

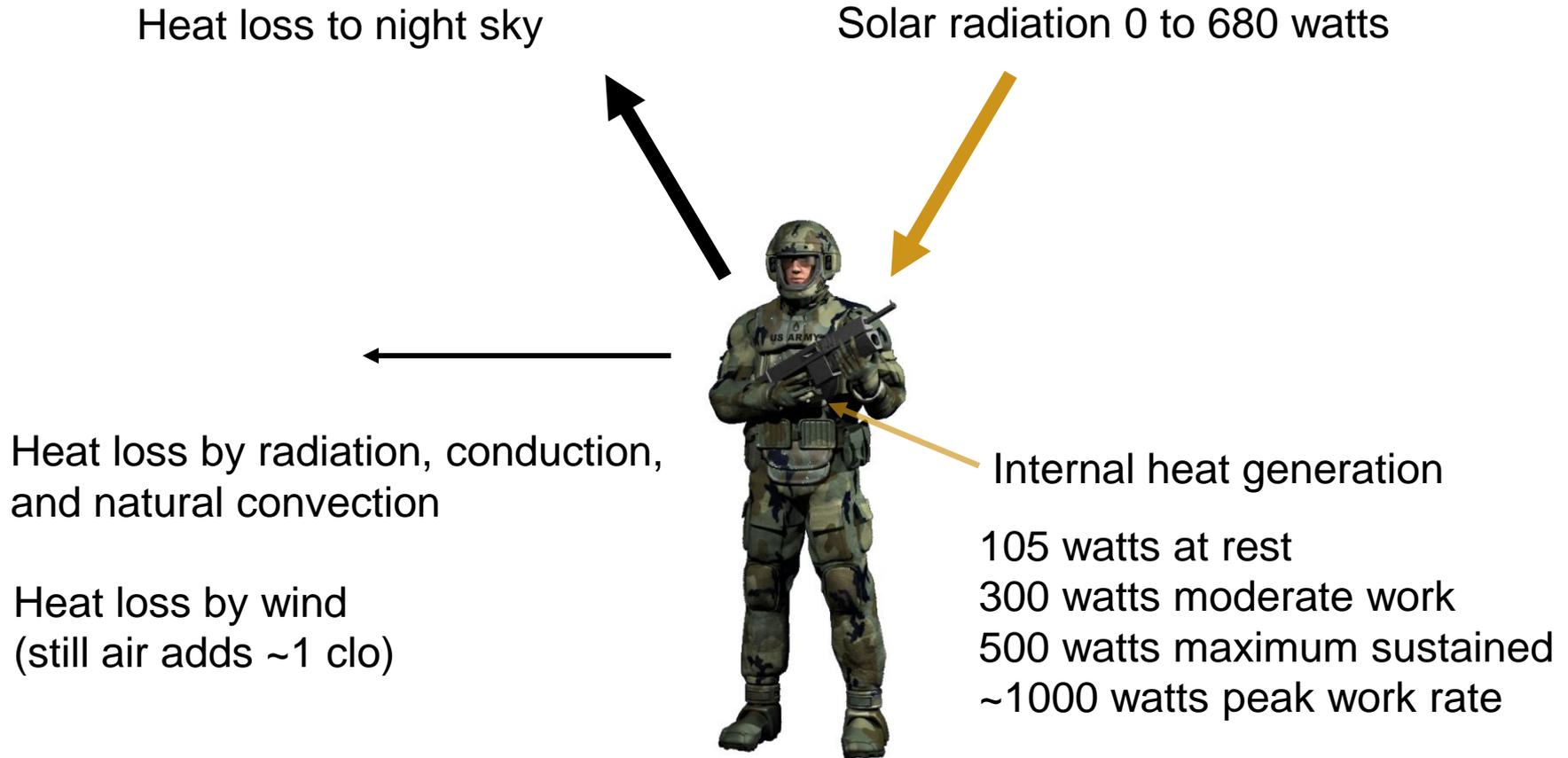


# Temperature Adaptive Insulation

Dr. Stephen A. Fossey

