



LIVE SMARTER

Effect of Hight Altitude for Electronical Cooling

Flex, Power System

David Lin

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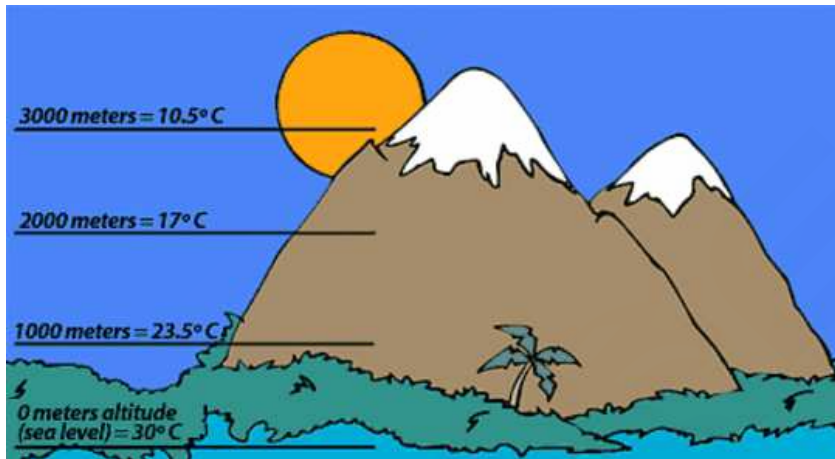
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Agenda

- 1) Air Properties with Altitude
- 2) Air Density Effects to Cooling Performance
- 3) Thermal Calculation & Simulation
- 4) Conclusion

