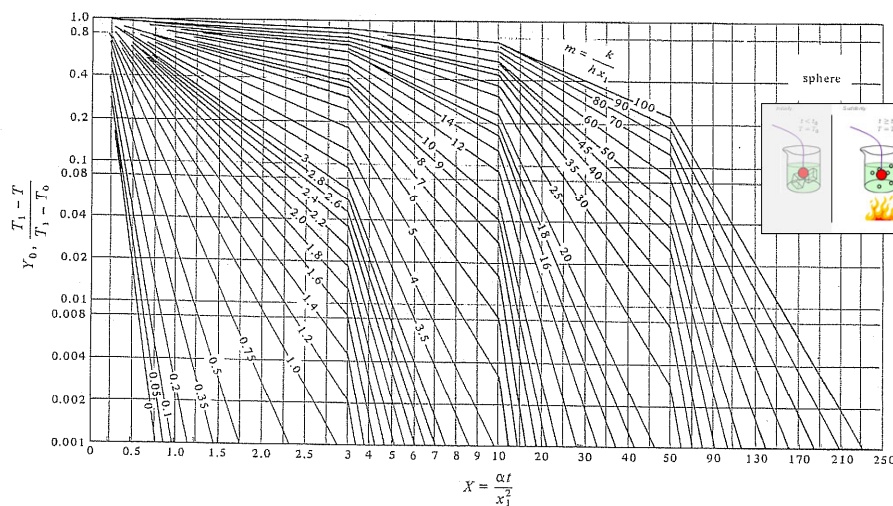
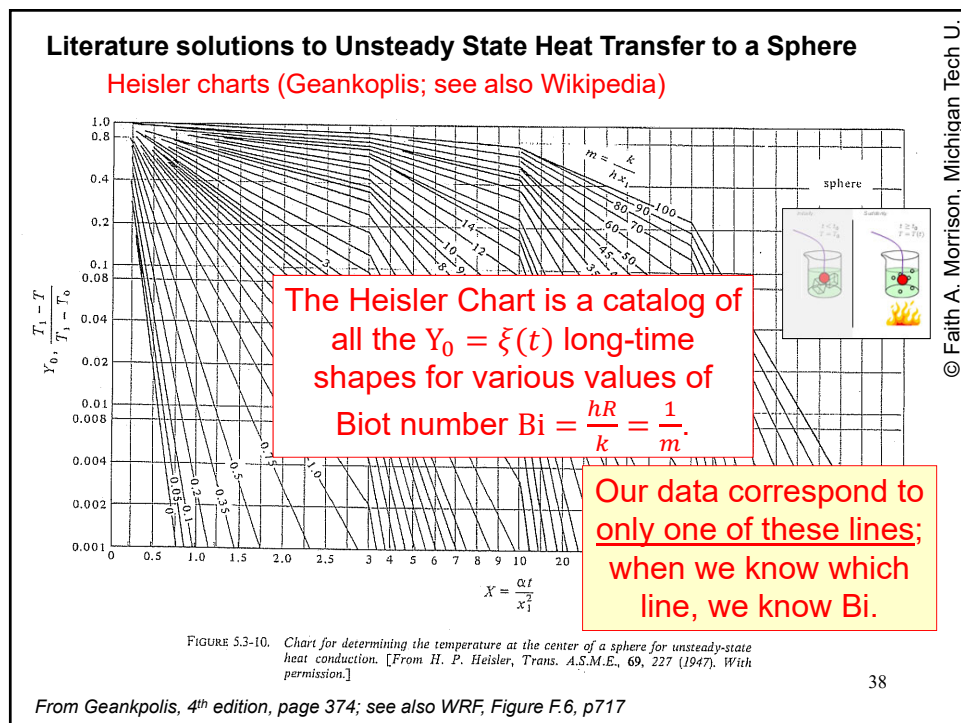
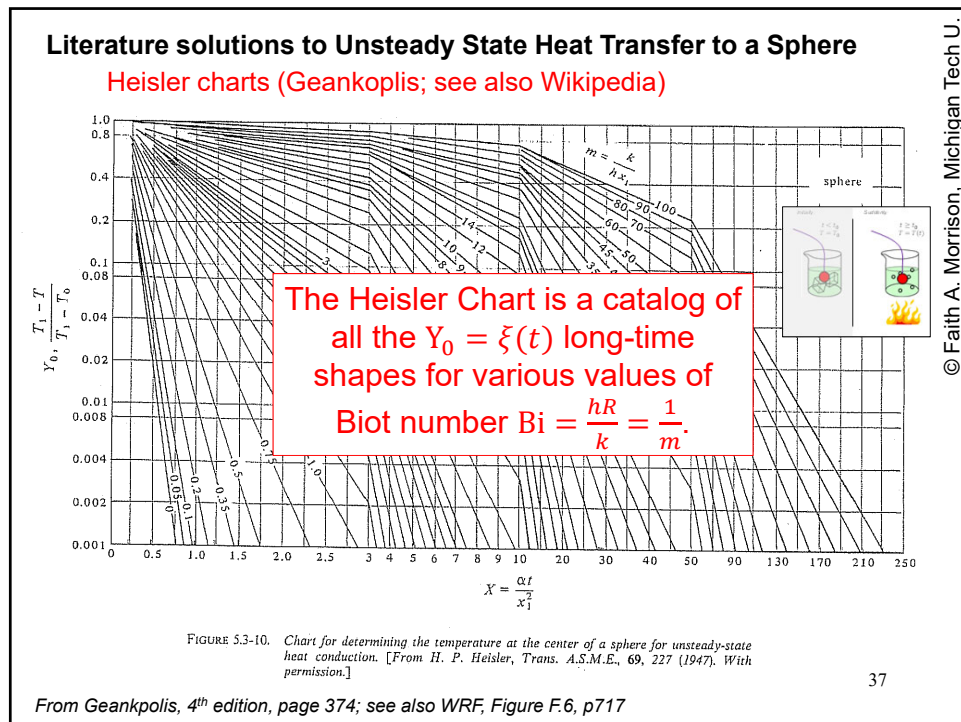