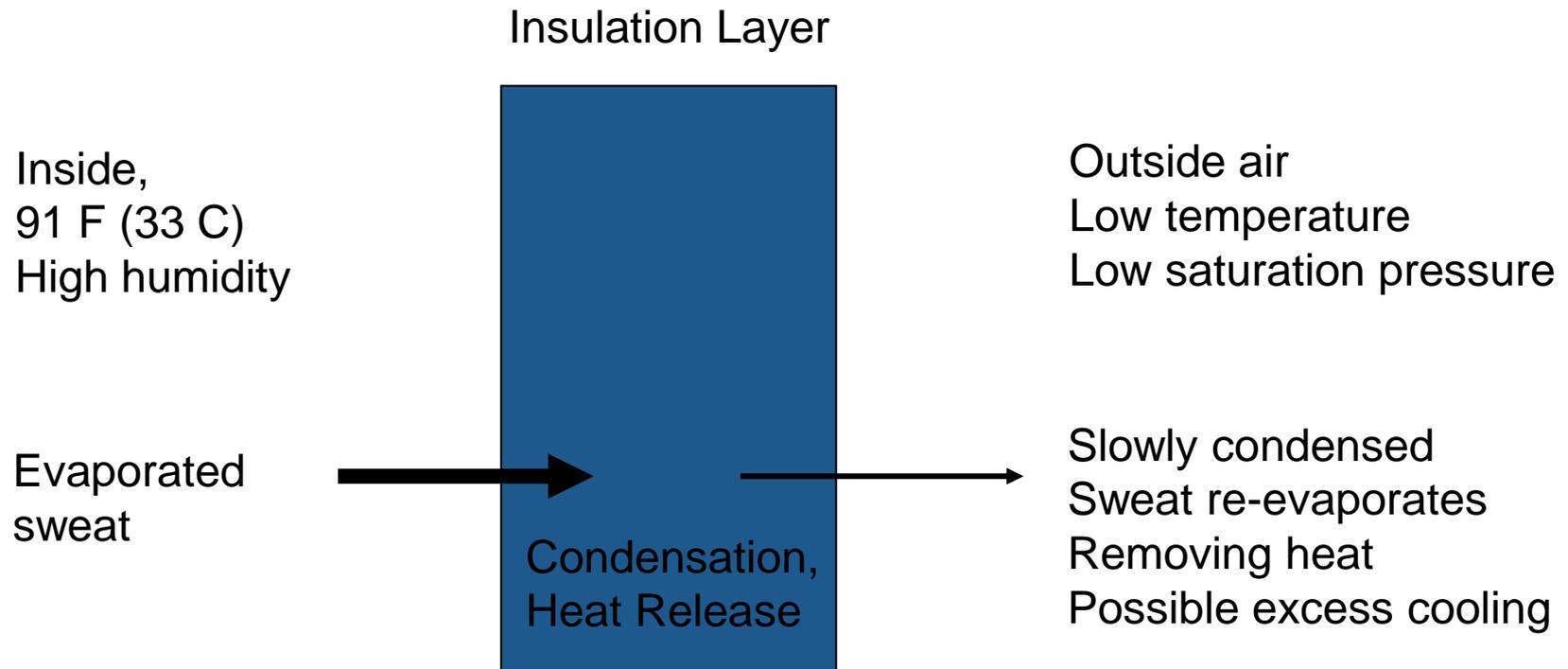
*Materials & Fiber Physics Division  
Warrior Science & Technology Directorate*