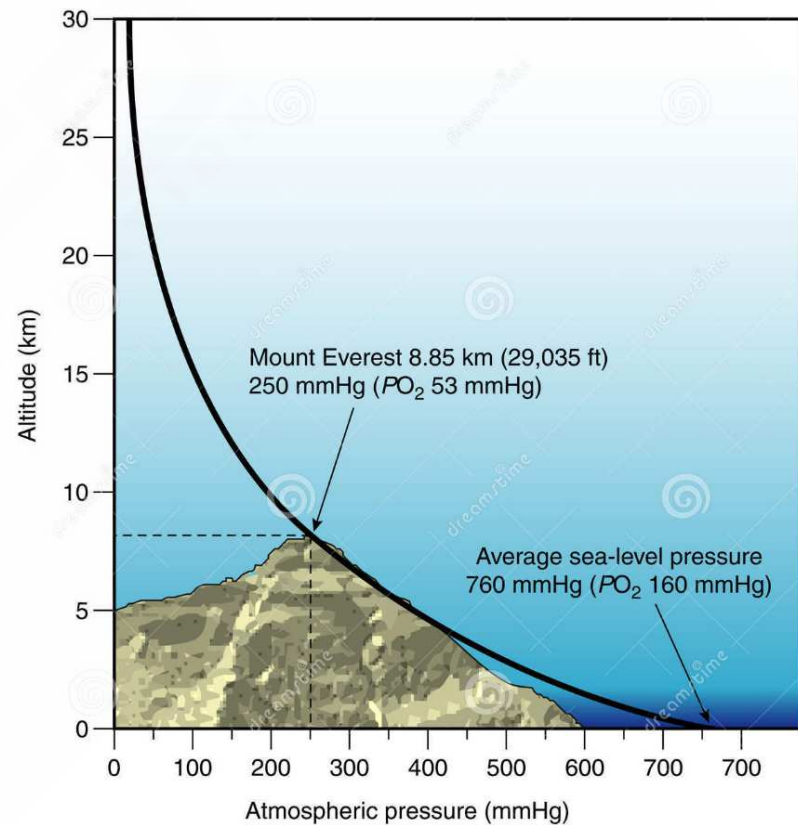
Altitude Affect Pressure & Temperature

Temperature and Altitude



Altitude increase 100 m up, the temperature of air drop 0.65 deg. C

Pressure and Altitude

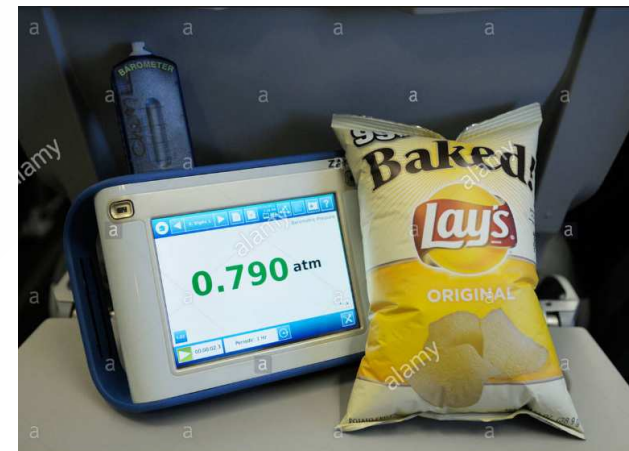


Altitude vs. Pressure



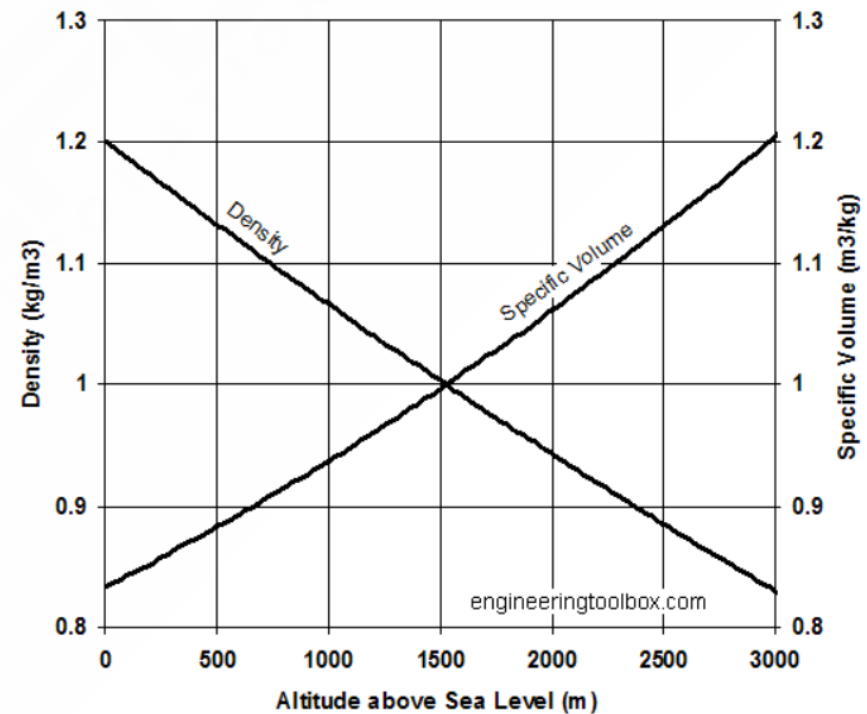
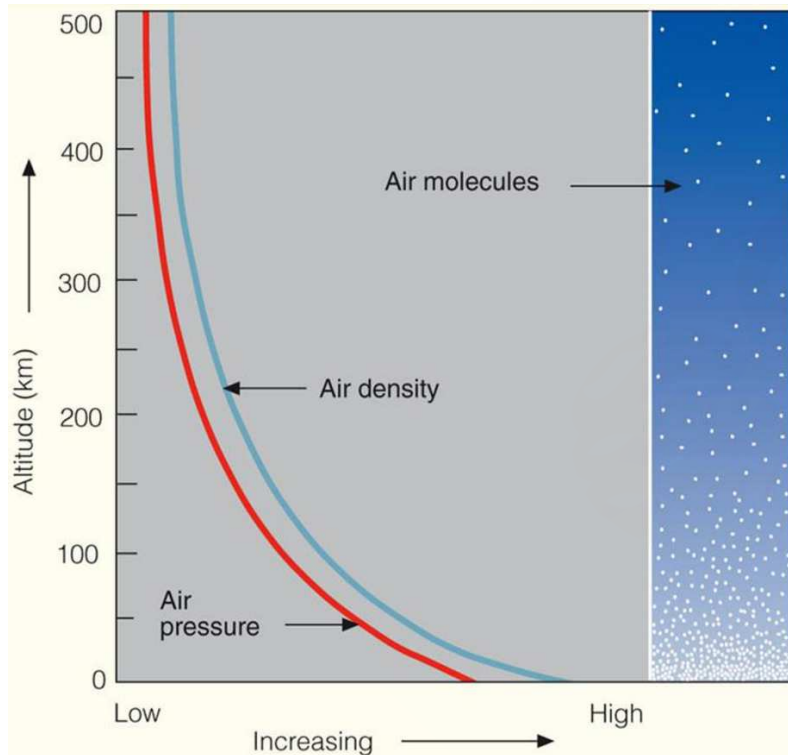
(Left) At high altitude the air pressure is the same inside and outside the bottle.

(Right) At sea level, the pressure is greater outside than inside the bottle. The greater outside pressure crushes the bottle.



Altitude vs. Air Density

Both air pressure and air density decreases with increasing altitude. It also changes with variances in temperature or humidity. At sea level and at 15 °C according to ISA (International Standard Atmosphere), air has a density of approximately 1.225 kg/m^3 ($0.0023769 \text{ slugs/ft}^3$).



Ideal Gas Law

The **Ideal Gas Law** relates pressure, temperature, and volume of an **ideal or perfect gas**.
The Ideal Gas Law can be expressed with the **Individual Gas Constant**:

$$P \cdot V = n \cdot R \cdot T = \left(\frac{W}{M}\right) \cdot R \cdot T$$

$$P \cdot M = \left(\frac{W}{V}\right) \cdot R \cdot T = \rho \cdot R \cdot T$$

where

P = absolute pressure (N/m^2)

V = volume (m^3)

$n = \left(\frac{W}{M}\right)$ = amount of substance of gas (moles)

W = mass of the gas (kg), M = molar mass (kg/mole, Air=28.96 kg/mole)

R = individual gas constant ($\text{J/mole}\cdot\text{K}$, 8.3143 $\text{J/mole}\cdot\text{K}$)

T = absolute temperature (K)

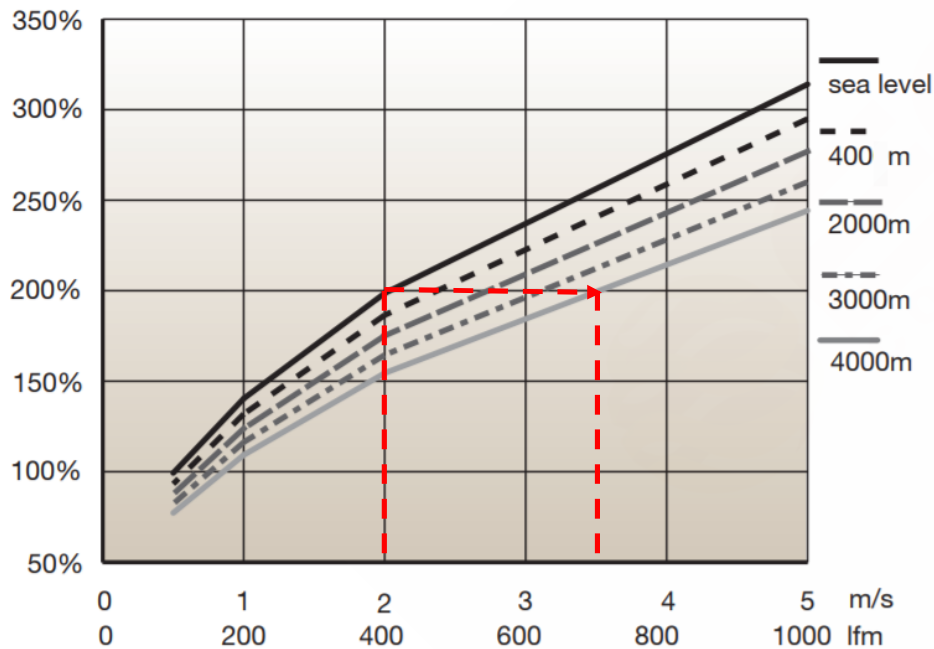
$\rho = \left(\frac{W}{V}\right)$ = density (kg/m^3)

