



Model created in COMSOL Multiphysics 6.4

# Multicomponent Tubular Reactor with Isothermal Cooling

## *Introduction*

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This example uses the Chemical Reaction Engineering Module to study an elementary, exothermic, irreversible reaction in a tubular reactor (liquid phase, laminar flow regime). The reactor uses a constant temperature cooling jacket to keep its temperature down. The steady-state behavior of the reactor is investigated. The reaction kinetics and physical properties of the species are modeled with the Chemistry interface, which is available in the Chemical Reaction Engineering Module.

The [Model Definition](#) section provides a general description of the complete reactor model, whereas the [Modeling Instructions](#) details how to set up and solve the model.

## *Model Definition*

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### **REACTION**

The reaction is a reversible liquid phase conversion of propylene oxide and water into propylene glycol in the manner of



In the species named the prefix “p” stands for propylene. Water is in excess and is modeled as a solvent. The reaction kinetics is first order with respect to the concentration of propylene oxide:

$$r_{\text{poxide}} = k_1 c_{\text{poxide}} \quad (2)$$

## GEOMETRY

Figure 1 illustrates the tubular reactor geometry.

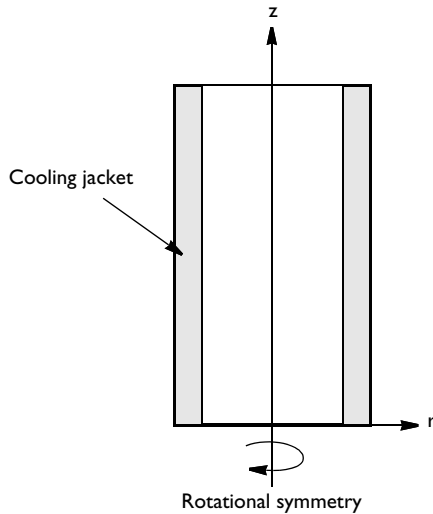


Figure 1: Model geometry for the 2-dimensional rotationally symmetric models.

The system is described by a set of differential equations on a 2D surface that represents a cross section of the tubular reactor in the  $rz$ -plane. That 2D surface's borders represent the inlet, the outlet, the reactor wall, and the centerline. The reactor model uses the following differential equations: mass balances for the species, a heat balance, combined with momentum and mass balance for the fluid flow. Due to rotational symmetry, the software need only to solve these equations for half of the domain as shown in Figure 1.

## MODEL EQUATIONS

You describe the mass balances and heat balances in the reactors with partial differential equations (PDEs). The equations are defined as follows.

*Mass Balance*

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla C_i = \nabla \cdot (D_i \nabla C_i) + R_x \quad (3)$$

where  $D_i$  denotes the diffusion coefficient of species  $i$ ,  $C_i$  is the concentration,  $\mathbf{u}$  the flow velocity vector, and  $R_x$  is the reaction rate.

Using a two-dimensional axially symmetric geometry, and a constant diffusion coefficient, this equation corresponds to

$$u \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial r} + w \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial z} = D_i \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial r} + D_i \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial r^2} + D_i \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial z} + R_x \quad (4)$$

where  $u$  and  $w$  denote the radial and axial velocity component respectively.

The mass balance equations are set up and solved for using the Transport of Diluted Species interface.

#### *Mass Balance Boundary Conditions*

- Inlet ( $z = 0$ )

$$C_i(r, 0) = C_{i0}$$

- At the wall ( $r = R$ )

$$\frac{\partial C_{\text{poxide}}}{\partial r}(R, z) = 0$$

The boundary condition selected for the outlet states that convection dominates transport out of the reactor. Thus this condition keeps the outlet boundary open and does not set any restrictions on the concentration.

- Outlet ( $z = L$ )

$$\frac{\partial C_{\text{poxide}}}{\partial z}(r, L) = 0$$

where  $L$  denotes the length of the reactor.

#### *Energy Balance Inside the Reactor*

$$\rho C_p \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T - \nabla \cdot (k \nabla T) = R_x (-\Delta H_{R_x}) \quad (5)$$

where  $\rho$  denotes the density,  $C_p$  equals the heat capacity,  $k$  is the thermal conductivity,  $T$  the temperature, and  $\Delta H_{R_x}$  is the reaction enthalpy.

Using a two-dimensional axially symmetric geometry, and a constant thermal conductivity, this equation corresponds to

$$\rho C_p u \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \rho C_p w \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} - k \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial r^2} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = R_x (-\Delta H_{R_x}) \quad (6)$$

The energy balance is solved for by the Heat Transfer in Fluids interface.

#### *Energy Balance Boundary Conditions*

- Inlet ( $z = 0$ )

$$T(r, 0) = T_0$$

- At the wall ( $r = R$ )

$$-\frac{\partial T}{\partial r}(R, z) = U_k(T - T_a)$$

where  $T_a$  denotes the constant temperature in the cooling jacket, and  $U_k$  is an overall heat transfer coefficient.