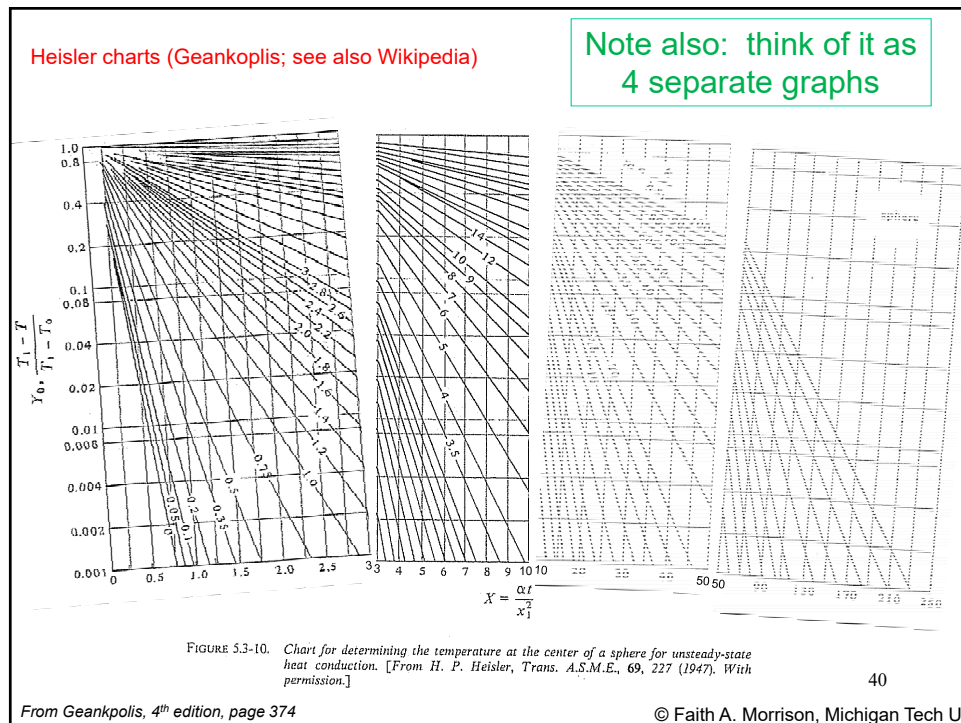
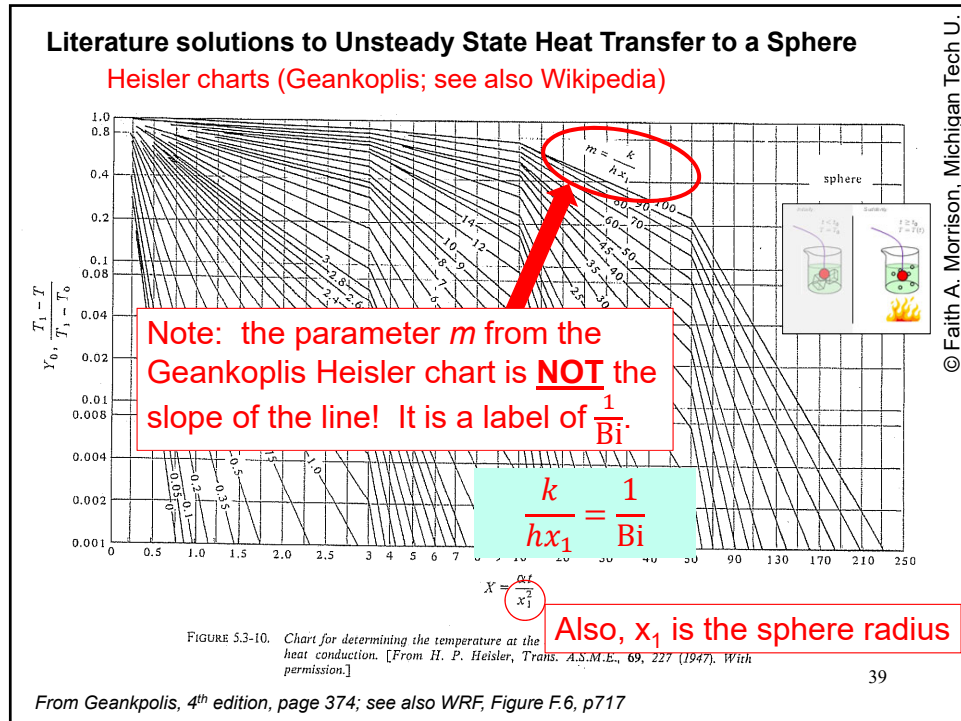
FIGURE 5.3-10. Chart for determining the temperature at the center of a sphere for unsteady-state heat conduction. [From H. P. Heisler, Trans. A.S.M.E., 69, 227 (1947). With permission.]