Heat Transfer Capability at High Altitude

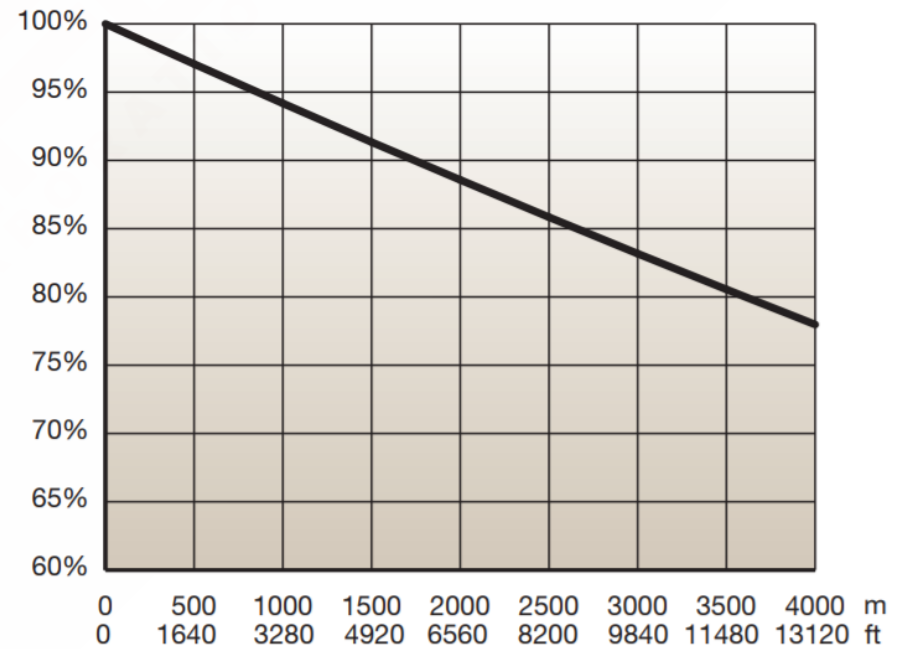
Due to lower air density at higher elevations, the convective heat transfer capabilities of air can vary depending on elevation.

Heat transfer

(in relation to sea level and 0,5 m/s airflow)



Cooling efficiency



Air Density Effects to Cooling Performance

- Effect 1 - Mass Flow Rate

$$Q = \dot{m} \cdot C_p \cdot \Delta T = \rho \cdot V \cdot C_p \cdot \Delta T$$

Airflow temperature rise (inlet vs. outlet) increased as lower density (less mass flow)

- Effect 2 - Heat Transfer Coefficient

$$Q = h A \Delta T \rightarrow Nu = \frac{h \cdot L}{k}$$

Heat transfer coefficient is changed with air density ratio.

$$Nu = f(Re \cdot Pr) \rightarrow \text{Forced Convection}$$

$$Nu = f(Gr \cdot Pr) \rightarrow \text{Natural Convection}$$

Effect 1 : Mass Flow Rate

In forced-air-cooled systems, the heat transfer can also be expressed as

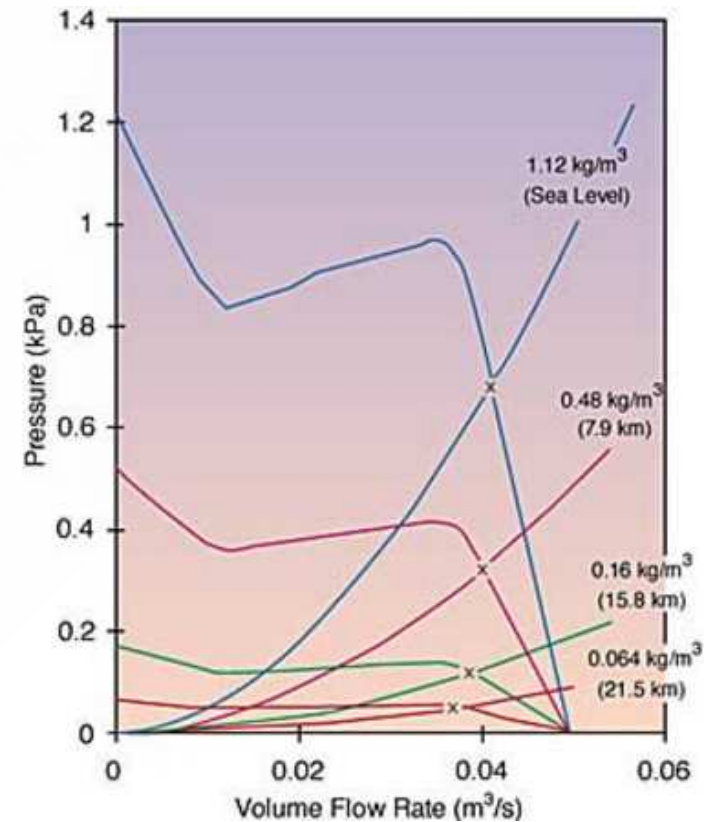
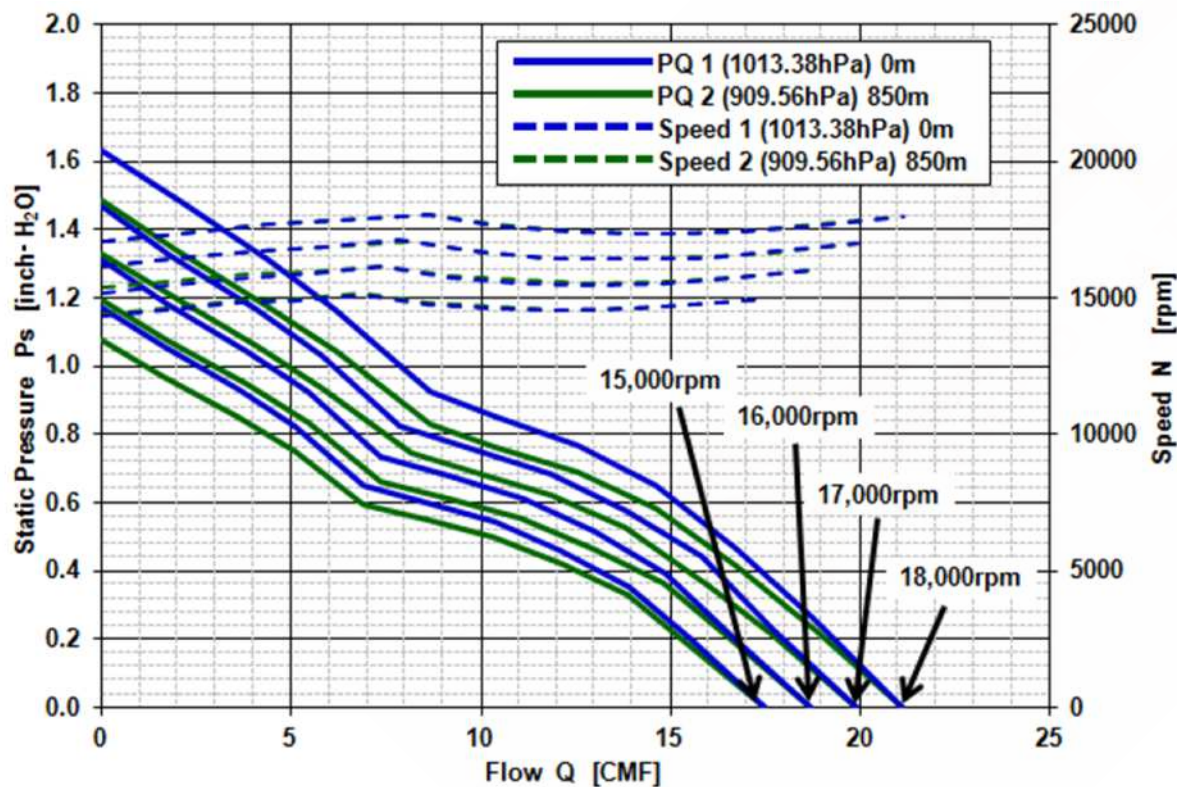
$$\dot{Q} = \text{Constant} = \underbrace{\dot{m}}_{\downarrow} \cdot \underbrace{C_p}_{\uparrow} \cdot \underbrace{\Delta T}_{\downarrow} = \underbrace{\rho}_{\downarrow} \cdot \underbrace{V}_{\uparrow} \cdot C_p \cdot \Delta T$$