#### Mass Balance

As for the mass balance, choose the boundary condition at the outlet for the energy balance such that it keeps the outlet boundary open. This condition sets only one restriction, that the heat transport out of the reactor is convective.

- Outlet ( $z = L$ )

$$-\frac{\partial T}{\partial r}(r, L) = 0$$

#### Momentum Balance

The fluid flow is modeled with the Laminar flow interface that solves the Navier–Stokes equations computing the velocity and pressure. At the inlet, a fully developed laminar flow profile with an average flow velocity is prescribed. At the outlet, the pressure is prescribed.

### MODEL PARAMETERS

Below is a list of the model's input data. You define them either as constants or as expressions involving other constants. In defining each parameter in COMSOL Multiphysics, for the constant's **Name**, use the left side of the equality in the following list and use the value on the right side of the equality for the **Expression** that defines it. Type the unit inside brackets, like this [mol/m<sup>3</sup>].

The constants in the model are:

- Activation energy,  $E = 75362$  J/mol
- Frequency factor,  $A = 16.96E12$  1/h
- Overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U_k = 1300$  W/(m<sup>2</sup>·K)
- Thermal conductivity of mixture,  $k_e = 0.559$  W/(m·K)
- Inlet temperature,  $T_0 = 312$  K
- Inlet temperature of the coolant,  $T_{a0} = 273$  K
- Heat of reaction,  $\Delta H_{Rx}$ ,  $dH_{rx} = -84666$  J/mol

- Total flow rate,  $v_0 = 0.1 \text{ [mol/s] / cpoxide0}$
- Average flow velocity,  $u_0 = v_0 / (\pi * Ra^2)$
- Concentration of propylene oxide at inlet,  $cpoxide0 = \rho_{poxide} / M_{poxide} / 9 [1]$
- Concentration of water,  $cwater0 = \rho_{H2O} / M_{H2O} * (7/9) [1]$
- Molar heat capacity of water,  $cpm_{H2O} = 74.5 \text{ J/(mol.K)}$
- Reactor radius,  $Ra = 0.1 \text{ m}$
- Reactor length,  $L = 1 \text{ m}$
- Molar weight of propylene oxide,  $M_{poxide} = 58.095 \text{ g/mol}$
- Molar weight of water,  $M_{H2O} = 18 \text{ g/mol}$
- Molar weight of propylene glycol,  $M_{pglycol} = 76.095 \text{ g/mol}$
- Density of propylene oxide,  $\rho_{poxide} = 830 \text{ kg/m}^3$
- Density of water,  $\rho_{H2O} = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$
- Density of propylene glycol,  $\rho_{pglycol} = 1040 \text{ kg/m}^3$
- Reference dynamic viscosity of water (at 293 K),  $\mu_{ref\_H2O} = 1 \text{ mPa}\cdot\text{s}$
- Molar heat capacity of water,  $cpm_{H2O} = 75.36 \text{ J/mol/K}$
- The conversion of poxide is given by

$$x_{poxide} = \frac{C_{poxide0} - C_{poxide}}{C_{poxide0}}$$

All necessary reaction kinetics and mass transport properties are incorporated into the model with the Chemistry interface.

## Results

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Surface plots for the surface temperature and conversion are shown in [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 4](#). These figures show that where the temperature is low, little conversion takes place and vice versa. This occurs because the rate of the reaction is temperature dependent. The low temperature closest to the wall is due to the coolant.

[Figure 3](#) and [Figure 5](#) show the temperature and conversion surface profiles at three locations along the length of the reactor. The further along the reactor the reactants travel, the more reaction takes place and the higher the temperature becomes. The impact of the coolant are shown in these figures as well.

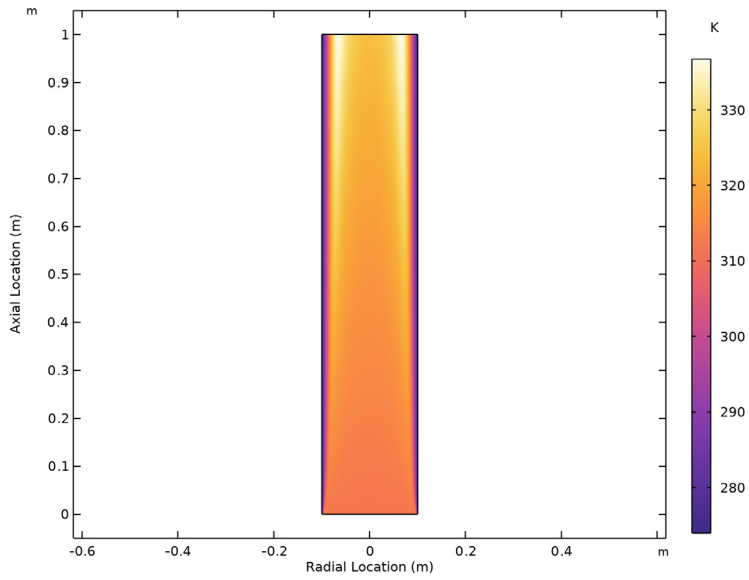


Figure 2: Temperature in the reactor.