***Thermal balance maintained by sweating, some change in body temperature AND actions of wearer.***

Each 100 watts of excess heat generation produces 148 g sweat/hour

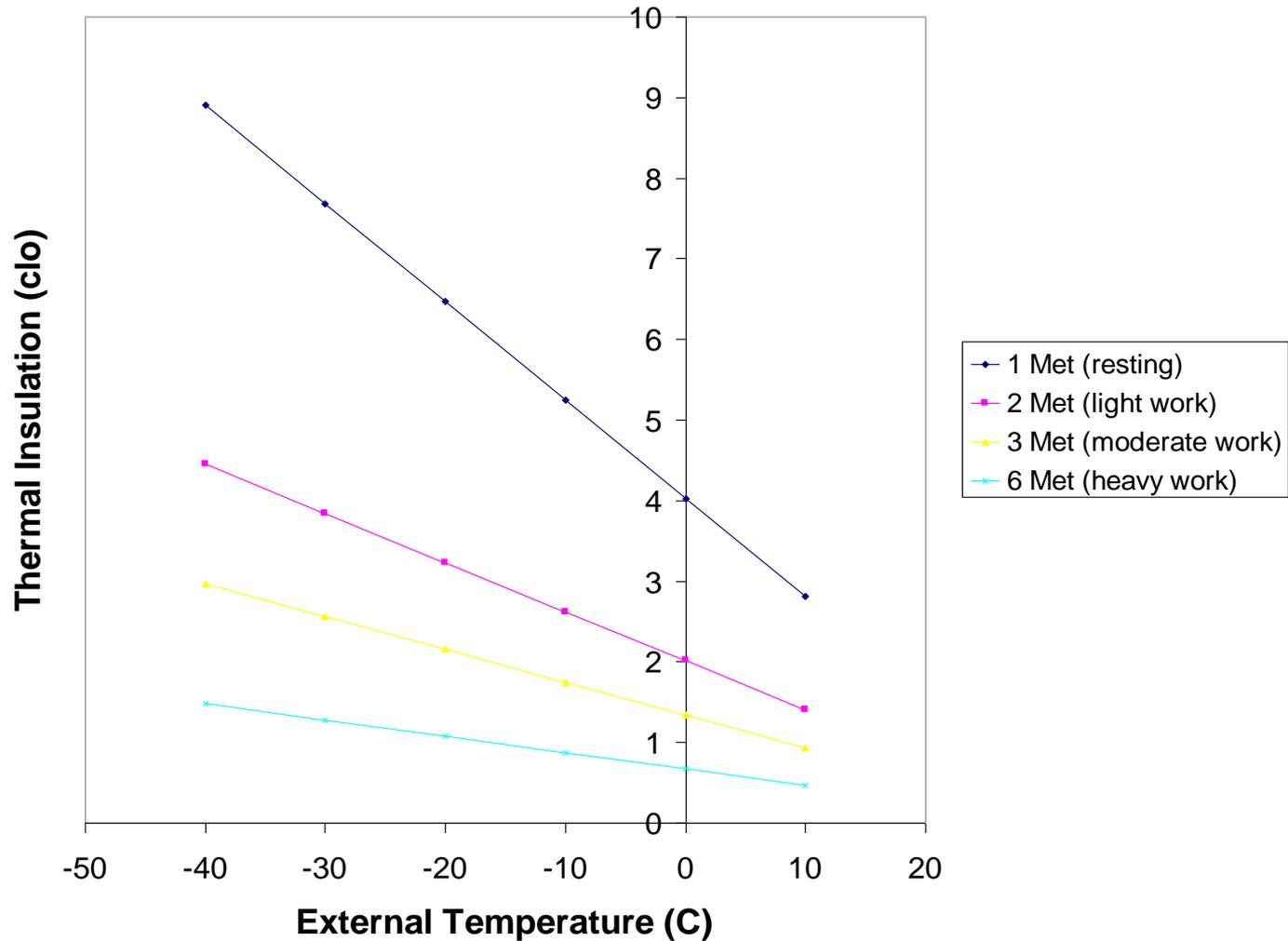


- Change of location, hours – days
  - Mount Washington, 6/20/04
    - Pinkham Notch, 65° F, 15 mph wind, Sunny
    - Summit 23° F, 60 mph wind, Rime Ice
- Solar load – minutes (0 to 680 watts)
  - Adds as much power as hard work
  - Based on AM1.5 solar spectrum
- Wind - minutes (up to 1 Clo)
  - As much as  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of insulation requirement
  - Burton & Edholm “Man in a Cold Environment”



<http://www.cs.dartmouth.edu/whites/pinkham.html>  
Mt Washington observations: A. Jessiman

# Required Insulation for Thermal Equilibrium



- Increased temperature range
  - Possible reduction of number of items
- Requires less user intervention
  - Self regulating
  - Continuously variable insulation
- Improved moisture management
  - Reduce sweating and water requirements
  - Reduce moisture build-up in garments

- Fibers act like a bi-metal spring coiling when cooled.
- Coiled fibers create loft, which provides insulation.



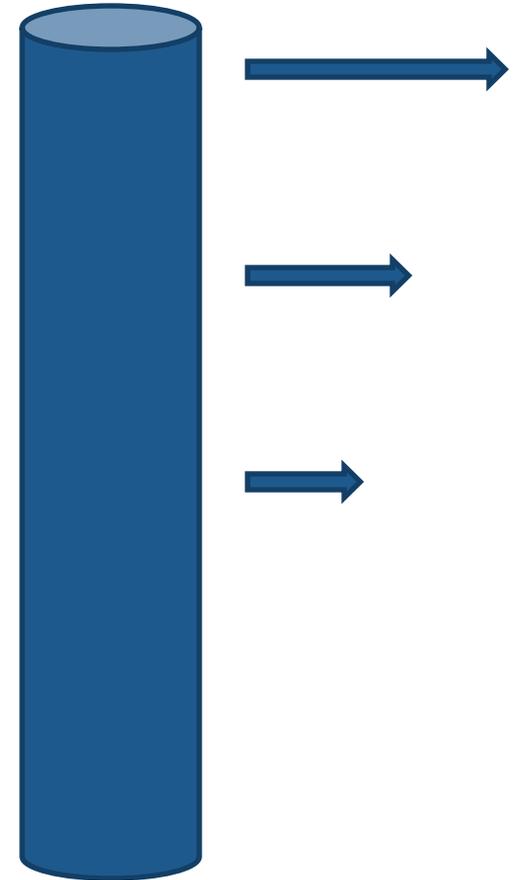
3 different polymers -  
Fibers curl, batting gets  
thicker.\*

3 components using the same  
polymer - No curling or change in  
thickness.

\* In the interests of full disclosure - this initial curling probably includes some stress relaxation.

## Fiber Bending Theory

- The bending of a bi-metal strip was first calculated by Timoshenko<sup>1</sup> in 1925.
- A combination of a crystalline and amorphous polymer will give a large difference in coefficient of thermal expansion.
  - Unfortunately, this combination is not efficient at producing bending because of a large difference in stiffness between the two materials.
- By extending Timoshenko's analysis to geometries other than flat strips, bending for fibers with very different stiffnesses can be maximized<sup>2</sup>.