A fan at a fixed speed (or fixed rpm) will deliver a fixed volume of air regardless of the altitude and pressure. However, the mass flow rate of air will be decrease at high altitude as a result of the lower density of air.

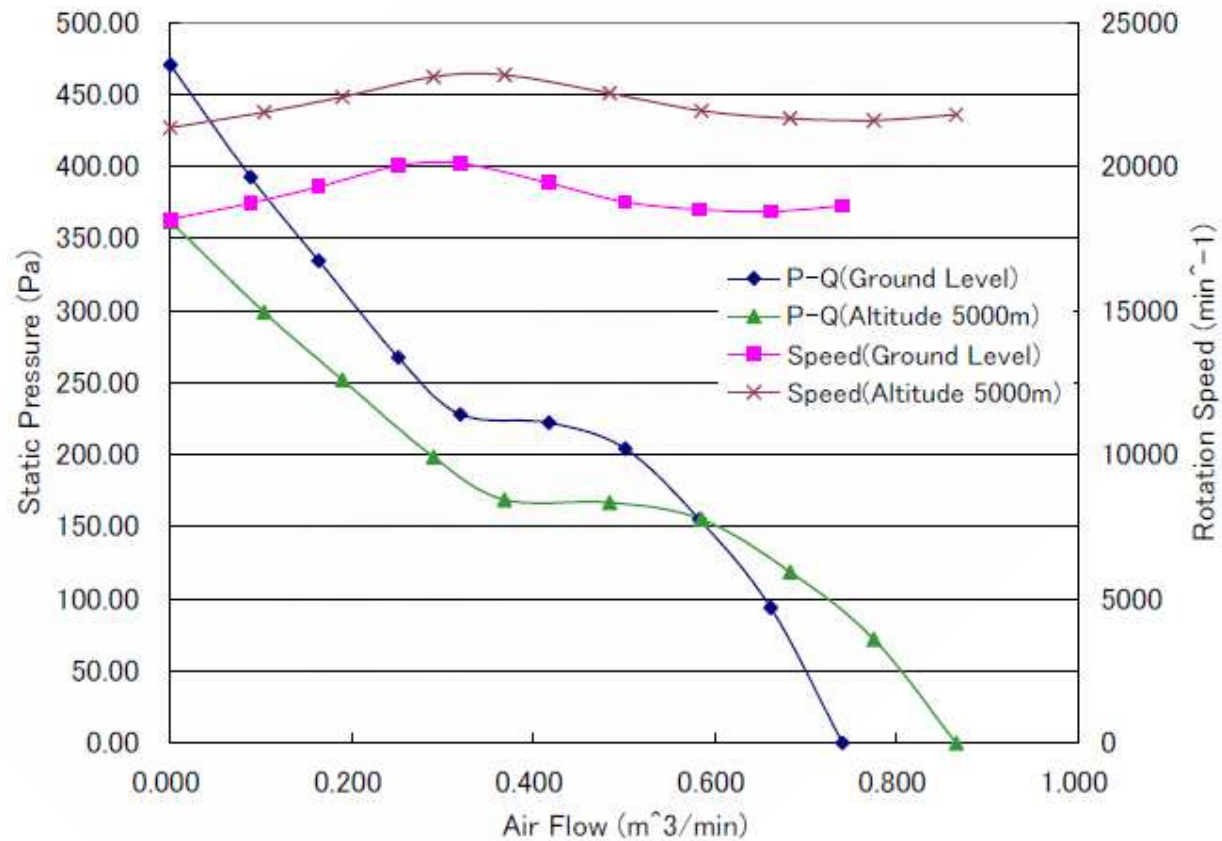
The temperature effect – the delta T increases by the ratio of densities as the altitude is increased.

