

11-104 Internal combustion engine valves are quenched in a large oil bath. The time it takes for the valve temperature to drop to specified temperatures and the maximum heat transfer are to be determined.

Assumptions **1** The thermal properties of the valves are constant. **2** The heat transfer coefficient is constant and uniform over the entire surface. **3** Depending on the size of the oil bath, the oil bath temperature will increase during quenching. However, an average constant temperature as specified in the problem will be used. **4** The Biot number is $Bi < 0.1$ so that the lumped system analysis is applicable (this assumption will be verified).

Properties The thermal conductivity, density, and specific heat of the balls are given to be $k = 48$ W/m·°C, $\rho = 7840$ kg/m³, and $c_p = 440$ J/kg·°C.

Analysis (a) The characteristic length of the balls and the Biot number are

$$L_c = \frac{\mathcal{V}}{A_s} = \frac{1.8(\pi D^2 L / 4)}{2\pi DL} = \frac{1.8D}{8} = \frac{1.8(0.008 \text{ m})}{8} = 0.0018 \text{ m}$$

$$Bi = \frac{hL_c}{k} = \frac{(800 \text{ W/m}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{C})(0.0018 \text{ m})}{48 \text{ W/m} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}} = 0.03 < 0.1$$

Therefore, we can use lumped system analysis. Then the time for a final valve temperature of 400°C becomes

$$b = \frac{hA_s}{\rho c_p \mathcal{V}} = \frac{8h}{1.8\rho c_p D} = \frac{8(800 \text{ W/m}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{C})}{1.8(7840 \text{ kg/m}^3)(440 \text{ J/kg} \cdot ^\circ\text{C})(0.008 \text{ m})} = 0.1288 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{T(t) - T_\infty}{T_i - T_\infty} = e^{-bt} \longrightarrow \frac{400 - 50}{800 - 50} = e^{-(0.1288 \text{ s}^{-1})t} \longrightarrow t = \mathbf{5.9 \text{ s}}$$

(b) The time for a final valve temperature of 200°C is

$$\frac{T(t) - T_\infty}{T_i - T_\infty} = e^{-bt} \longrightarrow \frac{200 - 50}{800 - 50} = e^{-(0.1288 \text{ s}^{-1})t} \longrightarrow t = \mathbf{12.5 \text{ s}}$$

(c) The time for a final valve temperature of 51°C is

$$\frac{T(t) - T_\infty}{T_i - T_\infty} = e^{-bt} \longrightarrow \frac{51 - 50}{800 - 50} = e^{-(0.1288 \text{ s}^{-1})t} \longrightarrow t = \mathbf{51.4 \text{ s}}$$

(d) The maximum amount of heat transfer from a single valve is determined from

$$m = \rho \mathcal{V} = \rho \frac{1.8\pi D^2 L}{4} = (7840 \text{ kg/m}^3) \frac{1.8\pi(0.008 \text{ m})^2(0.10 \text{ m})}{4} = 0.0709 \text{ kg}$$

$$Q = mc_p [T_f - T_i] = (0.0709 \text{ kg})(440 \text{ J/kg} \cdot ^\circ\text{C})(800 - 50)^\circ\text{C} = 23,400 \text{ J} = \mathbf{23.4 \text{ kJ}} \text{ (per valve)}$$

