

# MEMO

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**From:** F. Baneyx  
**Subject:** Transport Coefficients

It is occasionally necessary for us to obtain values for transport properties of materials with which we work in the laboratory. This information is not always available in the literature, and we must sometimes make the measurements ourselves. Our laboratory, however, has not yet established standard procedures for the determination of the thermal conductivity and thermal diffusivity of solids and the viscosity of fluids.

We would like you to develop and test simple methods for measuring these transport coefficients. Specifically, we are asking that you:

- (1) Develop procedures for determining the thermal conductivity and thermal diffusivity of a brass rod of a standard alloy of unknown composition using both steady state and transient approaches.
- (2) Develop a simple experimental design to measure the viscosity of water and at least two other liquids. For these measurements, avoid elaborate equipment and complicated procedures. You can use a falling sphere method for more viscous fluids or tank drainage or funnel drainage experiments for water. We are particularly interested in a study of wall effects for the falling sphere method.

In your report, include an error analysis and a discussion of the sources of error in the measurements and design. Compare your results with literature values whenever possible.