Fan PQ Behavior at High Altitude – Same Speed

Comparison of Altitude Influence at The Same Speed
Altitude : 0m VS around 850m (Our KZW Factory)



Fan PQ Behavior at High Altitude – Same Power



Nidec Fan 4028 W40S12BS4A5 18000 rpm

Effect 2 : Heat Transfer Coefficient

▪ Forced Convection

The average Nusselt number is generally a function of Reynolds number and Prandtl number

$$\text{Nu} = \frac{hL}{k} = C \text{Re}^m \text{Pr}^n, n = 0.33, \text{ refer to Empirical Correlation}$$

$$\text{Re} = \frac{\rho u L}{\mu} = \frac{u L}{\nu} \quad \text{Pr} = \frac{\nu}{\alpha} = \frac{\text{viscous diffusion rate}}{\text{thermal diffusion rate}} = \frac{\mu/\rho}{k/(c_p \rho)} = \frac{c_p \mu}{k}$$

▪ Natural Convection

The average Nusselt number is expressed as a function of Grashof number and Prandtl number

$$\text{Nu} = \frac{hL}{k} = C (\text{Gr} \cdot \text{Pr})^{1/4}, \text{ refer to Empirical Correlations}$$

$$\text{Gr}_L = \frac{g \beta (T_s - T_\infty) L^3}{\nu^2} \quad \nu = \frac{\mu}{\rho}$$

Estimate Component Temp. at High Altitude

For components temperature is 105 deg. C at ambient 55 deg. C, estimate the temperature at 3000m and 50 deg. c ambient.

Estimate Temperature Effects at High Altitude

Sea Level Conditions

Temp. at sea level T1 55 °C

Density at sea level D1 1.0759 kg/m3

Pressure at sea level P1 101325 Pa

Density at sea level, T2 D2a 1.0926 kg/m3

High Altitude Conditions

Temp. at high altitude T2 50 °C

Altitude H 3000 m (公尺)

Pressure at high altitude P2 73773 Pa

Density at high altitude D2 0.7445 kg/m3

Calculate Temp. Rise of Components at High Altitude

Total power dissipation Q 0 Watts

Total airflow rate G 0 CFM

Ratio of temp. rise of comp. 0 (0 ~ 1)

Sea level/high altitude density ratio 1.445 > 1

Temp. rise of comp. at sea level 50 °C

Temp. rise of comp. at high altitude 60.1 °C

Comp. temp. at sea level 105

Comp. temp. at high altitude 110.1

Only for force convection calculation

Input altitude high (m)

Density ratio ($\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2}$)

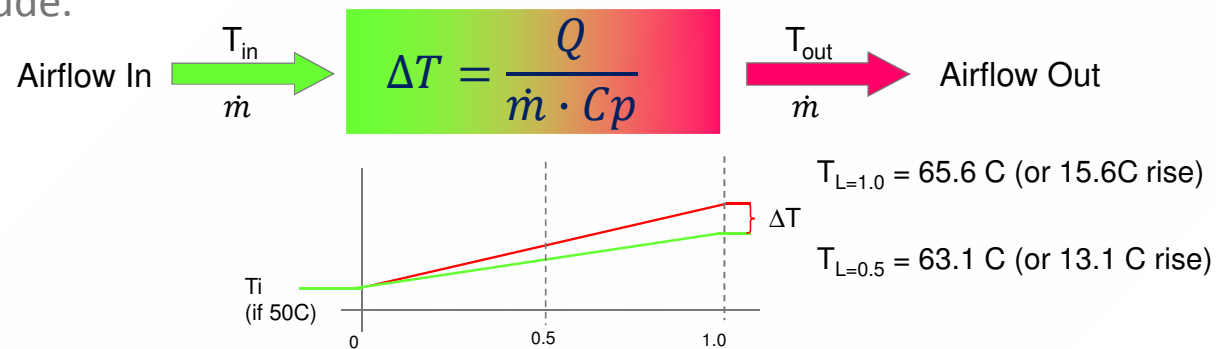
Component Temp. Rise (at high altitude)=
Temp. rise (at sea) * Density ratio ($\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2}$)^{1/2}

Component Temp. (at high altitude)= Temp.
rise (at high altitude) + ambient at high
altitude

Input components temperature at sea level

Consider Ambient Temp. Rise

Considering the temp. rise (out and inlet) of airflow will increased at high altitude due to lower density at high altitude.



Estimate Temperature Effects at High Altitude

Sea Level Conditions		High Altitude Conditions	
Temp. at sea level T1	50 °C	Temp. at high altitude T2	50 °C
Density at sea level D1	1.0926 kg/m ³	Altitude H	3000 m(公尺)
Pressure at sea level P1	101325 Pa	Pressure at high altitude P2	73773 Pa
Density at sea level, T2 D2a	1.0926 kg/m ³	Density at high altitude D2	0.7445 kg/m ³

Calculate Temp. Rise of Components at High Altitude

Total power dissipation Q	80 Watts	Sea level/high altitude density ratio	1.468 > 1
Total airflow rate G	14 CFM	Temp. rise of comp. at sea level	50 °C
Ratio of temp. rise of comp.	0.5 (0 ~ 1)	Temp. rise of comp. at high altitude	63.11 °C

Comp. temp. at sea level 100 Comp. temp. at high altitude 113.11

Only for force convection calculation

Estimate Temperature Effects at High Altitude

Sea Level Conditions		High Altitude Conditions	
Temp. at sea level T1	50 °C	Temp. at high altitude T2	50 °C
Density at sea level D1	1.0926 kg/m ³	Altitude H	3000 m(公尺)
Pressure at sea level P1	101325 Pa	Pressure at high altitude P2	73773 Pa
Density at sea level, T2 D2a	1.0926 kg/m ³	Density at high altitude D2	0.7445 kg/m ³

Calculate Temp. Rise of Components at High Altitude

Total power dissipation Q	80 Watts	Sea level/high altitude density ratio	1.468 > 1
Total airflow rate G	14 CFM	Temp. rise of comp. at sea level	50 °C
Ratio of temp. rise of comp.	1 (0 ~ 1)	Temp. rise of comp. at high altitude	65.63 °C

Comp. temp. at sea level 100 Comp. temp. at high altitude 115.63

Only for force convection calculation

Altitude Correlation Coefficient

$\text{Temp (altitude)} = [\text{Temp (sea-level)} - \text{ambient}] \times \text{correlation coefficient} + \text{ambient}$

- Customer "Cxxxx"

1800m or 6,000ft = 1.15

3000m or 10,000ft = 1.24

- Customer "Sxxxxxx"

2000m = 1.16

3048m = 1.26

4000m = 1.35

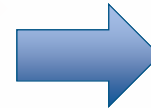
Flotherm – High Altitude Setting

In order to estimate performance of **Fan P-Q Curve** and **Flow Resistance** at high altitude condition, Mentor provide a website for user to apply it easier.