<sup>1</sup>Timoshenko, S. Analysis of Bi-metal Thermostats. *J. Opt. Soc. Am.* 1925, **11** (3), pp.233-255

<sup>2</sup>DeCristofano et al. Proceedings MRS Fall 2010 Boston MA.

Response is linear with CTE difference and temperature change.

“Curvature”

$$\frac{1}{\rho} = \frac{24(\alpha_2 - \alpha_1)(T - T_0)}{h(A + Bn + C/n)}$$

Small fibers have a stronger response.

This term can be optimized for any given “n”.

Where:

$\rho$  Is the radius of curvature

$\alpha$  is the coefficient of thermal expansion for material 1 or 2

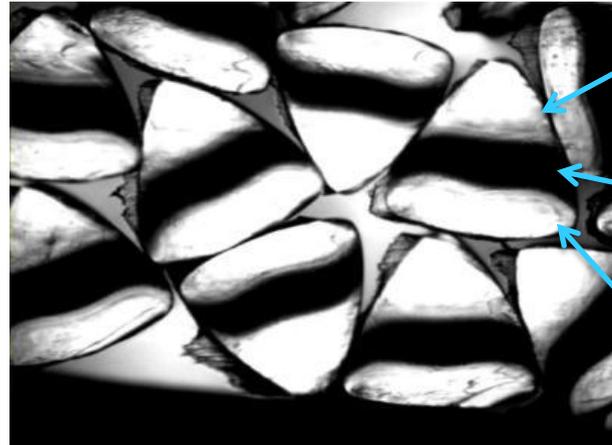
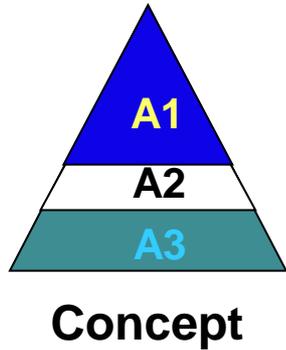
$T$  is the temperature

$T_0$  is a reference temperature where the fiber is straight

$n$  is the ratio of the Young's moduli of the two components

$h$  is the height or diameter of the fiber

A, B, and C are a function of the fiber geometry



**Actual fibers**

Polymer 1, amorphous  
(low modulus, high CTE)

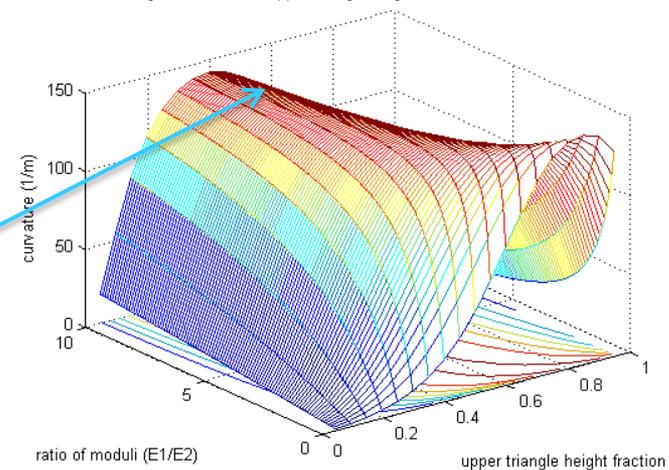
Compatibilizer layer  
(plus pigment)

Polymer 3, crystalline  
(high modulus, low CTE)