From Geankoplis, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, page 374; see also WRF, Figure F.6, p177

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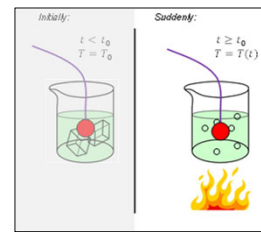




## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

**Assignment 8: Unsteady Heat Transfer to a Sphere****(team assignment)**

- Using the time-dependent temperature versus time data measured by colleagues (supplied to you), calculate the heat transfer coefficient for the laboratory experiment (sphere plunged into a beaker of hot water).
- Report the Biot number.
- Report the heat transfer coefficient,  $h$ .
- Indicate which physics is dominating the dynamics: heat transfer to the sphere ( $h$ ), heat transfer within the sphere ( $k$ ), or neither dominate.
- Describe your method for obtaining  $Bi$  and  $h$  (briefly; you may give steps as a list in your memo; it's not a report).
- Conduct and report an uncertainty analysis to determine error limits on  $h$ .



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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

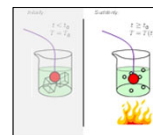
**Which physics dominates?**

- At low  $Bi$ , the temperature is uniform in the sphere; heat transfer is limited by rate of heat transfer to the surface ( $h$ ).
- At high  $Bi$ , the surface temperature equals the bulk temperature; heat transfer is limited by conduction in the sphere ( $k$ ).
- At moderate  $Bi$ , heat transfer is affected by both conduction in the sphere and the rate of heat transfer to the surface (both  $h$  and  $k$  influence the heat transfer).
- The key to analyzing our data is determining the Biot number for the experiment.

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## CM3215 Fundamentals of Chemical Engineering Laboratory

**Pre-lab Assignment (due Tuesday in lab):**

- In your lab notebook, outline how you plan to proceed; show the TA.
- Obtain  $\alpha = k/\rho\hat{C}_p$  and  $k$  for brass ahead of time and record both in notebook (with reference)
- Submit your data to the TA for the archive:
  - ✓ DP meter calibration
  - ✓ Orifice meter calibration (two different units)
  - ✓ Rotameter calibration
  - ✓ Lossy pump characteristic curve

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