Flotherm

<http://webparts.mentor.com/flotherm/support/webparts.jsp>

or Google the keyword “Flotherm Support Webparts”



Support/Web Parts

1. V6.1 Angled Fan Macro
2. V6.1 Blower Macro
3. Spinning Disc Macro
4. Angled Thick Resistance Macro
5. Thermoelectric Cooler Generator
6. Heated Tube Macro
7. Power Cylinder Macro
8. High Altitude Settings Calculator
9. Manifold Air Duct Generator
10. Chassis Air Guide Generator
11. Advanced Resistance Generator
12. Angled Resistance Generator
13. Tube Generator
14. Elliptic Rod Generator
15. Finned Box Generator

Flotherm – High Altitude Setting

Natural Convection

Besides air density, air expansivity value comes into consideration for buoyancy effects.

Input Data

Altitude h	(m)	<input type="text" value="3048"/>
Air Temperature at Altitude T1	(C)	<input type="text" value="35"/>

Output Data

Air Density at Altitude ra (atmospheric conditions)	(kg/m3)	<input type="text" value="0.906965"/>
Expansivity at Altitude ba (atmospheric conditions)	(1/K)	<input type="text" value="0.003726"/>
Air Temperature at Altitude Ta (atmospheric conditions)	(C)	<input type="text" value="-4.74152"/>
Air Density at Altitude r2 (user set temperature)	(kg/m3)	<input type="text" value="0.817032"/>
Expansivity at Altitude b2 (user set temperature)	(1/K)	<input type="text" value="0.003245"/>

Ideal Gas Law

$$\rho = \frac{P}{rT}$$

$P(Pa)$: pressure at altitude z.

$r(N.m/kg.K)$: gas constant (ie $r = 287$ for air).

$T(K)$: expected air average temperature.

Flotherm – High Altitude Setting

Forced Convection

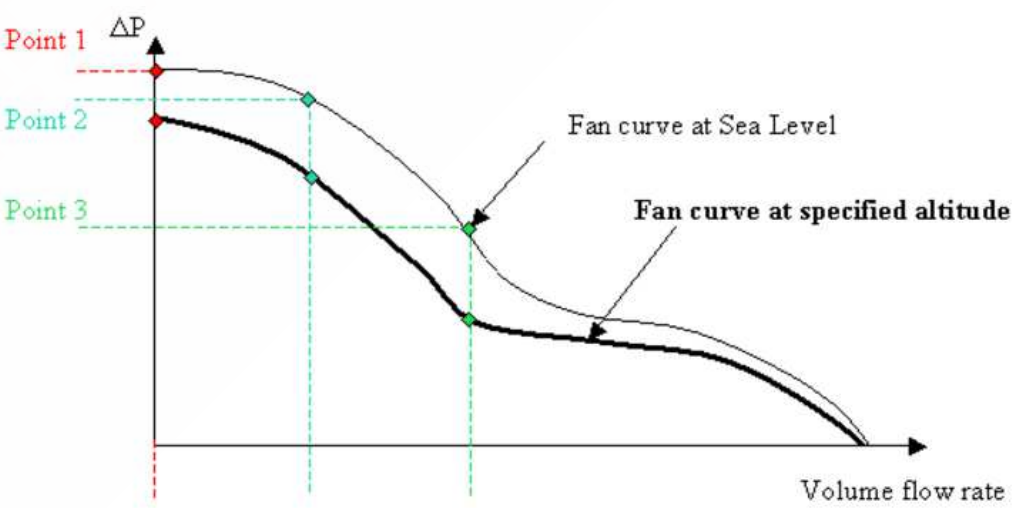
If there are fans in the system, fan curve need to have its pressure curve being modified to take the density variation into account. (assume fan is a constant speed air moving device)

Input Data

Air Density at Sea Level	(kg/m3)	<input type="text" value="1.1614"/>	Air Density at Altitude	(kg/m3)	<input type="text"/>		
Point 1	Point 2	Point 3	Point 4	Point 5	Point 6	Point 7	Point 8
(Pa)	(Pa)	(Pa)	(Pa)	(Pa)	(Pa)	(Pa)	(Pa)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

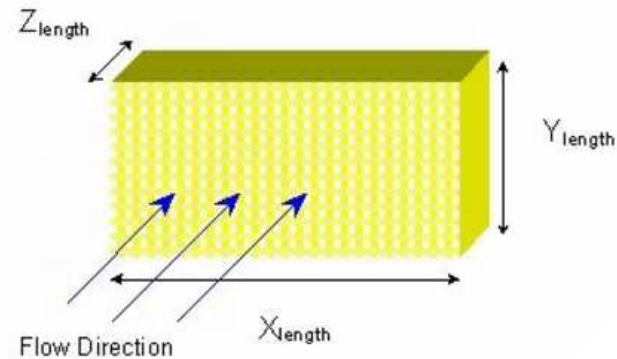
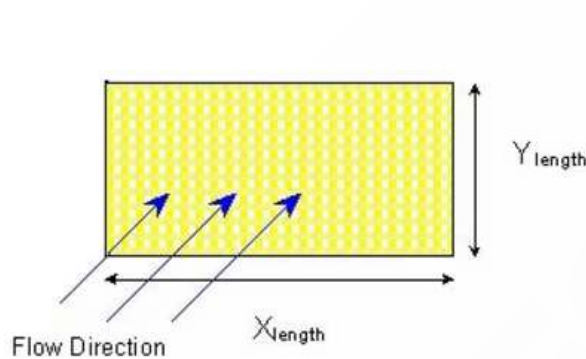
Output data