Predicted curvature for bi-component  
Triangular cross section fiber

**Maximum curvature**

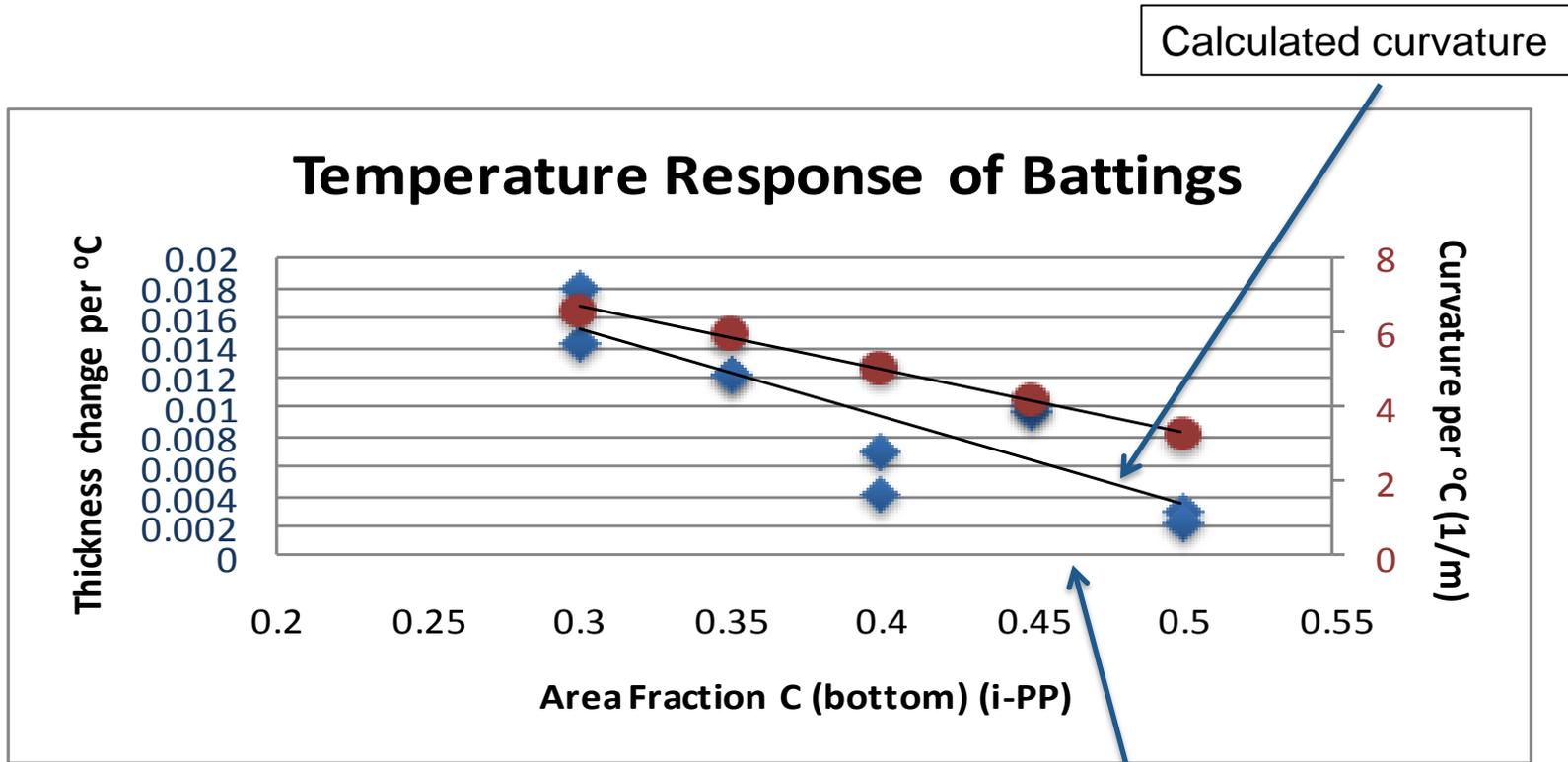
triangle curvature vs. upper triangle height fraction and moduli ratio



### Research-scale Fiber Extruder:

- **Capacity – 1 to 6 pounds/hour**
- **$\frac{3}{4}$  Inch Diameter Single Screw**
- **Temperature Limit: 350°C**
- **Three Melt Pumps are Thermally Isolated**
- **Nitrogen Ports for Oxygen Sensitive Polymers**
- **Draw Speed: 500-2500 meters/min.**



