series or in parallel. In using the resistance concept the calculations involved are analogous to the application of Ohm's Law in electricity, *viz.*, the heat flow or thermal current is directly proportional to the thermal potential or temperature difference, and inversely proportional to the thermal resistance:

$$q_{rc} = \frac{t_1 - t_2}{R} \tag{6}$$

Following the electrical analogy, when there is a thermal current flowing through several *resistances in series*, the resistances are additive:

$$R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \cdots + R_n \tag{7}$$

Similarly, conductance is the reciprocal of resistance, and for heat flow

Table 4. Heat Transmission by Radiation for Black-Body Conditions[a]
Expressed in Btu per (square foot) (hour)

Temp F Deg	0	−1	−2	−3	−4	−5	−6	−7	−8	−9
−30	59.3	58.7	58.2	57.7	57.2	56.7	56.2	55.7	55.2	54.7
−20	65.2	64.7	64.1	63.5	62.9	62.3	61.7	61.1	60.5	59.9
−10	71.4	70.8	70.1	69.5	68.9	68.3	67.7	67.1	66.4	65.8
0	78.0	77.4	76.7	76.0	75.4	74.7	74.0	73.4	72.7	72.1
	0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9
0	78.0	78.7	79.4	80.1	80.8	81.5	82.2	82.9	83.6	84.3
10	85.0	85.7	86.5	97.2	88.0	88.7	89.4	90.2	90.9	91.7
20	92.4	93.3	94.0	94.8	95.6	96.4	97.2	98.0	98.8	99.6
30	100	101	102	103	104	105	105	106	107	108
40	109	110	111	112	112	113	114	115	116	117
50	118	119	120	121	122	123	123	124	125	126
60	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136
70	137	138	139	140	142	143	144	145	146	147
80	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157
90	159	160	161	162	163	164	166	167	168	169
100	170	171	173	174	175	176	178	179	180	182
110	183	184	185	187	188	189	191	192	193	195
120	196	197	199	200	201	203	204	206	207	209
130	211	212	214	215	217	218	220	221	222	224

[a] *Example:* Radiation from walls of room at 32 F to surface at − 25 F for effective emissivity of 0.95 = (102 − 62.3) 0.95 = 37.7 Btu per (square foot) (hour).

through several *resistances in parallel*, the conductances are additive:

$$C_T = \frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{R_n} \tag{8}$$

Practical Heat Transfer Problems

The use of these relations for resistance and conductance makes possible the solution of many practical heat transfer problems. As discussed in Chapters 6, 7 and 28, the practical analyses of heat transfer in building walls, in fin-tube coils and in pipe coverings, are usually computed by this method. The same resistance analysis may be applied to complicated steady-state *conduction* problems. Table 5 gives the resistances in six common cases of steady-state conduction.

A complete analysis by the resistance method is well illustrated by

considering the heat transfer from the air outside to the cold water inside of an insulated pipe. The temperature gradients and the nature of the resistance analysis are indicated by the two sketches of Fig. 4.

Since air is sensibly transparent to radiation, there will be some heat transfer by both radiation and convection to the outer insulation surface. The mechanisms act in parallel on the air side. The total transfer by radiation and convection then passes through the insulating layer and the pipe wall by thermal conduction, and thence by convection and radiation into main cold water streams. (Radiation is not significant on the water side as liquids are sensibly opaque to radiation, although water transmits energy in the visible region). The contact resistance between the insulation and the pipe wall is presumed to be equal to zero.

Referring to Fig. 4, the heat transferred for a given length N of pipe, q_{rc}, Btu per hour, may be thought of as flowing through the parallel resistances R_r and R_c, associated with the insulation surface radiation and convection transfer. Then the flow is through the resistance offered to thermal conduction by the insulation, R_3, through the pipe wall resistance, R_2', and into the water stream through the convection resistance, R_1. Note the analogy to the direct current electrical circuit problem. A temperature (potential) drop is required to overcome these resistances to the flow of thermal current. The total resistance to heat transfer, R_T, hour Fahrenheit degrees per Btu, is the summation of the individual resistances:

$$R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + R_4 \tag{9}$$

where the resultant parallel resistance R_4 is obtained from:

$$\frac{1}{R_4} = \frac{1}{R_r} + \frac{1}{R_c}$$

Provided the individual resistances may be evaluated, the total resistance can be obtained from this relation. Then the heat transfer for the length of pipe (N, ft) can be established by the relation:

$$q_{rc}\ (\text{Btu per hour}) = \frac{(t_0 - t_i)}{R_T} \tag{10}$$

For a unit length of the pipe the heat transfer rate is:

$$\frac{q_{rc}}{N}\ (\text{Btu per hour foot}) = \frac{(t_0 - t_i)}{R_T N} \tag{11}$$

The temperature drop, Δt, through an individual resistance may then be calculated from the relation:

$$\Delta t = R\, q_{rc}$$

where R is the resistance in question.

The problem is now reduced to one of evaluating the individual resistances of the system. This entails suitable integration of the rate Equations 1, 2 and 3 to produce expressions of the form:

$$q = \frac{\Delta t}{R} \tag{12}$$

where q is the heat transfer rate, and Δt is the potential drop or temperature difference through the resistance R. Table 5 lists such solutions for