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Flotherm – High Altitude Setting

Planar and Volume Flow Resistances



Enter the total number of data points, N (To obtain an accurate model of a resistance, please make sure that you have a minimum of 3 data points)

Density of fluid (default value is for air at 300 K) kg/m³

Viscosity of fluid (default value is for air at 300 K) N-s/m²

X_{length}(width) m

Y_{length}(height) m

Z_{length}^(*1)(thickness) m

$$Re = \frac{\rho u L}{\mu}$$

1.016	44.2
1.56	96
2.032	149.6
3.048	305.36

Generate PDML

Import to Project

Flotherm – High Altitude Setting

- Density can be set as being **constant** throughout the computational domain. Density is assumed to be constant if the variation in the fluid temperature is less than 60°C in the domain.
- Density can vary using the **Ideal Gas Law** when the density variations due to temperature or molecular weight are significant (more than 60°C).

Attribute Data

Name: Air at 30 DegC, 1 atmosphere

Conductivity Type: Constant

Conductivity: 0.0261 W/(mK)

Viscosity Type: Constant

Viscosity: 1.84e-05 N s/m^2

Density Type: Constant

Density: **Constant** (highlighted), **Ideal Gas Law** (selected)

Specific Heat: 1005 J/(kg K)

Expansivity: 0.00333333 1/K

Fluid: Air at 30 DegC, 1 atmosphere

Gravity: Normal

Direction: -Y

Value: Automatic

Turbulence: Turbulent

Turbulence Model: Automatic Algebraic

Pressure: 101325 Pa

Default Radiant Temperature: 35 °C

Radiant Transient: No Attachment

Default Ambient Temperature: 35 °C

Ambient Transient: No Attachment

Comparison with Estimation and Simulation

Example

Unit operating at sea-level & 55C is known and estimate thermal performance at 3048m & 55C.

Condition #1		Condition #2	
Altitude, H_1	0 m	Altitude, H_2	3048 m
Temp. T_1	55 degC	Temp. T_2	55 degC
Pressure, P_1	101325 Pa	Pressure, P_2	69681.7 Pa
Density, ρ_1	1.076 kg/m ³	Density, ρ_2	0.740 kg/m ³
Kinematic Viscosity, ν_1	1.8372E-05 m ² /s	Kinematic Viscosity, ν_2	2.6715E-05 m ² /s
Dynamic Viscosity, μ_1	1.9763E-05 kg/m s	Dynamic Viscosity, μ_2	1.9763E-05 kg/m s
Specific Heat, C_{p1}	1006.99 J/kg C	Specific Heat, C_{p2}	1006.99 J/kg C
Thermal Conductivity, k_1	0.0283 W/m K	Thermal Conductivity, k_2	0.0283 W/m K
Thermal Diffusivity, α_1	2.6156E-05 m ² /s	Thermal Diffusivity, α_2	3.8034E-05 m ² /s
Prandtl Number, Pr_1	0.702	Prandtl Number, Pr_2	0.702

- Altitude correlation coefficient

$$Nu = \frac{hL}{k} = C Re^m Pr^n$$

$$Re = \frac{\rho u L}{\mu} = \frac{u L}{\nu}$$

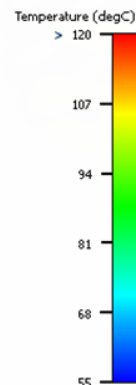
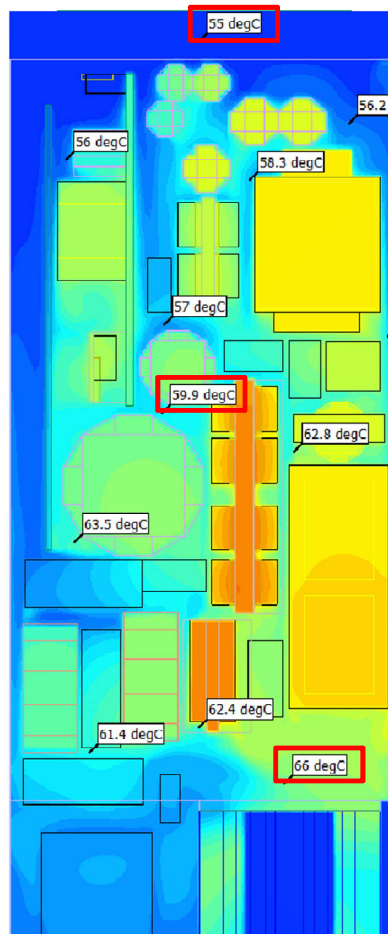
- Temp(altitude) = Temp Rise(sea-level) x correlation coefficient + ambient(altitude)

Example - Simulation Comparison (Surrounding Temp.)