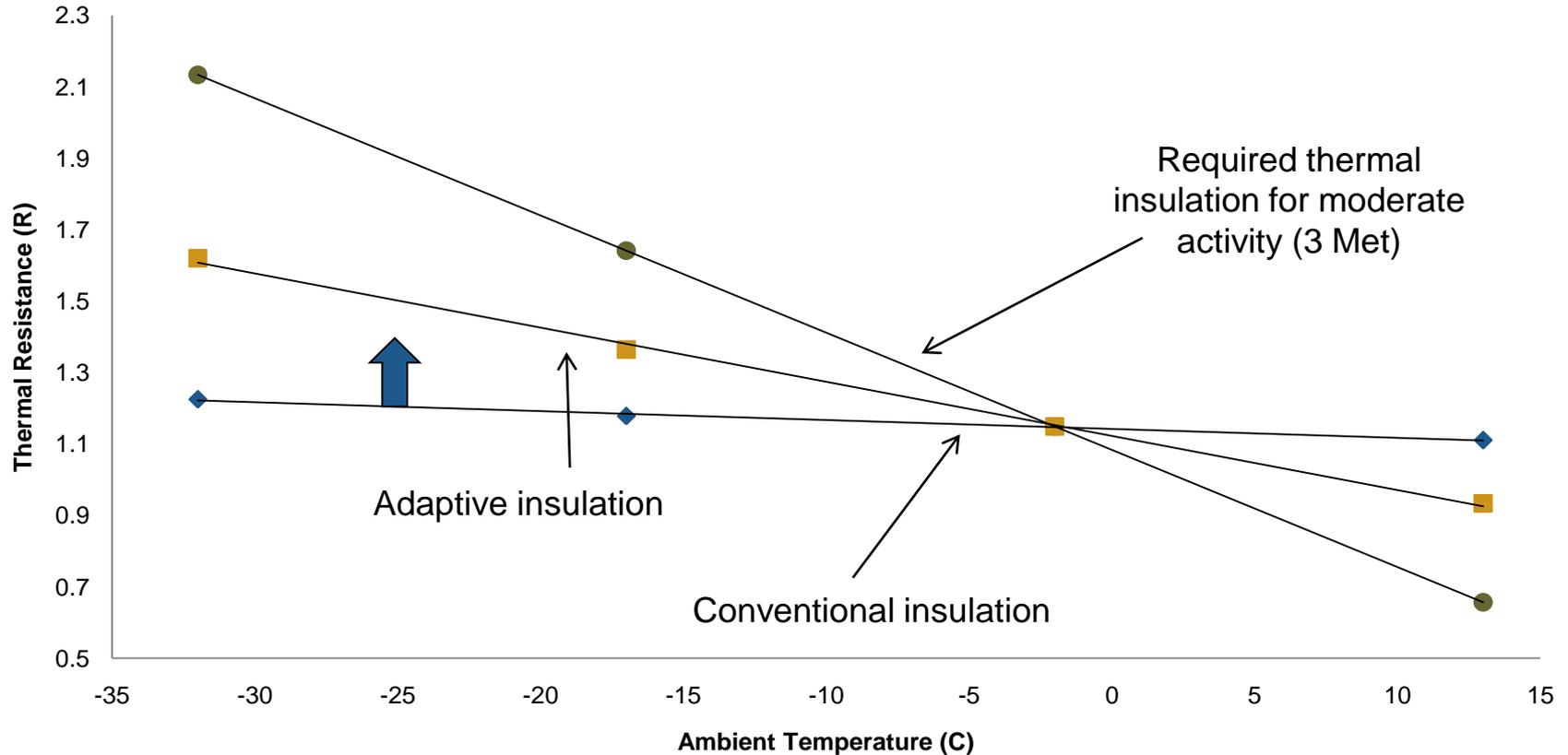


Small changes in composition result in large changes in performance.

Measured batting thickness change

Calculated curvature

## Response of Clothing Insulation to Temperature



Thermal insulation that adapts to the environment extends the useful temperature range of a clothing item.

## ➤ Points of Contact

- Temperature Adaptive Insulation
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The High Performance Fiber Facility (HPFF) will combine NSRDEC, academia and industry expertise in novel fiber/textile technology to invent and rapidly transition new optical, electronic, high strength, flame retardant and reactive materials to Warfighters and First Responders

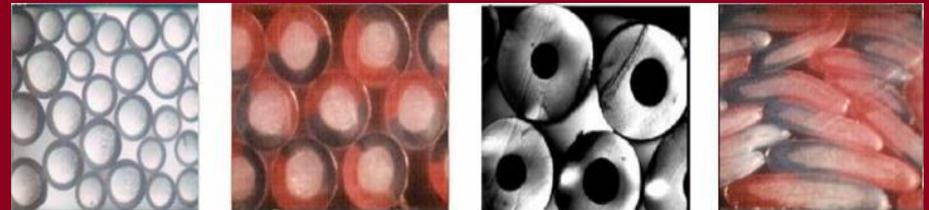
- **Optical Fibers**  
Optical Sensing and Communication
- **Electronic Fibers**  
Molten Metal Core/Polymer Sheath Fibers for E-Textile Applications
- **High Strength Fibers**  
Islands-in-the-Sea Nanofibers for Soft Armor or High Strength/Impact Composites
- **Flame Retardant Fibers**  
New Polymers or Nanoparticle Additives for Improved FR
- **Reactive Fibers**  
Tri-Component Fibers for Smart Insulation