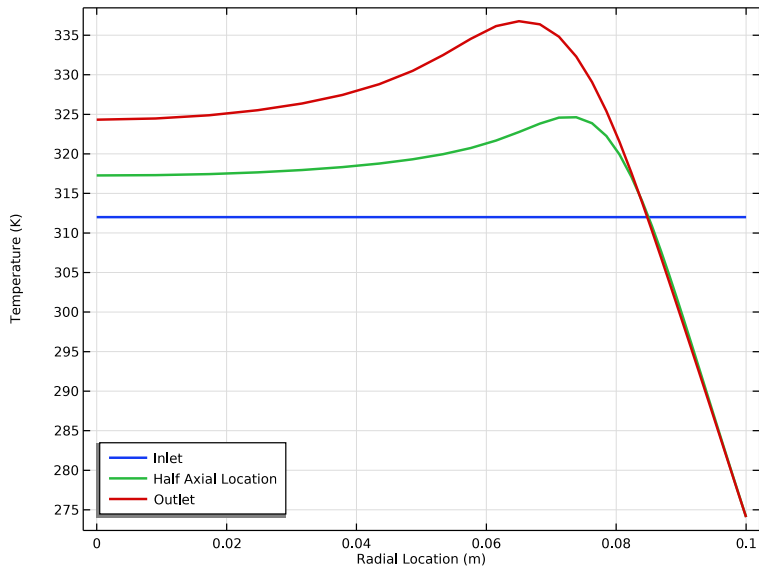


Figure 3: Radial temperature profiles.

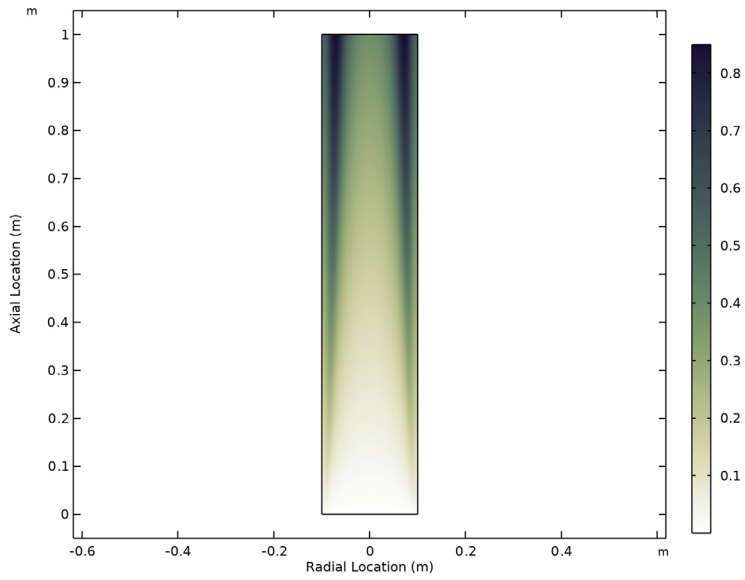


Figure 4: Conversion of propylene oxide in the reactor.

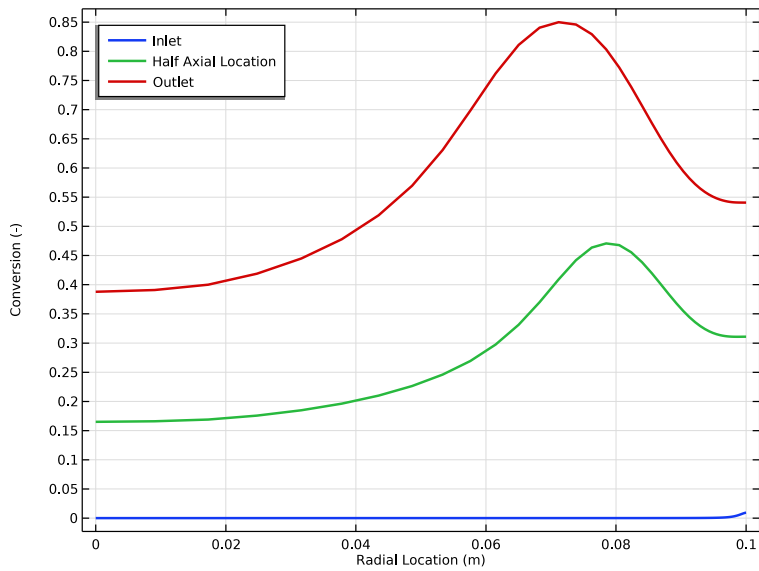


Figure 5: Radial conversion profiles for propylene oxide.

## *Exercises*

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Some example exercises below can easily be performed with the model to understand the system better.

