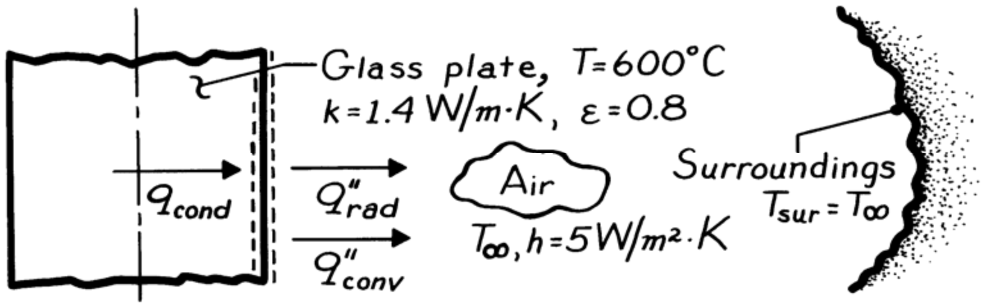
PROBLEM 1.81

KNOWN: Conditions associated with surface cooling of plate glass which is initially at 600°C. Maximum allowable temperature gradient in the glass.

FIND: Lowest allowable air temperature, T_∞.

SCHEMATIC:



ASSUMPTIONS: (1) Surface of glass exchanges radiation with large surroundings at $T_{sur} = T_\infty$, (2) One-dimensional conduction in the x-direction.

ANALYSIS: The maximum temperature gradient will exist at the surface of the glass and at the instant that cooling is initiated. From the surface energy balance, Eq. 1.13, and the rate equations, Eqs. 1.1, 1.3a and 1.7, it follows that

$$-k\frac{dT}{dx} - h\left(T_s - T_\infty\right) - \varepsilon\sigma\left(T_s^4 - T_{sur}^4\right) = 0$$

or, with $(dT/dx)_{max}$ = -15°C/mm = -15,000°C/m and $T_{sur} = T_\infty$,

$$-1.4\frac{W}{m\cdot K}\left[-15{,}000\frac{^\circ C}{m}\right] = 5\frac{W}{m^2\cdot K}\left(873 - T_\infty\right)K$$

$$+0.8\times 5.67\times 10^{-8}\frac{W}{m^2\cdot K^4}\left[873^4 - T_\infty^4\right]K^4.$$

T_∞ may be obtained from a trial-and-error solution, from which it follows that, for T_∞ = 618K,

$$21{,}000\frac{W}{m^2} \approx 1275\frac{W}{m^2} + 19{,}730\frac{W}{m^2}.$$

Hence the lowest allowable air temperature is

$$T_\infty \approx 618K = 345^\circ C.$$ <

COMMENTS: (1) Initially, cooling is determined primarily by radiation effects.

(2) For fixed T_∞, the surface *temperature gradient* would *decrease* with *increasing* time into the cooling process. Accordingly, T_∞ could be decreasing with increasing time and still keep within the maximum allowable temperature gradient.