**BICOMPONENT  
ISLANDS-IN-THE-SEA (INS) FIBERS**



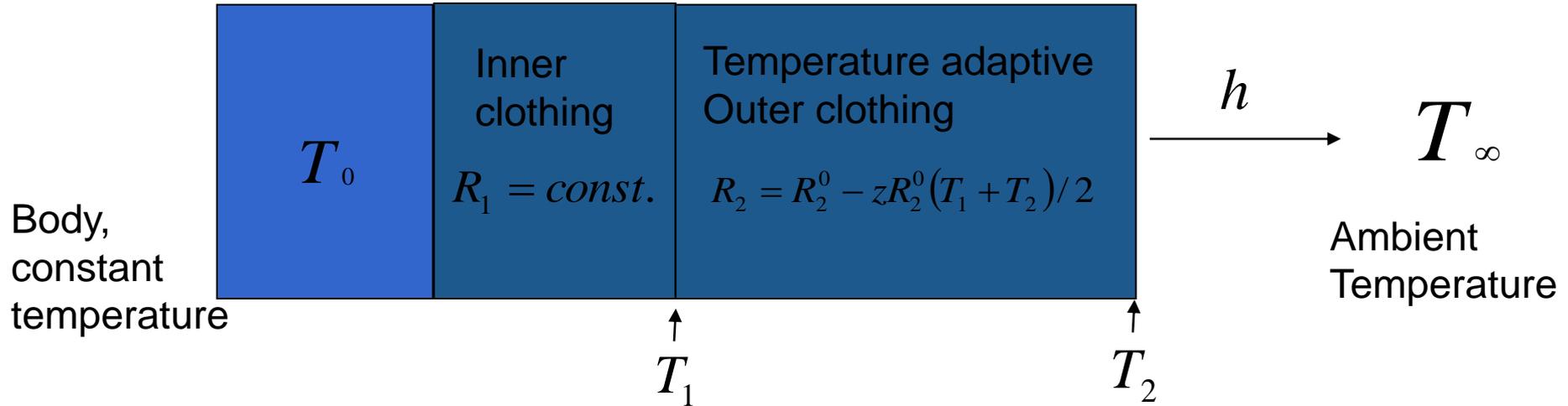
**Applications:** Production of melt processed nanofibers or optical segregation (Nanofibers for ballistic soft armor/composites, and internal reflection fibers)

**BI/TRI-COMPONENT SHEATH/CORE FIBER**



**Applications:** Concentration of reactive components at the surface of fiber or putting a conductive material in the core, surrounded by an insulating material (CB decontamination, antimicrobials, sensors, electronic textiles)

- Clothing is composed of a non-adaptive inner layer and a temperature adaptive outer layer
- The outer layer resistance changes linearly with average temperature of the adaptive layer
- The goal is a rough understanding of the effect of the temperature adaptive clothing



$$q = \frac{(T_0 - T_\infty)}{\left\{ \frac{1}{h} + R_1 + R_2^0 - \frac{z}{2} R_2^0 \left[ (T_0 + T_\infty) + q \left( \frac{1}{h} - R_1 \right) \right] \right\}}$$

Z is a measure of the performance of the batting, percent change in thermal resistance per degree Celsius

$R_2^0$  Is the thermal resistance of the temperature adaptive batting at 0° C.

The heat transfer equation is quadratic in  $q$

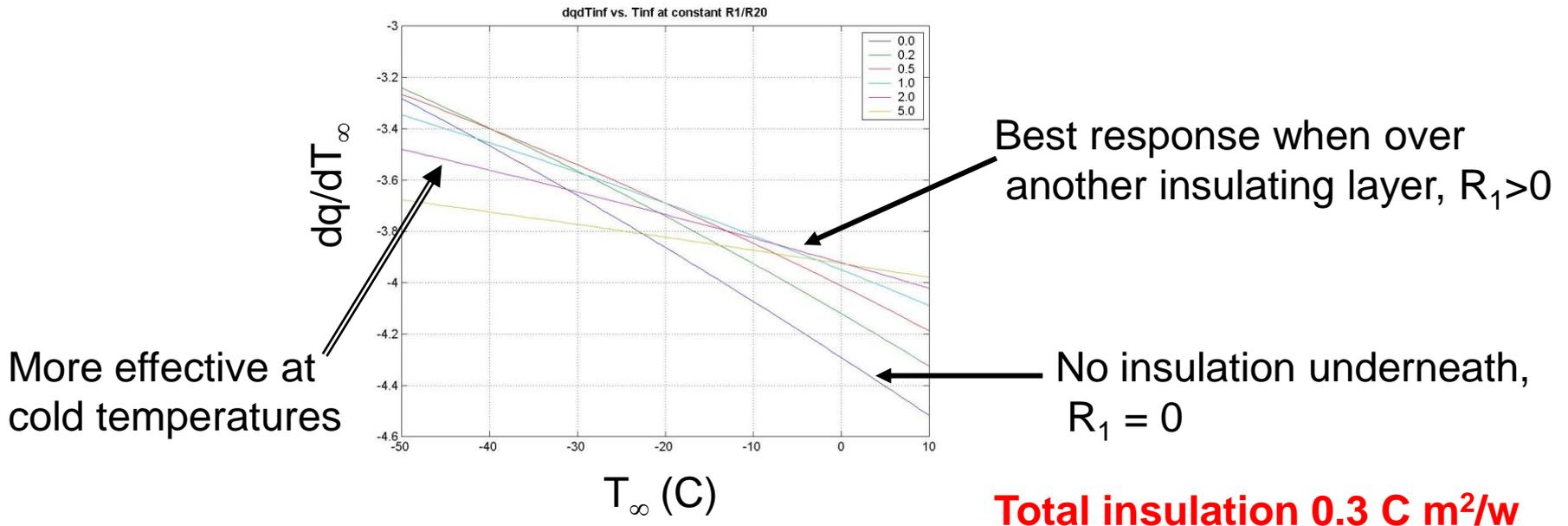
$$aq^2 + bq + c = 0 \quad \text{so} \quad q = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

where  $b = \left\{ \frac{1}{h} + R_1 + R_2^0 - \frac{z}{2} R_2^0 [(T_0 + T_\infty)] \right\}$

$$a = -\frac{z}{2} R_2^0 \left( \frac{1}{h} - R_1 \right) \quad c = -(T_0 - T_\infty)$$