- 1 How does the thermal conductivity of the mixture affect the temperature distribution?
- 2 How does the coolant temperature decrease the mixture temperature at the outlet?
- 3 Add more reacting components, for example, a side reaction to the Chemistry interface. How will this affect the results?
- 4 Use more complicated reaction kinetics. The reaction can be shifted to a second order reversible reaction.

## *References*

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1. S. Fogler, *Elements of Chemical Reaction Engineering 4th ed.*, p. 557, *Example 8-12 Radial Effects in Tubular Reactor*, Prentice Hall, 2005.

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**Application Library path:** `Chemical_Reaction_Engineering_Module/Tutorials/multicomponent_tubular_reactor`

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## *Modeling Instructions*

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Starting **COMSOL Multiphysics** you are greeted by the **Model Wizard**. Here you choose the dimension of your model geometry as well as the physics interfaces required. You can return to the **Model Wizard** later in the modeling process should you want to expand your model to include additional physics interfaces.

From the **File** menu, choose **New**.

### **NEW**

In the **New** window, click  **Model Wizard**.

### **MODEL WIZARD**

- 1 In the **Model Wizard** window, click  **2D Axisymmetric**.
- 2 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Chemical Species Transport > Chemistry (chem)**.

This interface can be used to calculate reaction kinetics and thermal and mass transport properties.

3 Click **Add**.

4 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Chemical Species Transport > Transport of Diluted Species (tds)**.

This sets up the required mass balance equation for propylene oxide and propylene glycol. Water is a solvent and is not accounted for here.

5 Click **Add**.

6 In the **Number of species** text field, type 2.

7 In the **Concentrations (mol/m<sup>3</sup>)** table, enter the following settings:

<u>cpoxide</u>
<u>cpglycol</u>

cpoxide and cpglycol are the dependent variable names, where p stands for propylene.

8 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Heat Transfer > Heat Transfer in Fluids (ht)**.

Selecting this physics interface adds an energy balance to the model.

9 Click **Add**.

Also, set up the **Laminar Flow** interface to describe the fluid flow in the reactor.

1 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Fluid Flow > Single-Phase Flow > Laminar Flow (spf)**.

2 Click **Add**.

3 Click  **Study**.

4 In the **Select Study** tree, select **General Studies > Stationary**.

The **Stationary** analysis type lets you investigate the steady-state behavior of the reactor.

5 Click  **Done**.


## GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

### *Parameters I*

Start by adding the **Parameters**. You can type in constant names and their values in the **Parameters** dialog. Note that you can enter units enclosed in brackets after the constant values. This can be very useful as the software is able to keep track of unit consistency throughout the model setup procedure.

In this case, the model parameters are available in a text file that is imported.


1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Global Definitions** click **Parameters I**.

- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Parameters**, locate the **Parameters** section.
- 3 Click  **Load from File**.
- 4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file `multicomponent_tubular_reactor_parameters.txt`.


## GEOMETRY I

Now, move on to define the reactor geometry. In **2D axisymmetry**, the representation of the tubular reactor is reduced to a simple rectangle.

### *Rectangle 1 (r1)*

In the **Geometry** toolbar, click  **Rectangle**.


The geometry is automatically drawn as you leave the **Geometry** node. You can also click the **Build All** button in the **Settings** toolbar.

- 1 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.
- 2 In the **Width** text field, type  $R_a$ .
- 3 In the **Height** text field, type  $L$ .
- 4 Click  **Build All Objects**.

Add a variable computing the conversion of propylene oxide.

## DEFINITIONS

### *Variables 1*

- 1 In the **Definitions** toolbar, click  **Local Variables**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Variables**, locate the **Variables** section.
- 3 In the table, enter the following settings:

Name	Expression	Unit	Description
Xpoxide	$(c_{\text{poxide0}} - c_{\text{poxide}}) / c_{\text{poxide0}}$		Conversion of propylene oxide

Select the mixture type and enable transport mixture properties to be computed.


## CHEMISTRY (CHEM)

First the reaction kinetics and mixture properties will be set up, this is done in the **Chemistry** interface.

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Chemistry (chem)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Chemistry**, locate the **Model Input** section.

- 3 From the  $T$  list, choose **Temperature (ht)**.
- 4 Locate the **Mixture Properties** section. From the **Phase** list, choose **Liquid**.
- 5 Click to expand the **Calculate Transport Properties** section.

#### *Reaction 1*

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Reaction**.  
The reaction is irreversible and contains three species: propylene oxide (poxide), water, and propylene glycol (pglycol).
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Reaction**, locate the **Reaction Formula** section.
- 3 In the **Formula** text field, type `poxide+H2O=>pglycol`.
- 4 Click **Apply**.
- 5 Locate the **Reaction Rate** section. From the list, choose **User defined**.
- 6 In the  $r_j$  text field, type `chem.kf_1*chem.c_poxide`.
- 7 Locate the **Reaction Orders** section. Find the **Volumetric overall reaction order** subsection. In the **Forward** text field, type 1.  
Define the reaction expression and use the in-built Arrhenius expression for calculation of the reaction rate constant.
- 8 Locate the **Rate Constants** section. Select the **Use Arrhenius expressions** checkbox.
- 9 In the  $A^f$  text field, type A.
- 10 In the  $E^f$  text field, type E.
- 11 Locate the **Reaction Thermodynamic Properties** section. From the **Heat source of reaction** list, choose **User defined**.
- 12 In the  $Q$  text field, type `-chem.r_1*dHrx`.

