



HEAT TRANSFER UNIT OPERATIONS

IN FOOD PROCESSING

- Evaporation, drying, freezing, refrigeration, heat sterilization, pasteurization, and other food processing operations all involve **heat transfer**.

- Heat transfer is a dynamic process in which heat is transferred from one body to another that is cooler.
- Rate of heat transfer is determined by the temperature differences between the bodies; the greater the temperature difference, the greater the rate of heat transfer.

**Rate of heat transfer = temperature difference/
heat flow resistance of medium**



3 ways of Heat Transfer



1. Conduction

- Heat transfer occurs due to the **transfer of vibrational energy** from one molecule to adjacent molecules in a solid mass.
- Conduction does not involve any physical movement of the body.
- **Fourier's equation** of heat transfer : $\frac{dQ}{dT} = - \frac{dT/dX}{1/kA}$

where,

dQ/dT is conduction rate of heat transfer

dT/dX is temp. difference/unit length

$1/kA$ is resistance offered by medium

h is convective heat transfer coefficient

A is area of cross section perpendicular to direction of heat flow

k is thermal conductivity of body

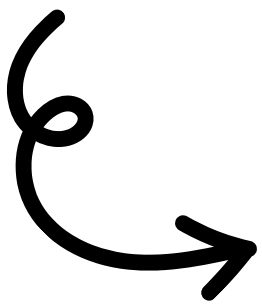
- **Ex;** As heat is transferred from the meat to the cheese, cheese melts



2. Convection



- Heat transfer occurs due to the **movement of groups of molecules in a fluid**.
- The groups of molecules can be moved by either density changes or forced fluid motion.
- The basic equation for the rate of convection heat transfer is known as **Newton's Law of Cooling**: $Q_{conv} = hA (T_{\infty} - T_s)$



where,

Q_{conv} is convective heat transfer rate

h is convective heat transfer coefficient

A is surface area of the object being cooled or heated,

T_{∞} is bulk temperature of the surrounding fluid

T_s is surface temperature of the object

- **Ex; Boiling of Water**

Warm
Molecules

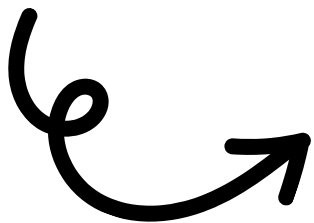


Cool
Molecules



3. Radiation

- Transfer of heat energy by **electromagnetic waves**.
- Radiation operates independently of the medium in which it occurs.
- It's determined by the relative temperatures, geometric arrangements, and surface structures of the materials emitting or absorbing heat.
- **Stefan-Boltzmann Law** of heat transfer : $q = A \sigma T^4$



where,

T is absolute temperature

Sigma is stefan-boltzmann constant ($5.670374419 \times 10^{-8}$ watt per square meter per kelvin)

- **Ex;** Baking in oven



Radiation
via
resistors



Heat Transfer

Characteristics of Food



- Type of product
 - Agitation of the container
 - Shape of the container.
 - Size of the container
 - Temperature of the retort
 - Type of container.
- Heat penetrates faster through metal than glass or plastics due to differences in thermal conductivity.
 - Tall containers promote convection currents in convective heating foods.



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