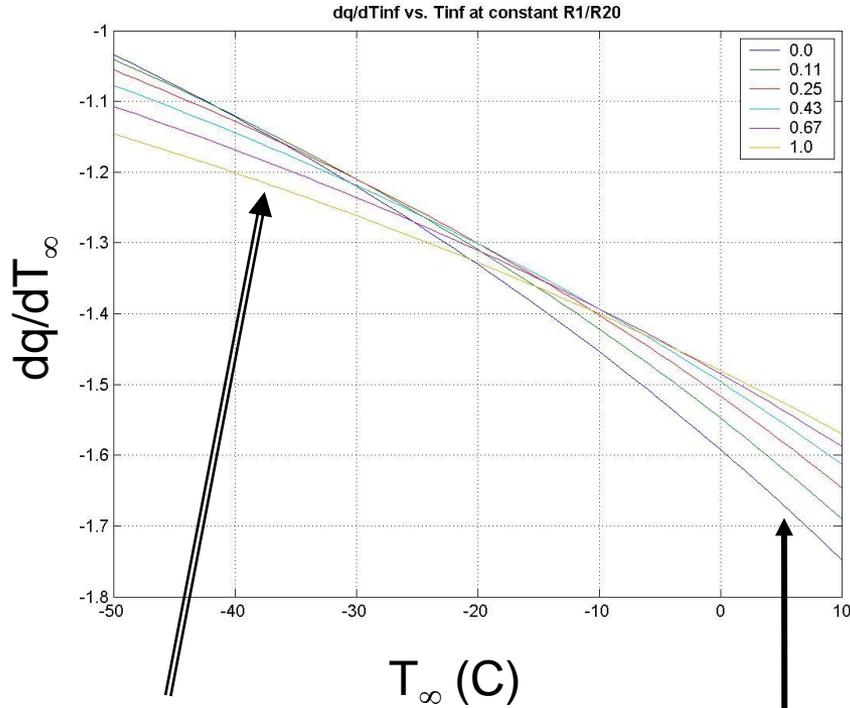
# Change in Heat Loss with Ambient Temperature

- We want heat loss as a function of ambient temperature to be constant.
  - Take the first derivative of the heat loss equation wrt ambient temperature (MATLAB)

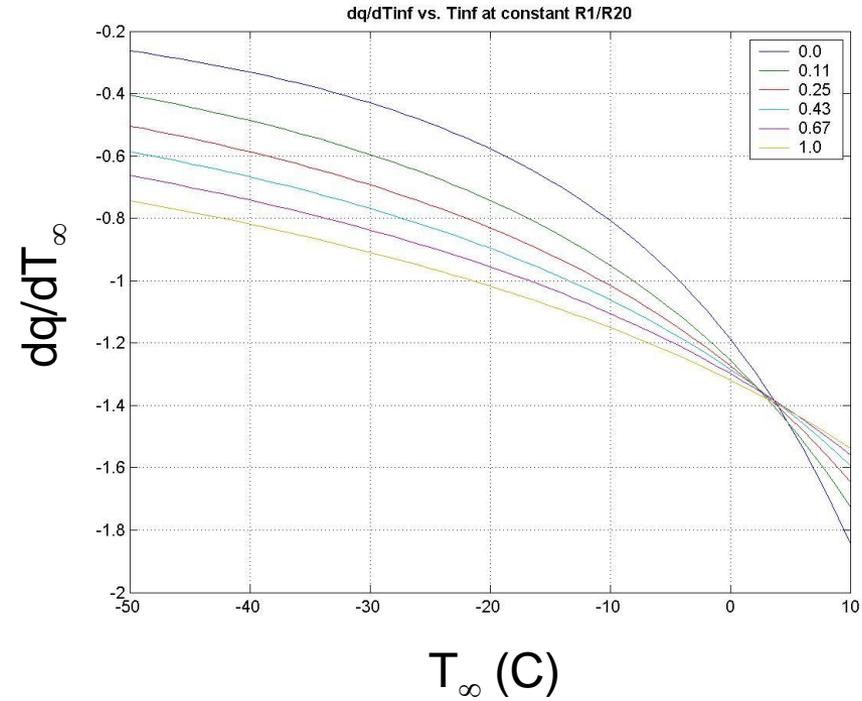


# Change in Heat Loss with Ambient Temperature (cont.)

## Current Performance



## Optimistic Projection



**Thick insulation: total  $R = 1 \text{ C m}^2/\text{w}$**