Under each species, their respective chemical formulas can be entered. Entering a chemical formula gives the species' molar mass and enables balancing the reaction.

#### *Species: poxide*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Species: poxide**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Species**, locate the **Chemical Formula** section.
- 3 Select the **Enable formula** checkbox.
- 4 In the text field, type `C3H6O`.
- 5 In the  $\rho$  text field, type `rho_poxide`.

Species: H2O

Since the species' name (H2O) is a chemical formula, the chemical formula field is already filled in. As a result, so is the molar mass.

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Species: H2O**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Species**, locate the **Type** section.
- 3 From the list, choose **Solvent**.
- 4 Locate the **Chemical Formula** section. In the  $\rho$  text field, type rho\_H2O.
- 5 Click to expand the **Transport Expressions** section. In the  $k$  text field, type ke.
- 6 Click to expand the **Thermodynamic Expressions** section. From the list, choose **User defined**.
- 7 In the  $C_p$  text field, type cpm\_H2O.

Species: pglycol

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Species: pglycol**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Species**, locate the **Chemical Formula** section.
- 3 Select the **Enable formula** checkbox.
- 4 In the text field, type C3H8O2.
- 5 In the  $\rho$  text field, type rho\_pglycol.

I: poxide + H2O => pglycol

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **I: poxide + H2O => pglycol**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Reaction**, locate the **Reaction Formula** section.
- 3 Click **Balance** in the upper-right corner of the section.

As can be seen, no coefficients appeared in front of any of the species when balancing the reaction, which means that 1 mole of propylene oxide and water is needed to form 1 mole of propylene glycol.

- 4 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Chemistry (chem)**.
- 5 In the **Settings** window for **Chemistry**, locate the **Species Matching** section.
- 6 Find the **Bulk species** subsection. From the **Species solved for** list, choose **Transport of Diluted Species**.
- 7 In the table, enter the following settings:

Species	Type	Molar concentration	Value (mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
H2O	Solvent	User defined	cH2O0

Species	Type	Molar concentration	Value (mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
pglycol	Variable	cpglycol	Solved for
poxide	Variable	cpoxide	Solved for

**8** Locate the **Calculate Transport Properties** section. In the  $\mu_{\text{ref}}$  text field, type myref\_H2O.

**9** In the  $T_{\text{ref}}$  text field, type Tref\_my.

### TRANSPORT OF DILUTED SPECIES (TDS)

In the next step of the model setup you will specify the parameters and source terms needed for the mass balance equation defined for propylene oxide and propylene glycol. As you click the **Transport of Diluted Species** node the **Equation** section of the **Settings** window will tell you which equations are solved for. The **Domain Selection** shows a list of the geometry domains to which the equations apply. Note that you can change the mass transport mechanisms included in the mass balance equation through selections in the **Transport Mechanisms** section. This can be done at any time in the modeling process.

Moving on to the **Fluid** node, you are expected to provide diffusivity of propylene oxide and propylene glycol. The variable names you type in have previously been defined in the **Variables** and **Parameters** lists. Here, it is also possible to couple the interface to other interfaces. In this example, you instead use the **Multiphysics** node to do this.

#### Fluid 1

- 1** In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** > **Transport of Diluted Species (tds)** click **Fluid 1**.
- 2** In the **Settings** window for **Fluid**, locate the **Diffusion** section.
- 3** In the  $D_{\text{epoxide}}$  text field, type chem.D\_poxide.
- 4** In the  $D_{\text{cpglycol}}$  text field, type chem.D\_pglycol.

#### Reactions 1

In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Reactions**.

The reaction rates are selected from the **Chemistry** interface.


- 1** Select Domain 1 only.
- 2** In the **Settings** window for **Reactions**, locate the **Reaction Rates** section.
- 3** From the **Chemistry** list, choose **Chemistry (chem)**.

#### Inflow 1

- 1** In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Inflow**.
- 2** Select Boundary 2 only.

- 3 In the **Settings** window for **Inflow**, locate the **Concentration** section.
- 4 In the  $c_{0,\text{epoxide}}$  text field, type `cpxide0`.  
Selecting the Danckwerts boundary condition is a manner to speed up the computation and improve the solution.
- 5 Locate the **Boundary Condition Type** section. From the list, choose **Flux (Danckwerts)**.