Sea Level

3000m

Airflow Direction
↓



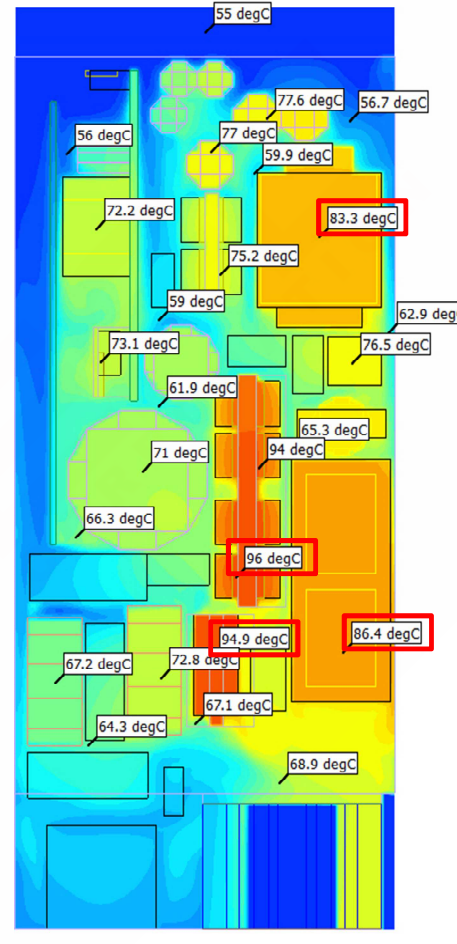
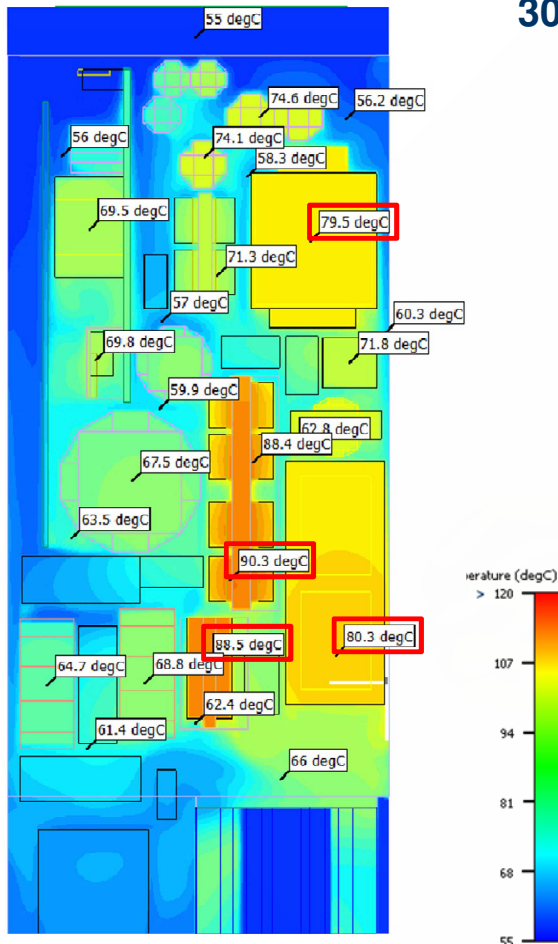
Component	Sea-Level	3000m	Deviation
Inlet	55.0	55.0	0.0
Up-T1	57.2	58.5	1.3
Up-HS3	55.3	55.5	0.2
Up-Boost Cap	55.6	56.0	0.4
Up-HS2	57.2	58.3	1.1
Up-Nearby HS2	60.5	63.1	2.6
Up-L4	61.3	64.1	2.8
Up-CM Choke	60.1	62.4	2.2
UP-Neaby BD1	62.6	66.3	3.7
Outlet Mean Temp.	63.3	67.0	3.7
Aiflow Rate (CFM)	11.64	11.64	0.0

Example - Simulation Comparison (Component Temp.)

Sea Level

3000m

Airflow Direction
↓



Component	Sea-Level	3000m	Deviation
BD1	89.0	95.5	6.5
Q1	87.7	93.4	5.7
Q4	87.1	92.7	5.6
D3	88.5	94.2	5.7
D4	87.8	93.4	5.6
D6	86.8	92.3	5.5
Q12	82.3	87.6	5.2
Q9	85.3	90.6	5.3
Q7	83.9	89.4	5.4
Q127	70.7	73.6	3.0
L3-2	79.8	85.8	6.0
L3-1	80.3	86.4	6.1
T1	79.6	83.3	3.7
L4	74.0	78.9	4.8
T300	69.5	72.2	2.7
Q302	69.4	72.7	3.3
L1	64.4	66.9	2.5
L2	68.6	72.5	3.9
C3	66.7	70.1	3.4
C9	66.7	69.2	2.6
RL1	57.9	59.6	1.7
Q102	71.8	74.6	2.7

Comparison with Estimation and Simulation

Component	Simulation	Estimation	Deviation		Component	Simulation	Estimation	Deviation	
T _{out} Mean	67.0	65.4	-1.61	2.4%	L3	88.0	86.7	-1.36	1.5%
BD1	95.9	97.6	1.64	1.7%	T1	84.1	85.8	1.72	2.0%
BD2	95.9	97.5	1.66	1.7%	L4	79.8	78.8	-0.94	1.2%
Q1	94.5	96.0	1.46	1.5%	T300	72.7	73.1	0.39	0.5%
Q4	93.9	95.2	1.35	1.4%	Q303	72.2	72.7	0.47	0.7%
D3	95.4	96.9	1.53	1.6%	Q302	73.5	73.1	-0.44	0.6%
D4	94.6	96.1	1.47	1.6%	D311	70.2	71.9	1.64	2.3%
D6	93.4	94.9	1.42	1.5%	L1	67.3	66.8	-0.47	0.7%
Q12	88.7	89.2	0.51	0.6%	L2	73.0	72.0	-0.98	1.3%
Q9	91.6	92.9	1.32	1.4%	C3	70.5	69.7	-0.83	1.2%
Q7	90.5	91.2	0.72	0.8%	C9	69.5	69.6	0.12	0.2%
Q127	74.1	74.6	0.49	0.7%	CT1	78.0	76.6	-1.41	1.8%
Q129	74.8	75.8	0.92	1.2%	Q102	75.1	76.0	0.91	1.2%
Q120	73.4	74.0	0.58	0.8%	Q101	75.3	76.3	0.96	1.3%
Q128	75.0	75.9	0.90	1.2%	Q119	75.0	76.0	0.96	1.3%

Compare with simulation data, It's around 1~2.5 % difference by experience correlation.

Summary

- Understand air properties variation at high altitude. (temperature, pressure, density...)
- At urgent case, it's easy to get an approximate result by a quick/simple heat transfer equation.
- While setting high altitude simulation by Flotherm, don't forget to adjust those key properties that may vary by altitude.

The background is a dark blue gradient with a complex pattern of thin, light blue and white geometric lines. These lines form various shapes, including rectangles, circles, and arcs, some of which are interconnected. Small dots in light blue and white are scattered throughout, often at the intersections of the lines. The overall effect is a technical or architectural drawing style.

Thank You