#### *Outflow 1*

- 1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Outflow**.
- 2 Select Boundary 3 only.  
Assigning the **Outflow** condition to the outlet boundary imposes  $-n \cdot \text{Dgrad}(c) = 0$ , that is, the transport of mass across the boundary is dominated by convection. Note that the mathematical representation of the boundary conditions are displayed in the **Equation** section of the **Settings** window. The boundary conditions for the axis of symmetry as well as the no flux condition for the reactor wall are set by default.

This concludes the definition of the mass balance for propylene oxide and propylene glycol. Now, move on to set up the **Heat Transfer in Fluids** interface.

### **HEAT TRANSFER IN FLUIDS (HT)**

#### *Fluid 1*

The **Heat Transfer in Fluids** feature asks for the thermal conductivity, density, and heat capacity of the fluid mixture. These are taken from the **Chemistry** interface.

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1) > Heat Transfer in Fluids (ht)** click **Fluid 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Fluid**, locate the **Heat Conduction, Fluid** section.
- 3 From the  $k$  list, choose **Thermal conductivity (chem)**.
- 4 Locate the **Thermodynamics, Fluid** section. From the **Fluid type** list, choose **Gas/Liquid**.
- 5 From the  $\rho$  list, choose **Density (chem)**.
- 6 From the  $C_p$  list, choose **Heat capacity at constant pressure (chem)**.
- 7 From the  $\gamma$  list, choose **User defined**.

#### *Initial Values 1*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Initial Values 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Initial Values**, locate the **Initial Values** section.
- 3 In the  $T$  text field, type `T0`.

### *Heat Source 1*

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Domains** and choose **Heat Source**.

Add a **Heat Source** feature to include the effect of the exothermic reactions as defined in the **Transport of Diluted Species** interface to the heat balance.

2 Select Domain 1 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Heat Source**, locate the **Heat Source** section.

4 From the  $Q_0$  list, choose **Heat source (tds)**.

Next, add the boundary conditions specifying a temperature at the inlet, the heat flux between reactor and cooling jacket, and an outflow condition at the outlet.

### *Temperature 1*

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Temperature**.

2 Select Boundary 2 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Temperature**, locate the **Temperature** section.

4 In the  $T_0$  text field, type T0.

### *Heat Flux 1*

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Heat Flux**.

2 Select Boundary 4 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Heat Flux**, locate the **Heat Flux** section.

4 From the **Flux type** list, choose **Convective heat flux**.

5 In the  $h$  text field, type Uk.

6 In the  $T_{\text{ext}}$  text field, type Ta0.

### *Outflow 1*

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Outflow**.

2 Select Boundary 3 only.

Now, move on to the **Laminar Flow** interface.

## **LAMINAR FLOW (SPF)**

### *Fluid Properties 1*

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1) > Laminar Flow (spf)** click **Fluid Properties 1**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Fluid Properties**, locate the **Fluid Properties** section.

3 From the  $\rho$  list, choose **Density (chem)**.

4 From the  $\mu$  list, choose **Dynamic viscosity (chem)**.

Assume that the flow has a **Fully developed flow** pattern as it enters the reactor.

*Inlet 1*

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Inlet**.

2 Select Boundary 2 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Inlet**, locate the **Boundary Condition** section.

4 From the list, choose **Fully developed flow**.

5 Locate the **Fully Developed Flow** section. In the  $U_{av}$  text field, type  $u0$ .

*Outlet 1*


1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Boundaries** and choose **Outlet**.

2 Select Boundary 3 only.


Last, couple the interfaces with the **Multiphysics** node.

## MULTIPHYSICS

*Nonisothermal Flow 1 (nitf1)*

In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Multiphysics Couplings** and choose **Domain > Nonisothermal Flow**.

*Reacting Flow, Diluted Species 1 (rfd1)*


In the **Physics** toolbar, click  **Multiphysics Couplings** and choose **Domain > Reacting Flow, Diluted Species**.

This completes the setup of the physics interfaces. The next step of the modeling process involves meshing.

## MESH 1

Following the steps below you will discretize the geometry with a **Mesh**. The software uses the mesh when applying the finite element method to numerically solve the partial differential equations. In this particular model you will create a **Mapped** mesh. This meshing technique is often a good choice for simple geometries as it allows detailed control over the mesh distribution. The mesh is dense near the reactor inlet and reactor outer wall. This is needed to resolve sharp concentration and temperature gradients expected when the reactor is run under nonisothermal conditions.

*Mapped 1*

In the **Mesh** toolbar, click  **Mapped**.

### *Distribution 1*

**1** Right-click **Mapped 1** and choose **Distribution**.

First set up 50 vertical mesh lines by selecting the inlet and outlet boundaries and using predefined distribution settings. Then, in the same fashion, set up the horizontal lines to complete the **Mapped** mesh.

**2** Select Boundaries 2 and 3 only.

**3** In the **Settings** window for **Distribution**, locate the **Distribution** section.

**4** From the **Distribution type** list, choose **Predefined**.

**5** In the **Number of elements** text field, type 50.

**6** In the **Element ratio** text field, type 0.01.

**7** From the **Growth rate** list, choose **Exponential**.

**8** Select the **Reverse direction** checkbox.

### *Distribution 2*

**1** In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Mapped 1** and choose **Distribution**.

**2** Select Boundaries 1 and 4 only.

**3** In the **Settings** window for **Distribution**, locate the **Distribution** section.

**4** From the **Distribution type** list, choose **Predefined**.

**5** In the **Number of elements** text field, type 200.

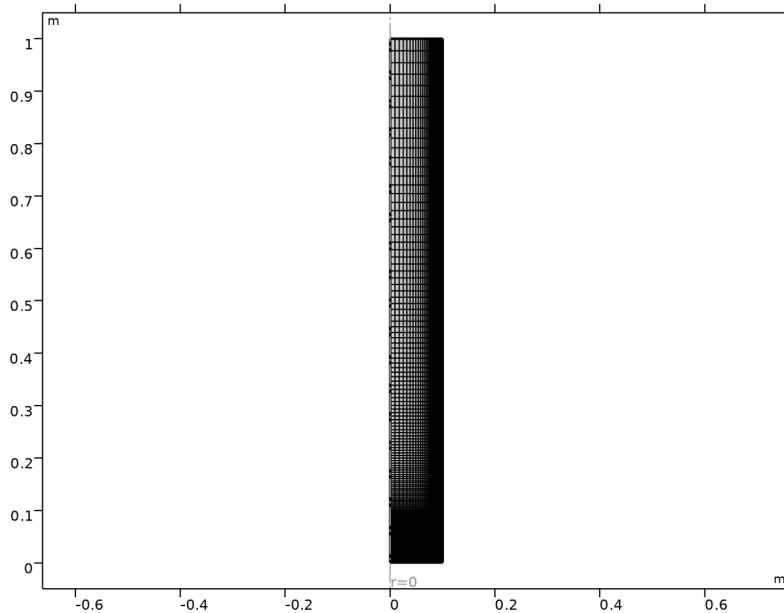
**6** In the **Element ratio** text field, type 0.01.

**7** From the **Growth rate** list, choose **Exponential**.

**8** Select the **Reverse direction** checkbox.

9 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Mesh 1** and choose **Build All**.

The figure below shows the created mesh.



## STUDY 1

Solve the model.


1 In the **Study** toolbar, click  **Compute**.

The following instructions produce [Figure 2](#) through [Figure 5](#).

Two of these require setting up two kinds of datasets: **Cut Line 2D** and **Mirror 2D** datasets.

## RESULTS

*Cut Line 2D 1*

1 In the **Results** toolbar, click  **Cut Line 2D**.



2 In the **Settings** window for **Cut Line 2D**, locate the **Line Data** section.

3 In row **Point 2**, set **r** to Ra.

4 Select the **Additional parallel lines** checkbox.


5 In the **Distances** text field, type  $0.5 * L \quad 1 * L$ .

### *Mirror 2D 1*



- 1 In the **Results** toolbar, click  **More Datasets** and choose **Mirror 2D**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Mirror 2D**, click to expand the **Advanced** section.
- 3 Find the **Space variables** subsection. Select the **Remove elements on the symmetry axis** checkbox.  
  
This setting removes the symmetry axis in the figure and makes the resulting plots look cleaner.
- 4 Click  **Plot**.

Start with the **Mirror 2D** plots. Proceed as follows to create a mirrored temperature 2D plot (Figure 2).

### *Temperature, surface (mirrored)*

- 1 In the **Results** toolbar, click  **2D Plot Group**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Data** section.
- 3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Mirror 2D 1**.
- 4 In the **Label** text field, type *Temperature, surface (mirrored)*.
- 5 Click to expand the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 6 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.
- 7 Locate the **Plot Settings** section.
- 8 Select the **x-axis label** checkbox. In the associated text field, type *Radial Location (m)*.
- 9 Select the **y-axis label** checkbox. In the associated text field, type *Axial Location (m)*.

### *Surface 1*



- 1 Right-click **Temperature, surface (mirrored)** and choose **Surface**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **Expression** section. From the menu, choose **Component 1 (comp1) > Heat Transfer in Fluids > Temperature > T - Temperature - K**.
- 3 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Color table** list, choose **HeatCameraLight**.
- 4 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.
- 5 In the **Temperature, surface (mirrored)** toolbar, click  **Plot**.

Duplicate the **Temperature, surface** Mirror 2D plot to make the **Conversion, surface** Mirror 2D plot, Figure 4.

### *Conversion, surface (mirrored)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Temperature, surface (mirrored)** and choose **Duplicate**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, type *Conversion, surface (mirrored)* in the **Label** text field.

### *Surface 1*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Conversion, surface (mirrored)** node, then click **Surface 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **Expression** section. From the menu, choose **Component 1 (comp1) > Definitions > Variables > Xpoxide - Conversion of propylene oxide - 1**.
- 3 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Color table** list, choose **Lichen**.
- 4 Click the  **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.
- 5 In the **Conversion, surface (mirrored)** toolbar, click  **Plot**.

### *Concentration, pxide, 3D (tds)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **Concentration, pxide, 3D (tds)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, click to expand the **Title** section.
- 3 From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 4 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.

### *Surface 1*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Concentration, pxide, 3D (tds)** node, then click **Surface 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Coloring and Style** section.
- 3 From the **Color table** list, choose **Cynanthus**.

### *Concentration, pglycol, 3D (tds)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **Concentration, pglycol, 3D (tds)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, click to expand the **Title** section.
- 3 From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 4 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.

### *Surface 1*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Concentration, pglycol, 3D (tds)** node, then click **Surface 1**.

- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Coloring and Style** section.
- 3 From the **Color table** list, choose **Bryophyta**.

#### *Temperature (ht)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **Temperature (ht)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Title** section.
- 3 From the **Title type** list, choose **Manual**.
- 4 In the **Title** text area, type Surface: Temperature.
- 5 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.

#### *Velocity (spf)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Velocity (spf)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Title** section.
- 3 From the **Title type** list, choose **Manual**.
- 4 In the **Title** text area, type Contour: Temperature.
- 5 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.
- 6 Locate the **Title** section. In the **Title** text area, type Surface: Velocity Magnitude.

#### *Pressure (spf)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Pressure (spf)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Title** section.
- 3 From the **Title type** list, choose **Manual**.
- 4 In the **Title** text area, type Contour: Pressure.
- 5 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.

#### *Velocity, 3D (spf)*


- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Velocity, 3D (spf)**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, locate the **Title** section.
- 3 From the **Title type** list, choose **Manual**.
- 4 In the **Title** text area, type Surface: Velocity Magnitude.
- 5 Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** checkbox.

#### *Surface*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Velocity, 3D (spf)** node, then click **Surface**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Coloring and Style** section.
- 3 From the **Color table** list, choose **Metasepia**.

4 From the **Color table transformation** list, choose **Reverse**.

#### *Temperature profiles*

In the **Results** toolbar, click  **ID Plot Group**.

Continue with the **Cut Line 2D** plots. First create the temperature plot with a **ID Plot Group** with a **Line Graph**, [Figure 3](#).

- 1 In the **Settings** window for **ID Plot Group**, type *Temperature profiles* in the **Label** text field.
- 2 Locate the **Data** section. From the **Dataset** list, choose **Cut Line 2D I**.
- 3 Click to expand the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 4 Locate the **Plot Settings** section.
- 5 Select the **x-axis label** checkbox. In the associated text field, type *Radial Location (m)*.
- 6 Select the **y-axis label** checkbox. In the associated text field, type *Temperature (K)*.
- 7 Locate the **Legend** section. From the **Layout** list, choose **Inside graph axis area**.
- 8 From the **Position** list, choose **Lower left**.

#### *Line Graph I*

- 1 Right-click **Temperature profiles** and choose **Line Graph**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Line Graph**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **y-Axis Data** section. From the menu, choose **Component I (comp1) > Heat Transfer in Fluids > Temperature > T - Temperature - K**.
- 3 Click to expand the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Width** list, choose **2**.
- 4 Click to expand the **Legends** section. Select the **Show legends** checkbox.
- 5 From the **Legends** list, choose **Manual**.
- 6 In the table, enter the following settings:

<b>Legends</b>
Inlet
Half Axial Location
Outlet


- 7 In the **Temperature profiles** toolbar, click  **Plot**.

Duplicate the **Temperature profiles** Cut Line 2D plot to create a **Conversion profiles** Cut Line 2D plot, [Figure 5](#).

### *Conversion profiles*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Temperature profiles** and choose **Duplicate**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **ID Plot Group**, type Conversion profiles in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Locate the **Plot Settings** section. In the **y-axis label** text field, type Conversion (-).
- 4 Locate the **Legend** section. From the **Position** list, choose **Upper left**.

### *Line Graph 1*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Conversion profiles** node, then click **Line Graph 1**.
- 2 In the **Settings** window for **Line Graph**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **y-Axis Data** section. From the menu, choose **Component 1 (comp1) > Definitions > Variables > Xpoxide - Conversion of propylene oxide - 1**.
- 3 In the **Conversion profiles** toolbar, click  **Plot**.

Optionally, delete plots that are not needed.

### *Concentration, pglycol (tds), Concentration, pxide (tds), Temperature (ht), Temperature and Fluid Flow (nitfl), Velocity (spf)*

- 1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results**, Ctrl-click to select **Concentration, pxide (tds)**, **Concentration, pglycol (tds)**, **Temperature (ht)**, **Velocity (spf)**, and **Temperature and Fluid Flow (nitfl)**.
- 2 Right-click and choose **Delete**.